



ST. HILDA'S & ST. HUGH'S

Ms. Perna's Top Starr Books: Asian/Pacific American History Month

Picture Books for Younger Readers: Asian/Pacific American Authors and Illustrators

*Bilal Cooks Daal** – written by Aisha Saeed and illustrated by Anoosha Syed

Bilal and his father invite his friends to help make his favorite dish, daal, then all must wait patiently for it to be done. (Ages 3-8)

Camp Tiger – written by Susan Choi and illustrated by John Rocco

A talking tiger approaches a family during their annual end-of-summer camping trip and is befriended by the youngest, a boy who does not feel ready for first grade. (Ages 4-8)

Chirri & Chirra Under the Sea – written and illustrated by Kaya Doi. Translated from Japanese by David Boyd

This is the happy, lovely world of Chirri and Chirra, where they stumble upon the most wonderful surprises under the sea. (Ages 3-8)

Cora Cooks Pancit – written by Dorina K. Lazo Gilmore and illustrated by Kristi Valiant

When all her older siblings are away, Cora's mother finally lets her help make pancit, a Filipino noodle dish. Includes recipe for pancit. (Ages 3-8)

Dear Juno – written by Soyoung Pak and illustrated by Susan Kathleen Hartung

Although Juno, a Korean American boy, cannot read the letter he receives from his grandmother in Seoul, he understands what it means from the photograph and dried flower that are enclosed and decides to send a similar letter back to her. (Ages 4-9)

*A Different Pond** – written by Bao Phi and illustrated by Thi Bui

Graphic novelist Thi Bui and acclaimed poet Bao Phi deliver a powerful, honest glimpse into a relationship between a father and son—and between cultures, old and new. (Ages 6-8)

*Drawn Together** – written by Minh Lê and illustrated by Dan Santat

A boy and his grandfather cross a language and cultural barrier using their shared love of art, storytelling, and fantasy. (Ages 3-8)

Exotic Fruit – written and illustrated by Huy Voun Lee

Dragon fruit, mangosteen, kiwi, lychee, star fruit—how many do you know? Inside this book, nine delicious and exotic fruits are waiting to be discovered. (Ages 2-7)

Feather – written by Cao Wenxuan and illustrated by Roger Mello. Translated from Chinese by Chloe Garcia Roberts

A single feather, blown about by the wind, asks a variety of birds if she belongs to them but is dismissed time and again until she gives up her quest. (Ages 3-8)

*Grand Canyon** – written and illustrated by Jason Chin

Follow a father and daughter as they make their way through this wondrous place, discovering life both present and past. (Ages 7-10)

Grandpa Grumps – written by Katrina Moore and illustrated by Xindi Yan

When Daisy's grandfather, or Yeh-Yeh, visits from China, she does everything she can think of to make him smile and finally finds a way. Includes a glossary of Chinese words and a recipe for fried rice.

A Map Into the World – written by Kao Kalia Yang and illustrated by Seo Kim

Paj Ntaub, a young Hmong American girl, spends a busy year with her family in their new home, and seeks a way to share the beauty of the world with a grieving neighbor.

My Friends – written and illustrated by Tarō Gomi

A little girl learns to walk, climb, and study the earth from her friends, most of whom are animals. (Ages 2-5)

Priya Dreams of Marigolds & Marsala – written and illustrated by Meenal Patel

A celebration of the special bond between grandparents and grandchildren, the threads that connect each of us to our heritage, and the power of sharing our traditions with others. (Ages 4-8)

When Spring Comes to the DMZ – written and illustrated by Uk-Bae Lee

Korea's demilitarized zone has become an amazing accidental nature preserve that gives hope for a brighter future for a divided land. (Ages 6-10)

Nonfiction Books for Older and Younger Readers: Asian/Pacific American Heritage

The Boy Who Dreamed of Infinity: A Tale of the Genius Ramanujan – written by Amy Alznauer and illustrated by Daniel Miyares

A young mathematical genius from India searches for the secrets hidden inside numbers, and for someone who understands him, in this heartwarming biography. (Ages 5-10)

Chef Roy Choi and the Street Food Remix – written by Jacqueline Briggs Martin and June Jo Lee, and illustrated by Man One

Describes the popular street cook's life, including working in his family's restaurant as a child, figuring out what he wanted to do with his life, and his success with his food truck and restaurant. (Ages 7-10)

Cook Islands Heroes – written by David Riley and illustrated by Michel Mulipola

Tells the inspirational stories of achievers who have Cook Islands ancestry. It includes legends like Ina, Maui, Ngaru and Ru; historical figures such as Pa Tuterangi Ariki/Sir Thomas Davis; and contemporary heroes like Lima Sopoaga, Miria George, Dr Kiki Maoate, Kevin Iro, and Teremoana Rapley. (Ages 7-10)

