

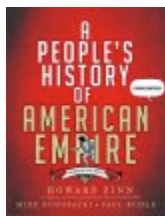
REFORM, REFORMERS, AND REFORMATORIES: Library Resources
AMERICAN HISTORY TEACHERS COLLABORATIVE: SUMMER INSTITUTE 2009

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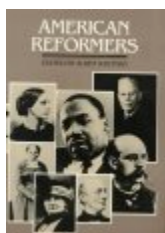
Age Key: E – Elementary / M – Middle School / J – 7th, 8th & 9th grade / S – High School

Non-Fiction



A People's History of American Empire: A Graphic Adaptation by Howard Zinn, Paul Buhle, and Mike Konopacki. 2008. 273 p. (JS) Adapted from the bestselling grassroots history of the United States, the story of America in the world, told in comics form. Zinn's original book, **A People's History of the United States** (published in 1980) has sold more than 1.7 million copies. More than a successful book, *A People's History* triggered a revolution in the way history is told, displacing the official versions with their emphasis on great men in high places to chronicle events as they were lived, from the bottom up. This graphic-novel version opens with the events of 9/11 and then

jumps back to explore the cycles of U.S. expansionism from Wounded Knee to Iraq, stopping along the way at World War I, Central America, Vietnam, and the Iranian revolution. The book also follows the story of Zinn, the son of poor Jewish immigrants, from his childhood in the Brooklyn slums to his role as one of America's leading historians.

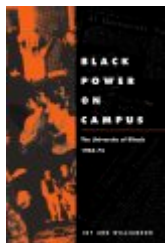


American Reformers edited by Alden Whitman. 1985. 930 p. (JS)

An extraordinary one-stop source, containing biographical sketches of 508 American historical figures from the seventeenth century through 1985. A useful index divides the biographies into the various reform movements for easy reference.



Anne Hutchinson: Puritan Protester by Darlene R. Stille. 2006. 112 p. (5th grade & up) Presents the life and accomplishments of one of the first people to protest the teachings of the Puritan leaders. An interesting glimpse of someone who fought for women's rights, religious freedom, and the rights of Native peoples during the Colonial period.

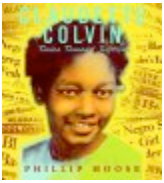


Black Power on Campus: The University of Illinois, 1965-1975 by Joy Ann Williamson. 2003. 192 p. (JS) A brief history of segregation at the University of Illinois and in the Champaign Urbana community, followed by an in-depth look at the activism of African American students on the campus from 1965 – 1975. Another excellent source for local history is the series of WILL interviews (available for check-out) in which local teens interviewed community residents: **Our Journey: Stories of School Desegregation and Community in Champaign-Urbana & More Than a Bus Ride: Desegregating Champaign Schools**



The Chicago Outfit by John Binder. 2003. 127 p. (JS) No business, legitimate or otherwise, has had a more raucous influence on the history of a city than that of the Outfit in Chicago. From the roots of organized crime in the late 19th century to the present day, *The Chicago Outfit* examines the evolution of the city's underworld, focusing on their business activities and leadership along with the violence and political protection they employed to become the most successful of the Cosa Nostra crime families. Through a vivid and visually stunning collection of images, many of which are published here for the first time, author John Binder tells the story of the people and places of the world of organized crime from a fresh and informed point of view. (*Turns out*

corruption in Chicago isn't new!)

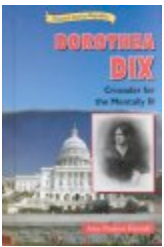


Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice by Phillip Hoose. 2009. 139 p. MJS Presents the life of the Alabama teenager who played an integral but little-known role in the Civil Rights Struggle. On March 2, 1955, Claudette Colvin, fed up with the daily injustices of Jim Crow segregation, refused to give her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Instead of being celebrated as Rosa Parks would be just nine months later, fifteen-year-old Claudette found herself shunned by her classmates and dismissed by community leaders.

