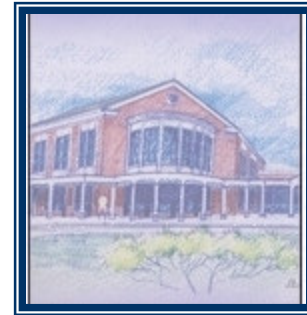


Jericho High School
Library
"Wired for Learning"



Reader's Advisory

Multicultural literature can be described as literature that portrays racial or ethnic groups aside from the "white Anglo-Saxon majority" that currently reside in the United States today. It helps readers develop cross-cultural understandings and greater respect for individuals.

Historical fiction stories are set in a specific time period and tell a historically accurate story through the eyes of a fictionalized character. These stories can be set in any time period anywhere in the world.

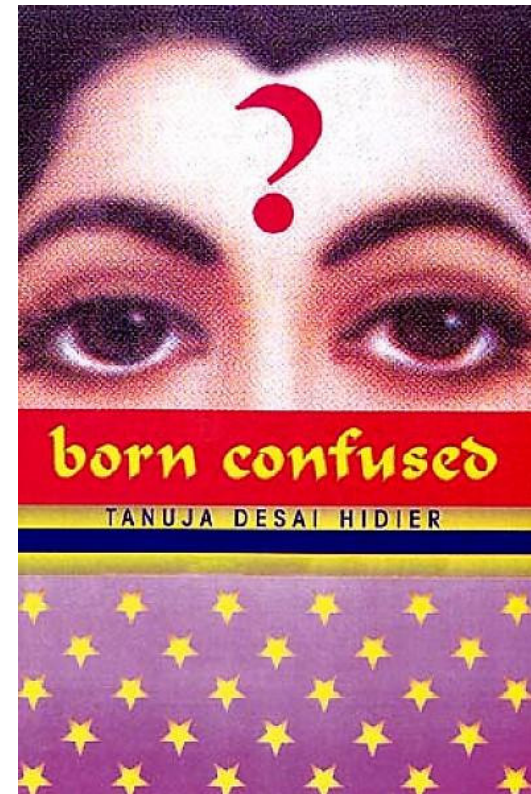
Historical fiction and multicultural fiction often overlap.

Multicultural Lit

Born Confused by Tanuja Desai Hidier

As Dimple Lala turns seventeen, she realizes that life is about to become more complex as her best friend starts pulling away and her parents try to find a suitable boyfriend for Dimple, despite the fact that she is not interested.

