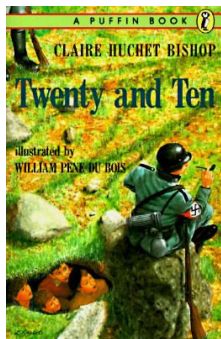
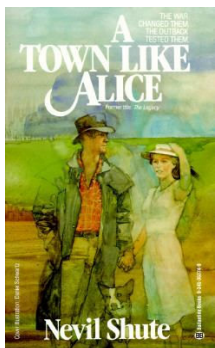


READING LIST | World War II Fiction



The Bridge over the River Kwai by Pierre Boulle

A proud British colonel in a Japanese prison camp builds a bridge with prison labor, and when commandos from his own side arrive to blow up the bridge, he warns the Japanese.

Empire of the Sun by J G Ballard

A young boy living in China at the outbreak of World War II is separated from his wealthy parents, forced to forage for survival in Shanghai's foreign quarter, interned in a Japanese prison camp, and, eventually, reunited with his parents.

Twenty and Ten by Claire Huchet Bishop – *Children's Section*

Twenty school children hide ten Jewish children from the Nazis occupying France during World War II.

The Postmistress by Sarah Blake

The stories of a small Cape Cod postmistress and an American radio reporter stationed in London collide on the eve of the United States's entrance into World War II, a meeting that is shaped by a broken promise to deliver a letter.

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne – *Teen Section*

Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence.

Eye of the Abyss by Marshall Browne

Overseeing a prestigious new client, the Nazi party, chief bank auditor Franz Schmidt finds himself overwhelmed by the violence and duplicity of late 1930s Nazi Germany and becomes embroiled in dangerous political machinations before he is targeted for an act of compassion.

Tallgrass by Sandra Dallas

Her life turned upside-down when a Japanese internment camp is opened in their small Colorado town, Rennie witnesses the way her community places suspicion on the newcomers when a young girl is murdered.

The Madonnas of Leningrad by Debra Dean

In a novel that moves back and forth between the Soviet Union during World War II and modern-day America, Marina, an elderly Russian woman, recalls vivid images of her youth during the height of the siege of Leningrad.

Eye of the Needle by Ken Follett

British Intelligence must thwart Die Nadel, the only spy Hitler trusts, from reaching Hitler to tell about the 1944 invasion of France.

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford

When artifacts from Japanese families sent to internment camps during World War II are uncovered during renovations at a Seattle hotel, Henry Lee embarks on a quest that leads to memories of growing up Chinese in a city rife with anti-Japanese sentiment.

Summer of my German Soldier by Betty Greene – *Teen Section*

Captures the hardships and cruelty of life in the ghettos of Warsaw during the Nazi occupation of World War II, through the eyes of a Jewish orphan who must use all his wits and courage to survive unimaginable events and circumstances.

Catch-22 by Joseph Heller

Presents the contemporary classic depicting the struggles of a United States airman attempting to survive the lunacy and depravity of a World War II airbase.

Last Days of Summer by Steve Kluger

After Jewish Joey Margolis's father leaves their Brooklyn home, Joey wants a father, and he begins writing New York Giants player Charlie Banks.

Suite Francaise by Irene Nemirovsky

A story of life in France under the Nazi occupation includes two parts--"Storm in June," set amid the chaotic 1940 exodus from Paris, and "Dolce," set in a German-occupied village rife with resentment, resistance, and collaboration

The English Patient by Michael Ondaatje

In Cairo, a man meets a married woman with whom he falls in love, but the war keeps them apart and destroys her while he, severely burned, lives to tell their story to a nurse caring for him in an abandoned Tuscan villa.

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Sarah's Key by Tatiana De Rosnay

On the sixtieth anniversary of the 1942 roundup of Jews by the French police in the Vel d'Hiv section of Paris, American journalist Julia Jarmond is asked to write an article on this dark episode during World War II and embarks on investigation that leads her to long-hidden family secrets and to the ordeal of Sarah, a young girl caught up in the raid.

World War II Series by Jeff Shaara

The Rising Tide: As the forces of Nazi Germany overrun the nations of Europe and America is drawn into the war by the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, American troops and their British allies launch a desperate campaign to stop Hitler.

The Steel Wave: A fictional account of D-Day and the Allied invasion of Europe chronicles the events of the campaign and the personalities who took part, from the ordinary soldiers on the land and in the air, to such leaders as Dwight Eisenhower and George Patton.

No Less Than Victory: After the success of the Normandy invasion, the Allied commanders are buoyantly confident that the war in Europe will be over in a matter of weeks, that Hitler and his battered army have no other option than surrender. But despite the advice of his best military minds, Hitler will hear no talk of defeat. In mid-December 1944, the Germans launch a desperate and ruthless counteroffensive in the Ardennes Forest. As American commanders respond to the stunning challenge, the German spear is finally blunted.

The Final Storm: A fictional account of the struggle for Okinawa through the eyes of combatants on both sides: Private Clay Adams, Admiral Chester Nimitz, General Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr., and General Mitsura Ushijima, the Japanese general in charge of defending the island.

Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer

In 1946, writer Juliet Ashton finds inspiration for her next book in her correspondence with a native of Guernsey, who tells her about the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, a book club born as an alibi during German occupation.

Resistance by Anita Shreve

A Belgian farm wife cares for an American pilot downed in the area, and he begins an affair with a local woman involved in the Resistance, each thinking that any day might be their last.

A Town Like Alice by Neville Shute (also called *The Legacy*)
A tale of love and war, follows its enterprising heroine from Malayan jungle during World War II to the rugged Australian outback

Milkweed by Jerry Spinelli – *Teen Section*

Captures the hardships and cruelty of life in the ghettos of Warsaw during the Nazi occupation of World War II, through the eyes of a Jewish orphan who must use all his wits and courage to survive unimaginable events and circumstances.

Ordinary Heroes by Scott Turow

Stewart Dubinsky plunges into the mystery of his family's secret history when he discovers his deceased father's wartime letters to his former fiancée, revealing his court-martial and imprisonment during World War II.

The Caine Mutiny by Herman Wouk

An American mine sweeper, the Caine, patrols in the Pacific during World War II under a tyrannical skipper until an ensign leads a mutiny against him.

The Winds of War by Herman Wouk

Pug Henry and his family prepare for World War II as he progresses toward his own command and interaction with Franklin Roosevelt and Hitler.

War and Remembrance by Herman Wouk

In the sequel to *The Winds of War*, as the father of the Henry family becomes an admiral in World War II, but other aspects of his life unravel.

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel—a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