Undaunted, a year later she dared to challenge segregation again as a key plaintiff in *Browder v. Gayle*, the landmark case that struck down the segregation laws of Montgomery and swept away the legal underpinnings of the Jim Crow South.



The Daring Nellie Bly: America's Star Reporter by Bonnie Christensen. 2003. (E) This illustrated biography provides a look at the amazing life of one of America's first female reporters and her incredible assignments, including going undercover at an insane asylum and traveling around the world in 72 days. ***It Can't Be Done, Nellie Bly: A Reporter's Race Around the World by Nancy Butcher*** is a lighter-hearted look at Bly's efforts to go around the world in 80 days – a good read for elementary schoolers.

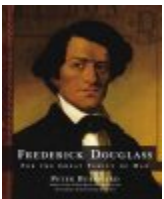


Dorothea Dix: Crusader for the Mentally Ill by Amy Paulseon Herstek. 2001. 112 p. (MJS) After overcoming a harsh childhood, Dix became a teacher and Civil War nurse. But she became internationally known for her commitment to helping the poor and mentally ill, who were at the time kept in shockingly inhumane conditions. In an age when women were considered second-class citizens, Dix's dedication and single-mindedness had a lasting impact.

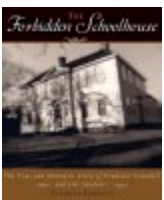


Failure is Impossible! The History of American Women's Rights by Martha E. Kendall. 2001. 96p. (MJS) *From School Library Journal* "A well-organized, well-documented resource. Kendall frames her discussion of women's suffrage with an account of the struggles of women throughout the centuries beginning with early colonists such as Anne Hutchinson. In addition to the battles and achievements of the women's movement, the author addresses property and child-custody rights and the fight for fair wages. She includes information on what life was like for mill girls, women in slavery, and on women in the media. Many black-and-white photos and other illustrations add dimension to the text. Four pages of brief biographies of remarkable women complete this thorough, multifaceted history." **SEE more about this series below.

women in slavery, and on women in the media. Many black-and-white photos and other illustrations add dimension to the text. Four pages of brief biographies of remarkable women complete this thorough, multifaceted history." **SEE more about this series below.



Frederick Douglass: For the Great Family of Man by Peter Burchard. 2003. 226 p. (JS) Beautifully researched and documented, this new biography provides a thorough and compelling portrait of Douglass. An excellent resource for older students.



The Forbidden Schoolhouse: The True and Dramatic Story of Prudence Crandall and Her Students by Suzanne Jurmain. 2005. (5th grade & up) Inspiring true story of Prudence Crandall, a white woman who opened a school for African-American girls in Canterbury, Connecticut in 1833 despite vicious opposition from many of the townspeople.



Getting Away with Murder: The True Story of the Emmett Till Case by Chris Crowe. 2003. 128 p. (MJS) Crowe vividly tells the shocking and disturbing story of Emmett Till's brutal murder and in the process shows much about the racial climate of the times. Highly recommended. See also Chris Crowe's fictional account, *Mississippi Trial, 1955*.



Good Girl Work: Factories, Sweatshops, and How Women Changed Their Role in the American Workforce by Catherine Gourley. 1999. 96p. (EMJ)

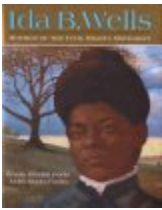
From School Library Journal: "A carefully researched look at female labor in the early 19th and 20th centuries in this country when the workforce of the textile mills, shoe factories, and sweatshops was comprised of unskilled "girls" of all ages. Grossly overworked and underpaid, they slowly realized the truth of their exploitation, organized, and eventually changed the workplace. Gourley uses letters, diaries, and other primary sources to give personal glimpses into the feelings

and thoughts of these heroines."