- East Indian Americans
- Identity Fiction
- Best friends

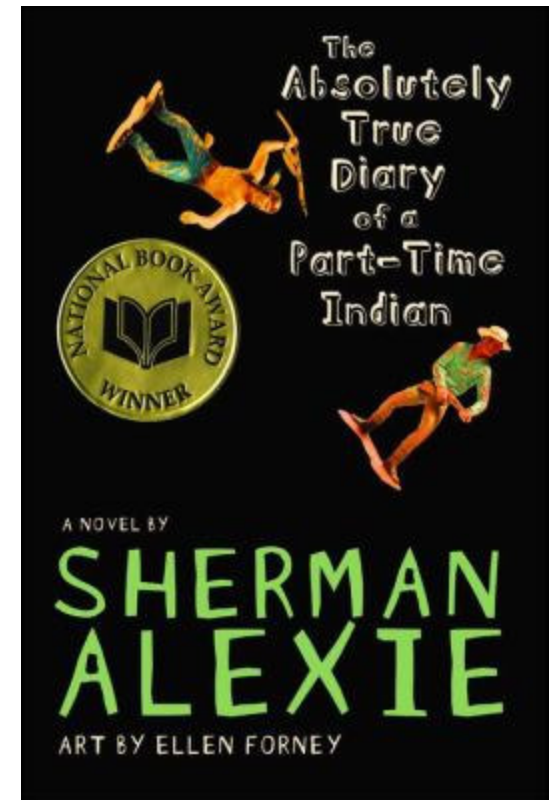


Multicultural Lit

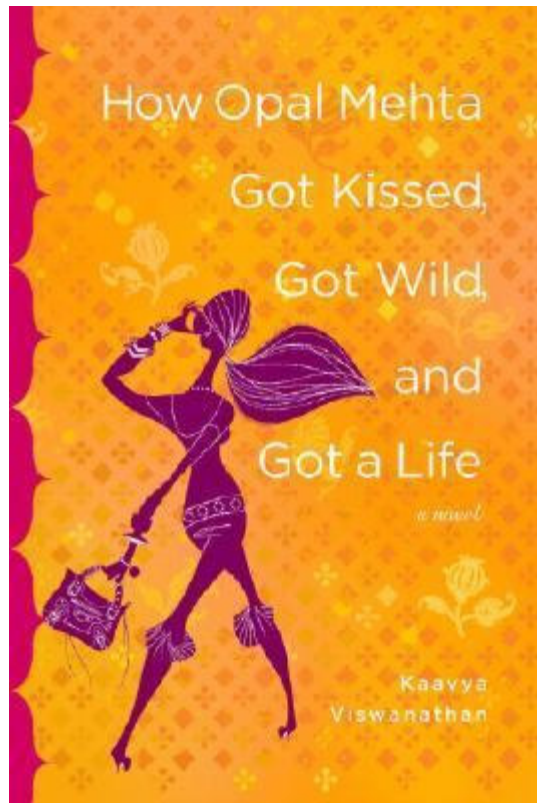
The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian

Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Native American is the school mascot.

(Native Americans)



Multicultural Lit



How Opal Mehta Got Kissed, Got Wild, and Got a Life

Offered a second chance at getting into Harvard when the dean urges her to prove she is capable of having fun as well as overachieving academically, Opal, sets about to reinvent herself.

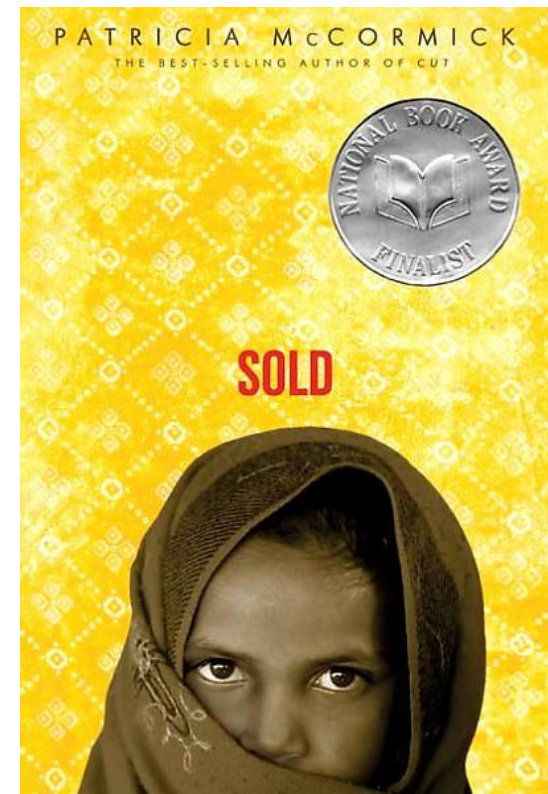
- Life changes
- Harvard Univ.
- Humorous

Multicultural Lit

Sold by Patricia McCormick

McCormick's searing novel, told in a series of poetic vignettes, gives voice to Lakshmi, a thirteen-year-old girl from Nepal who is forced into prostitution in India.