DK Life Stories: Gandhi – written by Diane Bailey

In this biography, discover the inspiring life story of Mohandas Gandhi, who successfully used his teachings of non-violence to lead India to independence from Britain. (Ages 10 and up)

Drawing from Memory – written and illustrated by Allen Say

Caldecott Medalist Allen Say presents a stunning graphic novel memoir chronicling his journey as an artist during WWII, when he apprenticed under Noro Shinpei, Japan's premier cartoonist. (Ages 10 and up)

Maya Lin: Artist-Architect of Light and Lines – written Jeanne Walker Harvey and illustrated by Dow Phumiruk

The bold story of Maya Lin, the artist-architect who designed the Vietnam War Memorial. (Ages 8-10)

- My Night in the Planetarium* – written and illustrated by Innosanto Nagara
Innosanto Nagara tells a true story from his childhood in Indonesia. It is a child's view of a particular place and time--but it is also an introduction to Indonesia, a story about colonialism, and a message about the power of creativity. (Ages 6-9)
- Queen of Physics: How Wu Chien Shiung Helped Unlock the Secrets of the Atom** – written by Teresa Robeson and illustrated by Rebecca Huang
This picture book biography follows Wu as she battles sexism at home and racism in the United States of America to become what Newsweek magazine called the "Queen of Physics" for her work on how atoms split. (Ages 5-10)
- Samurai Rising: The Epic Life of Minamoto Yoshitsune* – written by Pamela S. Turner
This epic warrior tale reads like a novel, but this is the true story of the greatest samurai in Japanese history. (Young Adult. Ages 13 and up)
- The Secret Kingdom: Nek Chand, a Changing India, and a Hidden World of Art* – written by Barb Rosenstock and illustrated by Claire A. Nivola
The incredible story of the world's largest visionary environment: the Rock Garden of Chandigarh, kept secret by outsider artist Nek Chand for fifteen years. (Ages 7-10)
- The Seed of Compassion: Lessons from the Life and Teachings of His Holiness the Dalai Lama* – written by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and illustrated by Bao Luu
For the first time ever, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate His Holiness the Dalai Lama addresses children directly, sharing lessons of peace and compassion, told through stories of his own childhood. (Ages 4-8)
- Shark Lady: the True Story of How Eugenie Clark Became the Ocean's Most Fearless Scientist* – written by Jess Keating and illustrated by Marta Álvarez Miguéns
An inspiring story by critically acclaimed zoologist Jess Keating about finding the strength to discover truths that others aren't daring enough to see. Includes a timeline of Eugenie's life and many fin-tastic shark facts! (Ages 6-9)
- Tap Dancing on the Roof: Sijo* – written by Linda Sue Park and illustrated by Istvan Banyai
Sijo is a traditional Korean form of poetry. Sijo is syllabic, like Japanese haiku, with three lines of 14 to 16 syllables each: the first two introduce the topic, the third and fourth lines develop it, and the fifth and sixth lines contain an unexpected humorous or ironic twist. This collection contains 26 sijo. (Ages 6-12)
- They Called Us Enemy** – written by George Takei, Justin Eisinger and Steven Scott; illustrated by Harmony Becker
A stunning graphic novel memoir recounting actor/author/activist George Takei's childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps during World War II. (Young Adult. Ages 13 and up)
- Titan and the Wild Boars: The True Cave Rescue of the Thai Soccer Team* – written by Susan Hood and Pathana Sornhiran, and illustrated by Dow Phumiruk
Harrowing details about saving a boys' soccer team and their coach. They had become trapped after an afternoon of cave exploration during the monsoon season. (Ages 5-9)

Fiction for Older Readers: Modern Stories by Asian/Pacific American Authors

Ahimsa – written by Supriya Kelkar

When her mother is jailed for being one of Gandhi's freedom fighters, 10-year-old Anjali overcomes her own prejudices and continues her mother's social reform work, befriending Untouchable children and working to integrate her school. (Ages 12 and up)

*Cilla Lee-Jenkins: Future Author Extraordinaire** – written by Susan Tan

A half-Chinese, half-Caucasian girl's 'memoir' about a new sibling, being biracial, and her path to literary greatness. (Ages 7-9)

The Danger Gang and the Pirates of Borneo! – written by Stephen Bramucci and illustrated by Arree Chung