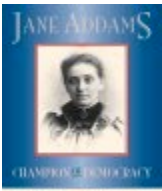
Helen Keller: Rebellious Spirit by Laurie Lawlor. 2001. 168 p. (5th grade and up)

The lesser known Helen Keller is revealed in this biography – a high-spirited, opinionated, and defiant rebel. Lawlor describes her fun-loving nature, her little-known romance and engagement, her controversial political beliefs and conflicts with Teacher. Excellent sources in the book's final pages, including an extensive bibliography.



Ida B. Wells: Mother of the Civil Rights Movement by Dennis Brindell Fradin and Judith Bloom Fradin. 2000. 178 p. (5th grade & up) This outstanding biography of one of history's most inspiring women offers an excellent overview of Wells's life and contributions. Born a slave, she went on to become a schoolteacher, probation officer, journalist, and activist who fought for the right of black women to vote, helped to create the NAACP, and almost single-handedly halted the horrific practice of lynching. I can't recommend this book too highly. Two recent beautifully

illustrated picture books also tell Wells' story, and I recommend both: **Ida B. Wells: Let the Truth Be Told by Walter Dean Myers** and **Yours for Justice, Ida B. Wells: The Daring Life of a Crusading Journalist by Philip Dray.**



Jane Addams: Champion of Democracy by Judith Bloom Fradin and Dennis Brindell Fradin. 2006. (MJS – and even some 4th and 5th graders)

In a time when women had little control over their lives, Addams became a powerful force for good by helping the poor and disadvantaged and fighting for peace. The Fradins write top-notch biographies – well-researched, complex and accessible.



Kids at Work: Lewis Hine and the Crusade Against Child Labor by Russell Freedman. 1994. 104 p. (EMJ)

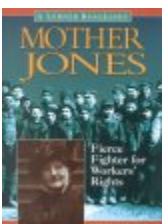
Photobiography of early twentieth-century photographer and schoolteacher Lewis Hine, using his own work as illustrations. Hines's photographs of children at work were so devastating that they convinced the American people that Congress must pass child labor laws. See also

Kids on Strike by Susan Campbell Bartoletti which is also well-documented, well-written, and full of photos. **Tenement by local author Raymond Bial** looks at life in the immigrant neighborhoods on New York's Lower East Side. All these books can be used with upper elementary readers and older students.



The Lord Was Not on Trial: The Inside Story of the Supreme Court's Precedent-Setting McCollum Ruling by Dannel McCollum. 2008. 249 p. (S)

First-hand account of the 1948 law suit against the Champaign school district which, at the time, held Christian Sunday school classes during regular class time. Told by McCollum, whose mother successfully took the case all the way to the Supreme Court. A local story with significant impact on the larger debate of separation of church and state. See also **One Woman's Fight by Vashli Cromwell McCollum.**



Mother Jones: Fierce Fighter for Workers' Rights by Judith Pinkerton Josephson. 1997. 144 p. (MJS)

From Booklist: This account of the noted labor leader is also a social history of American workers' struggle for safety, shorter hours, and the end of child labor. Readers will be caught by the fierce personality of this brave woman, so ahead of her time, who dared to stand up to presidents and financiers for the rights of ordinary people. It's a story of amazing courage and determination; it's also about failure, again and again, as strikes failed, workers died, and conditions seemed never to improve. Josephson draws a lot on Mother Jones' candid

autobiography, as well as on accounts by labor historians, and the quotes are unobtrusively documented at the back of the book. See also **Mother Jones: One Woman's Fight for Labor by Betsy Harvey Kraft.**

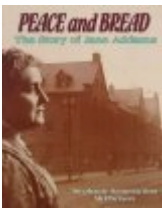


Muckrakers: How Ida Tarbell, Upton Sinclair, and Lincoln Steffens Helped Expose Scandal, Inspire Reform, and Invent Investigative Journalism by Ann Bausum. 2007. 111 p. (MJS) Examines the birth of investigative journalism in America at the turn of the 20th century, discussing the work of the dedicated journalists who, through their exposes, forced responsible changes in the industrial practices and politics of that period.