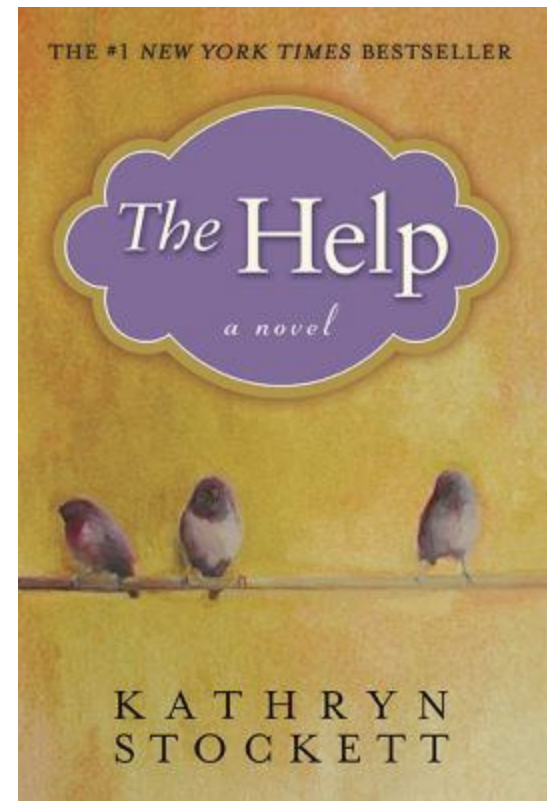
- Human trafficking
 - Calcutta (India)
 - Child prostitution
- This well researched story was a National Book Award finalist.



Multicultural/Historical

The Help by Kathryn Stockett

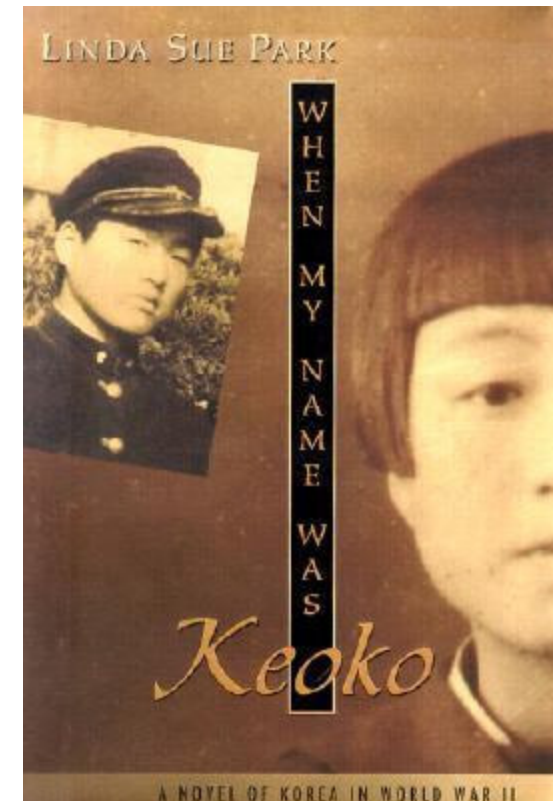
Skeeter returns home to Mississippi from college in 1962 and begins to write stories about the African-American women that are found working in white households, which includes Aibileen, who grieves for the loss of her son while caring for her seventeenth white child, and Minny, Aibileen's sassy friend, the hired cook for a secretive woman who is new to town.



Multicultural/Historical

When My Name Was Keoko by Linda Sue Park

With national pride and occasional fear, a brother and sister face the increasingly oppressive occupation of Korea by Japan during World War II, which threatens to suppress Korean culture entirely.

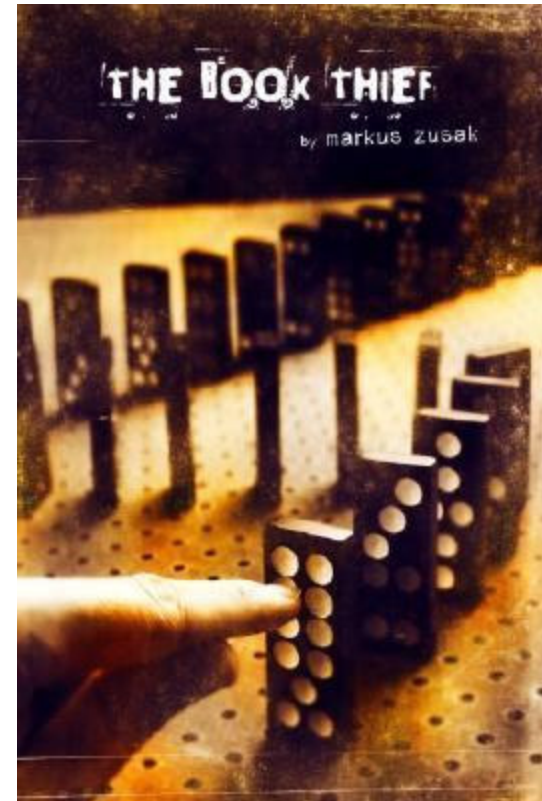


Multicultural/Historical

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.