When Ronald Zupan's parents are kidnapped on his twelfth birthday, he teams up with his trusty butler Jeeves, his fencing nemesis Julianne Sato, and his pet cobra, Carter, to face pirates and other dangers in the jungle of Borneo. (Ages 8-10)

Dara Palmer's Major Drama – written by Emma Shevah

Dara Palmer dreams of being an actress, but when she does not get a part in the school play she wonders if it is because of her different looks as an adopted girl from Cambodia, so Dara becomes determined not to let prejudice stop her from being in the spotlight. (Ages 10 and up)

Finding Mighty – written by Sheela Chari

Along the train lines north of New York City, 12-year-old neighbors Myla and Peter search for the link between Myla's necklace and the disappearance of Peter's brother, Randall. (Ages 10 and up)

*I'm OK** – written by Patti Kim

Ok, a Korean American boy, tries a get rich quick scheme of starting a hair braiding business and winning the school talent competition to hide the fact that he is struggling with the loss of his father and the financial hardships he and his mother must now bear. (Ages 10 and up)

Jasmine Toguchi, Drummer Girl – written by Debbi Michiko Florence

Jasmine worries that she will be the only one with no talent to share in the school talent show until her mother brings out her taiko drum. (Ages 7-9)

Lalani of the Distant Sea – written by Erin Entrada Kelly

Twelve-year-old Lalani Sarita takes on the impossible task of traveling to the legendary Mount Isa, towering on an island to the north. Generations of men and boys have died on the same quest--how can a timid young girl in a tiny boat survive the epic tests of the archipelago? (Ages 9 and up)

A Long Pitch Home – written by Natalie Dias Lorenzi

When Bilal's family suddenly moves to America, his father stays in Pakistan, and Bilal embraces baseball, an unexpected friend, and a new language. But this new way of life does not feel so special without Baba--will he ever get to America to see Bilal pitch a game? (Ages 9 and up)

Mulan: Before the Sword – written by Grace Lin

An original novel based on the world and characters of the Walt Disney Studios Live Action Mulan film. (Ages 9 and up)

Pashmina – written and illustrated by Nidhi Chanani

Eager to learn more about her East Indian cultural identity and family history, teenage Pryanka, a budding cartoon artist, is transported to India after finding a magical scarf. (Ages 10 and up)

Prairie Lotus – written by Linda Sue Park

In Dakota Territory in the 1880s, half-Chinese Hanna and her white father face racism and resistance to change as they try to make a home for themselves. (Ages 9 and up)

See You in the Cosmos – written by Jack Cheng

Eleven-year-old Alex Petroski, along with his dog, Carl Sagan, makes big discoveries about his family on a road trip and he records it all on a golden iPod he intends to launch into space. (Ages 10 and up)

Secret Coders – written and illustrated by Gene Luen Yang and Mike Holmes

Using their wits and their growing prowess with computer coding, Hopper and her friend Eni try to solve the mysteries at Stately Academy by following the many clues the founder of the school left to challenge his enterprising students. (Ages 8 and up)

Sherlock Sam and the Missing Heirloom in Katong – written by A. J. Low

A funny, fast-paced mystery with many Singapore-specific details that provide cultural flavor. (Ages 7-9)

*Step Up To the Plate Maria Singh** – written by Uma Krishnaswami

Nine-year-old Maria Singh learns to play softball just like her heroes in the All-American Girls' League, while her parents and neighbors are struggling through World War II, working for India's independence, and trying to stay on their farmland. (Ages 9 and up)

*Ten: A Soccer Story** – written by Shamini Flint

In 1986 Malaysia, as she worries about her parents' constant fighting, ardent soccer fan Maya, age eleven, trains herself and pulls together a team at her girls' school, despite soccer being a "boys' game." (Ages 9 and up)

The Way to Bea – written by Kat Yeh

Recently estranged from her best friend, Taiwanese-American Beatrix Lee consoles herself by writing haiku in invisible ink and hiding the poems, but one day she finds a reply—is it the librarian with all the answers, the editor of the school paper who admits to admiring her poetry, an old friend feeling remorse, or the boy obsessed with visiting the local labyrinth? (Ages 10 and up)

Butterfly Yellow – written by Thanhà Lai

A Vietnam War refugee in Texas partners with a city boy with rodeo dreams to track down the younger brother she was separated from six years before when he was evacuated by American troops during the waning days of the Vietnam War. (Young Adult. Ages 13 and up)

Additional titles can be searched using the C. V. Starr Library catalog at sthildas.goalexandria.com. Annotations are courtesy of the WorldCat cataloging-in-publication notes. Asterisk denotes a recipient of the [Asian/Pacific American Library Association Literature Award](#).