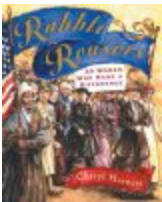
Our Eleanor: A Scrapbook Look at Eleanor Roosevelt's Remarkable Life by Candace Fleming. 2005. 176p. (MJS)

This scrapbook biography employs oral history transcripts, books, and photographs. Eleanor's vital role in American history is chronicled in this biography that captures her vulnerability and her humanity. Roosevelt was a brave, outspoken voice on many controversial issues of her day, including racism, poverty, and worker's rights.



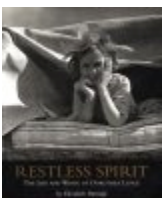
Peace and Bread: The Story of Jane Addams by Stephanie Sammartino McPherson. 1994. 96 p. (EMJ)

This brief biography emphasizes Addams contributions to social reform and work for international peace. The book uses interesting anecdotes, stories photographs and quotations to describe the founding of Hull House and her life among the immigrant poor. The book deals effectively with controversies around Addams' pacifist stands.



Rabble Rousers: 20 Women Who Made a Difference by Cheryl Harness. 2003. 62 p. (EMJ) Short, spirited profiles of twenty women who impacted life in America by speaking out against injustice and fighting for social improvements. The friendly, straightforward narrative introduces such fascinating figures as Sojourner Truth, abolitionist preacher; Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, a Civil War physician; Margaret Sanger, birth control pioneer; and Doris Haddock, a ninety-two-year-old champion of campaign-finance reform. The book spans over two hundred years of American history and includes time lines for such important social movements as abolition, woman suffrage,

labor, and civil rights. **Let It Shine: Stories of Black Women Freedom Fighters by Andrea Davis Pinkney** is also highly recommended and its 10 profiles could be a read aloud to elementary or middle school students. **Cool Women: The Thinking Girl's Guide to the Hippest Women in History** edited by Pam Nelson is a hip, fun approach to significant women in history.

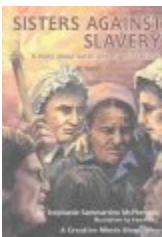


Restless Spirit: The Life and Work of Dorothea Lange by Elizabeth Partridge. 1998. 122 p. (MJS) A biography of Dorothea Lange, whose photographs of migrant workers, Japanese American internees, and rural poverty helped bring about important social reforms.

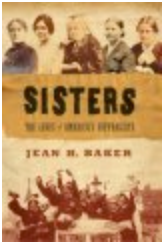


The School is Not White! A True Story of the Civil Rights Movement by Doreen Rappaport. 2005. (E)

This picture book tells the true story of a family of eight children in Drew, Mississippi in 1965, who start attending an "all-white" school to get a better education. The family learns that they must deal with daily humiliations, name-calling, and threats from the students and teachers alike, but their persistence helps bring real change to their community.

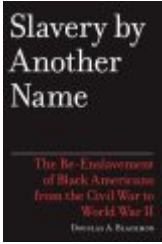


Sisters Against Slavery: A Story about Sarah and Angelina Grimke by Stephanie Sammartino McPherson. 1999. EM By any standard, the Grimke sisters were extraordinary women. Born into a wealthy slaveholding family in the late 18th/early 19th century South, they distinguished themselves from their South Carolina contemporaries, not only by developing an early hatred of slavery, but also by acting upon it when they reached young womanhood. Their efforts and public speaking and political organizing broke new ground for women and would help lay the groundwork for later activism for women's rights. For older students, see also **Angelina Grimke: Voice of Abolition** by Ellen H. Todras.



Sisters: The lives of America's Suffragists by Jean Baker (S)

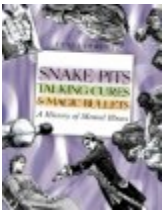
From [Booklist](#) - This fascinating collective biography features in-depth sketches of five indispensable leaders of the American suffrage movement. Lucy Stone, Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Frances Willard, and Alice Paul--stalwarts in the struggle to extend fundamental rights and freedoms to females--are profiled in turn. Although these women are identified with the famous movements they founded and the radical causes they espoused, Baker breathes new life into her subjects. For an in-depth look at Frances Willard see **Frances Willard: A Biography by Ruth Bordin.**



Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II by Douglas A. Blackmon. 2008.