- Holocaust

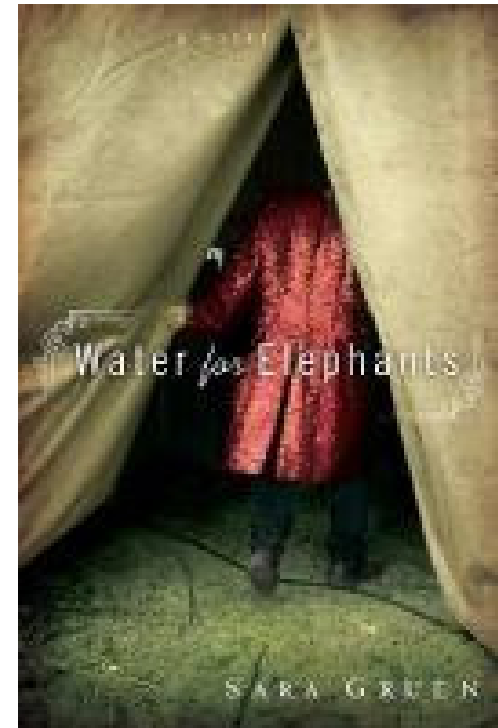


Multicultural/Historical

Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen

Life is good for Jacob Jankowski. He's about to graduate from Cornell's veterinary school and about to bed the girl of his dreams. Then his parents are killed in a car crash, leaving him in the middle of the Great Depression with no home, no family, and no career.

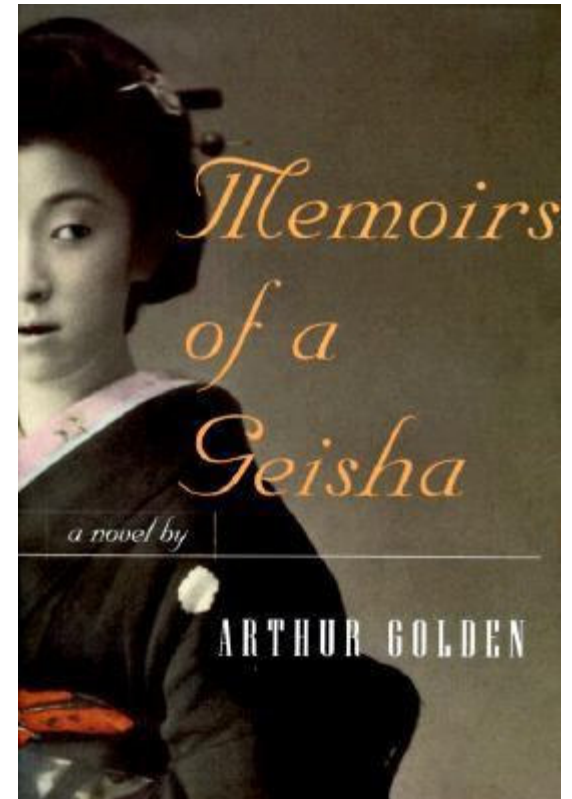
A highly enjoyable, well-researched, somewhat romantic read that brings to life the era of the traveling circus and small town America during the Depression.



Multicultural/Historical

Memoirs of a Geisha by Arthur Golden

The life of a famous Kyoto geisha from her painful apprenticeship in the early 1930s through the years of her prime and her later career in Manhattan is rendered with stunning clarity. It paints a fascinating picture of Japanese culture in the mid 20th century.