In this groundbreaking historical expose, Douglas A. Blackmon brings to light one of the most shameful chapters in American history—when a cynical new form of slavery was resurrected from the ashes of the Civil War and re-imposed on hundreds of thousands of African-Americans until the dawn of World War II. Under laws enacted specifically to intimidate blacks, tens of thousands of African Americans were arbitrarily arrested, hit with outrageous fines, and charged for the costs of their own arrests. With no means to pay these ostensible “debts,” prisoners were sold as forced laborers to coal mines, lumber camps,

brickyards, railroads, quarries and farm plantations. Thousands of other African Americans were simply seized by southern landowners and compelled into years of involuntary servitude. Government officials leased falsely imprisoned blacks to small-town entrepreneurs, provincial farmers, and dozens of corporations—including U.S. Steel Corp.—looking for cheap and abundant labor. Armies of “free” black men labored without compensation, were repeatedly bought and sold, and were forced through beatings and physical torture to do the bidding of white masters for decades after the official abolition of American slavery. Winner of the National Book Award.



Snakepits, Talking Cures and Magic Bullets: A History of Mental Illness by Deborah Kent. 2003.

160 p. (MJS) From *Booklist*: In a thoroughly researched, well-paced history, Kent focuses on the major advances and bizarre setbacks in the diagnosis and treatment of the mentally ill... There are descriptions of barbaric treatments in the past as well as compelling positive discussions of current drug treatments and debates about psychoanalysis and other psychotherapy... Includes chapter notes, a bibliography (fiction, nonfiction, and online sources), and a chronology.

The Story of Clara Barton by Zachary Kent. 1987. 30 p. (EM)

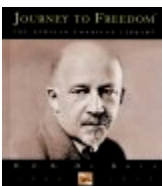
A surprisingly good biography (in spite of appearing a bit dated) of the phenomenal woman who is remembered for establishing the Red Cross in the US. Thrilling stories of Barton's bravery during the Civil War, and a true sense of her importance in establishing a medical system to serve the public during war in times of natural disasters. Unfortunately there are no source notes or photos. **Clara Barton: A Photo-Illustrated Biography by Kathleen W. Deady, 2003** is a basic reader with lovely archival photos, a glossary and timeline.

Clara Barton: Founder of the American Red Cross by Barbara Somervill is a good choice for older elementary school students and middle schoolers. The best-reviewed adult biography is **Woman of Valor: Clara Barton and the Civil War by Stephen B. Oates, 1995.**



We Have Marched Together: The Working Children's Crusade by Stephen Currie. 1997. 88 p. (5th grade and up)

In the summer of 1903 labor organizer Mother Jones led a ragtag army of child workers on a protest march from Philadelphia to New York. This is their story. **SEE more about this series below.



W. E. B. Dubois by Don Troy. 1999. 40 p. (EM) A brief biography of the African American educator and activist who helped found the NAACP and worked much of his life to gain equitable treatment for his people.



With Courage and Cloth: Winning the Fight for a Woman's Right to Vote by Ann Bausum. 2004. 111 p. (5th grade and up) Provides an in-depth look at the people, protests, and events that took place for more than seventy years that finally led to the passage of the suffrage amendment in 1920, enhanced with photographs and period illustrations. The book especially focuses on the final years of the struggle for women's voting rights, describing the activities of Alice Paul and the National Woman's Party and their part in the successful passage of the 19th Amendment.



Women of Conscience: Social Reform in Danville, Illinois / 1890 - 1930 by Janet Duitsman Cornelius and Martha LaFrenz Kay. 2008. S
This fascinating book – just out last year – chronicles women's activism and social service in church groups, literary study groups, and benevolent societies here in Central Illinois. A remarkable range of issues are addressed: racism, prison reform, public health, school improvement, temperance, and more. Highly recommended.



You Want Women to Vote, Lizzie Stanton? by Jean Fritz. 1995. EM
Fritz applies her gift for creating engaging, thorough historical literature to a larger-than-life historical figure. Stanton was a radical among radicals, and this objective depiction of her life and times, as well as her work for women's rights, makes readers feel invested in her struggle. An appealing, full-page black-and-white drawing illustrates each chapter. See also the picture book, **Elizabeth Leads the Way: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and the Right to Vote** by Tanya Lee Stone, as well as many other biographies for older readers such as **Elizabeth Cady Stanton: Leader of the Fight for Women's Rights** by Cynthia Salisbury.

Excerpts of the DVD **Chicago: City of the Century** were also shown in this presentation. The program is a co-production of WGBH Boston and WTTW Chicago in association with the Chicago Historical Society for American Experience and was produced, written and directed by Austin Hoyt.

An excerpt of the WILL program Prairie Fire (#601), entitled **Tim Nugent and University of Illinois Wheelchair Athletics** was also shown. See the excerpt at: <http://will.illinois.edu/prairiefire/segment/pf1996-11-14-c>

The Lerner's People's History series includes many titles that look at activist and reforms movements throughout US History including **Stop This War! American Protest of the Conflict in Vietnam, **This Land is Your Land: The American Conservation Movement**, **We Shall Overcome: The History of the American Civil Rights Movement**, **Headin' for Better Times: The Arts of the Great Depression**, **Fleeing to Freedom on the Underground Railroad: The Courageous Slaves, Agents, and Conductors**, and **Failure is Impossible** (which is also on this list). All these titles could be used with older elementary students, but also with low end readers through high school.

From the Urbana Free Library Archives:

Illinois Women: 75 Years of the Right to Vote produced by Performance Media in cooperation with Governor Edgar's Commission for the Celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment. 1996. 55 p.

This wonderful booklet is a great brief chronicle of the struggle for women's rights in Illinois – It includes a very brief historical overview, an Illinois timeline, fantastic archival photos, and – my favorite – brief bios of “The Women Who Made It Happen”, which includes info on women from many backgrounds, communities and time periods, often with especially interesting quotes and anecdotes.

Justice: Color Blind or Just Blind? (A television special program originally broadcast in two parts by WILL-TV/Channel 12 in the late 1960s.) This program looks at the Central Illinois' African American community attitudes toward the court system, with discussions among community leaders, members of the legal system, and university professors.

Fiction



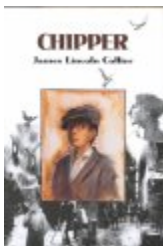
Al Capone Does My Shirts by Jennifer Choldenko. 2004. (5th grade & up)

A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there and has to contend with his new environment. Fast paced and funny historical fiction for middle readers.



Ashes of Roses by Mary Jane Auch. 2002. 250 p. (MJ)

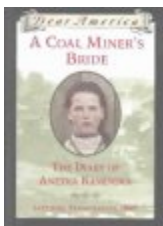
The honest and compelling story of a young girl's newfound independence, from her entrance into a new country to her frightening involvement in the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire of 1911.



Chipper by James Lincoln Collier. 2001. 207 p. (MJ)

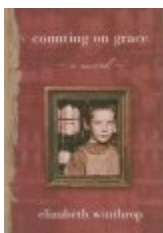
Orphaned and homeless, twelve-year-old Chipper Carey is a street-wise gang member in 1890s New York City, until a con man introduces him to a wealthy woman who is seeking her long-lost nephew and Chipper must decide

where his loyalties lie.



A Coal Miner's Bride: Diary of Anetka Kaminska by Susan Campbell Bartoletti. 2003. 219 p. (EMJ)

A diary account of thirteen-year-old Anetka's life in Poland in 1896, immigration to America, marriage to a coal miner, widowhood, and happiness in finally finding her true love. See also Bartoletti's fantastic non-fiction account **Growing Up in Coal Country** – compellingly- illustrated and well-researched look at the tough realities of coal-mining.