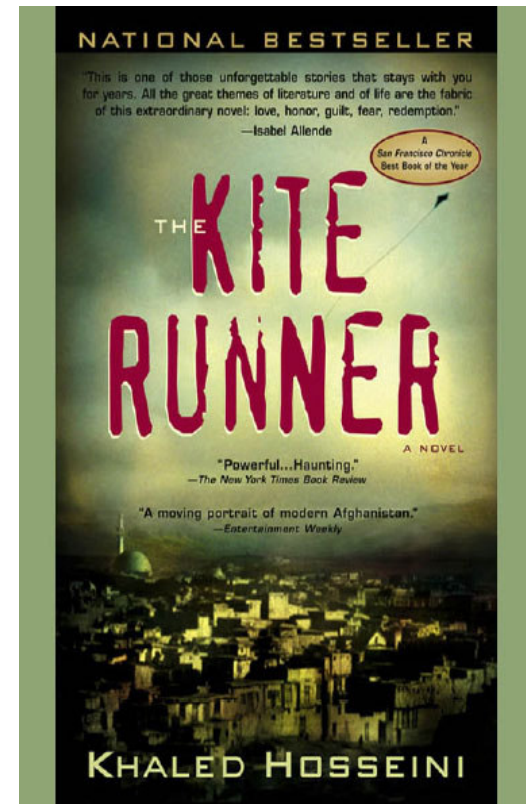


Multicultural/Historical

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

Amir, haunted by his betrayal of Hassan, the son of his father's servant and a childhood friend, returns to Kabul as an adult after he learns Hassan has been killed, in an attempt to redeem himself by rescuing Hassan's son from a life of slavery to a Taliban official.

- Kabul (Afghanistan)
- Friendship
- Social classes

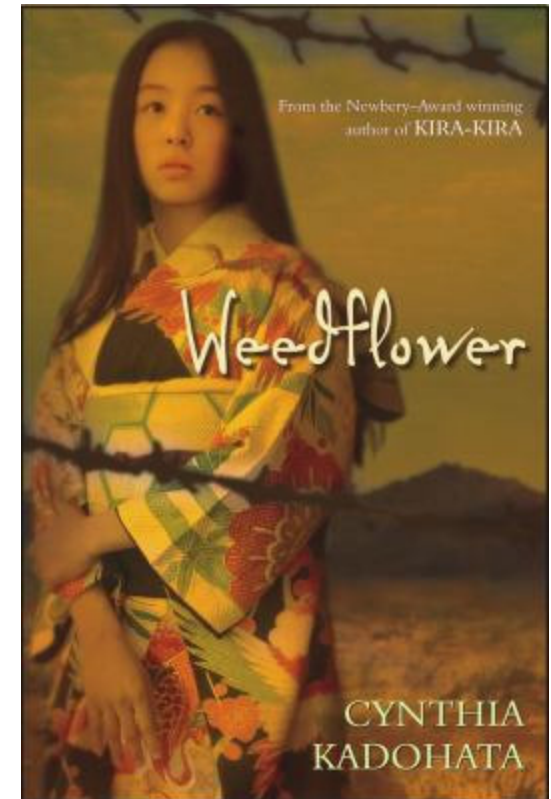


Multicultural/Historical

Weedflower by Cynthia Kadohata

After twelve-year-old Sumiko and her Japanese-American family are relocated from their flower farm in southern California to an internment camp on a Mojave Indian reservation in Arizona, she helps her family and neighbors, becomes friends with a local Indian boy, and tries to hold on to her dream of owning a flower shop.