Counting on Grace. 2006. 233p. (MJ)

Inspired by a Lewis Hine photo of a child at work in a Vermont cotton mill in the early twentieth century, Winthrop imagines the story of Grace, 12, torn from her one-room schoolhouse and forced to

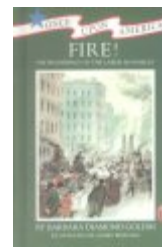
work long hours in the textile mill as a "doffer," turning cotton into thread, alongside her mother, in the spinning room. The child-labor story is gripping--the dangerous working conditions, the work of activists who sought to publicize the abuse--and although sometimes the research overwhelms the story, Grace's present-tense narrative makes the

history heartbreaking. The fiction is framed by notes about Hine and a bibliography."



Dreams in the Golden Country: The Diary of Zipporah Feldman, a Jewish Immigrant Girl by Kathryn Lasky. 1998. 188p. (EMJ)

From School Library Journal: "Zipporah Feldman, a 12-year-old Jewish immigrant from Russia, uses diary entries to chronicle her family's activities as they acclimate to life on New York City's Lower East Side. The story's historical significance is evident in the Feldman's arrival at Ellis Island and the subsequent procedures immigrants had to endure, and in the description of the factory fire in which Zipporah's friend dies, which is based on the famous Triangle Shirtwaist Factory of 1911. Archival photos, accompanied by a recipe for hamantaschen and the traditional Jewish song to welcome the Sabbath, bring the reality of the novel to light."



Fire! The Beginnings of the Labor Movement. 1992. 54p. (EM)

From Kirkus Reviews "A fictional account of the 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist factory fire in N. Y. C., as seen by Rosie, a young Jewish girl whose older sister escapes but whose cousin does not. In the aftermath of the fire, Rosie accompanies her sister to an ILGWU meeting and shares her hope that the union will secure better conditions for the garment workers. A solid addition to the useful Once Upon America series."



The Jungle by Upton Sinclair, adapted by Peter Kuper. 2004. (JS)

This graphic novel provides an artistic, inventive re-telling of Upton Sinclair's shocking novel about the lives of workers in Chicago's slaughterhouses.



Monkey town: The summer of the Scopes trial by Ronald Kidd. 2006. 259p. (MJ)

This fictionalized account of the Scopes Trial – told through the eyes of a 15 year old girl - is remarkably true to the historical record. Kidd brings the trial's colorful historical figures to life – Clarence Darrow, H. L. Mencken, and William Jennings Bryant - and also gives real meaning to the controversies surrounding fundamentalist religion and the schools.



Rockbuster. 2001. 253p. (MJS)

From Booklist "On a trip to watch the trial of union organizer Big Bill Haywood, 10-year-old Tommy accidentally blows his pro-union uncle's cover and witnesses Uncle Jim's being dragged away and killed. Six years later, when union songwriter

Joe Hill, the "voice" of Industrial Workers of the World, is unfairly convicted of murder and set to be executed in front of a firing squad, Tom, now 16 and a singer-songwriter himself, is asked to replace Hill as the coal miners' pro-union voice and conscience. The opportunity forces him to decide between his loyalties to his socialite girlfriend, Eugenie, and the union that has affected his past, his family, and, with the outbreak of World War I, seemingly the world. "



Uncommon faith by Trudy Krisher.

2003. 263 p. (JS)

In 1837-38, residents of Millbrook, Massachusetts, speak in their different voices of major issues of their day, including women's rights, slavery, religious differences, and one fiery girl named Faith.



Witness by Karen Hesse. 2001. 161 p. (5th grade & up)

An intricately woven story of prejudice, poverty, hope, and absolution details a small town in Vermont in 1924 that is ruled by the Ku Klux Klan, where two girls, one black and one Jewish, are tormented by racism and hate, and as race

relations become volatile, unlikely heroes emerge.