- Japanese Americans
- Native Americans - Arizona



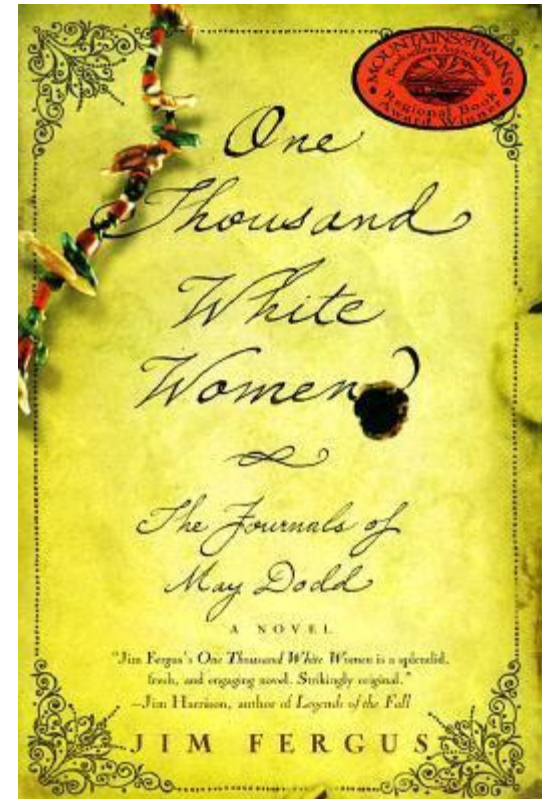
Multicultural/Historical

One Thousand White Women

by Cynthia Kadohata

In her journal, May Dodd records her experiences as a Cheyenne Indian bride, traded by the government in 1875 as part of a secret peace treaty with the Cheyenne nation.

- Cheyenne Indians
- Interracial marriage

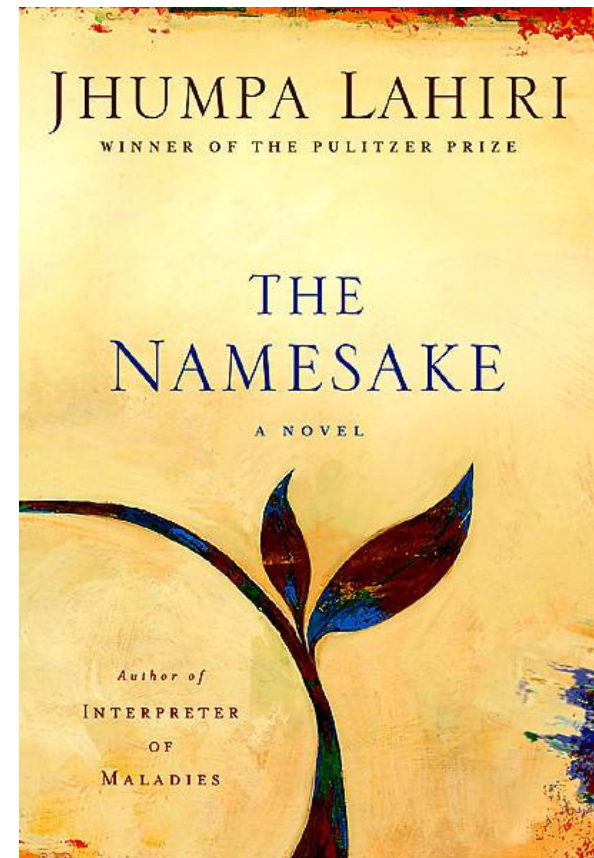


Multicultural Lit

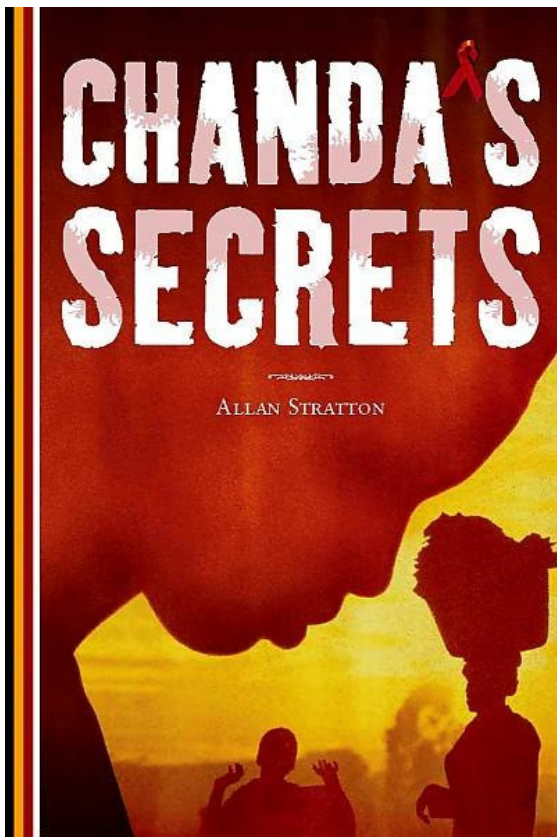
The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri

A young man born of Indian parents in America struggles with issues of identity from his teens to his thirties.

- East Indian Americans
- Young men
- Children of immigrants
- Alienation (Social psychology)



Multicultural Fiction



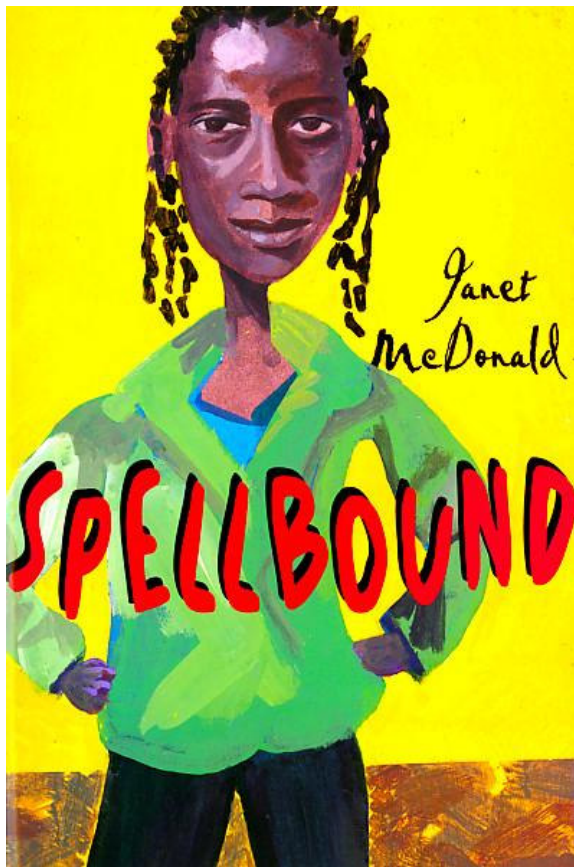
Chanda's Secrets

By Allan Stratton

Chandra Kabelo, a sixteen-year-old in a small South African town, faces down shame and stigma in her efforts to help friends and family members who are dying of AIDS.

- South Africa – fiction
- AIDS (disease) - fiction
- Winner: Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature

Multicultural Lit



Spellbound

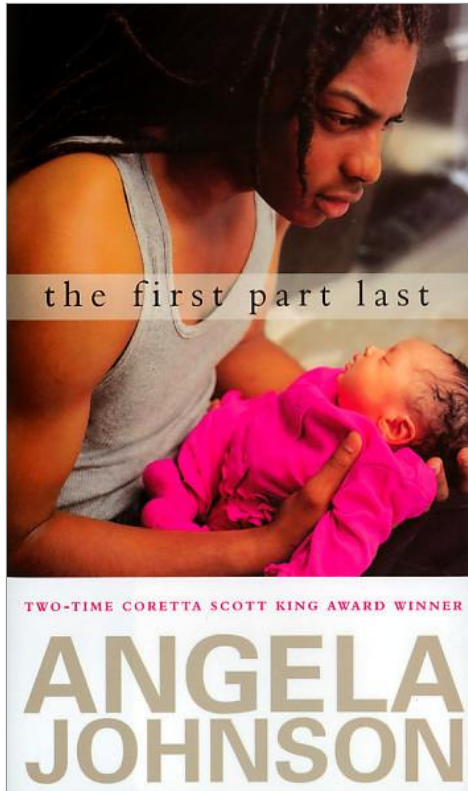
By Janet McDonald

Raven, a teenage mother and high school dropout living in a housing project, decides, with the help and sometime interference of her best friend Aisha, to study for a spelling bee which could lead to a college preparatory program and four-year scholarship.

- Teenage mothers
- High school dropouts

Multicultural Lit

Dealing with
tear
romances and



The First Part Last

By Angela Johnson

Brief, poetic, and absolutely riveting, this gem of a novel tells the story of a young father struggling to raise an infant.

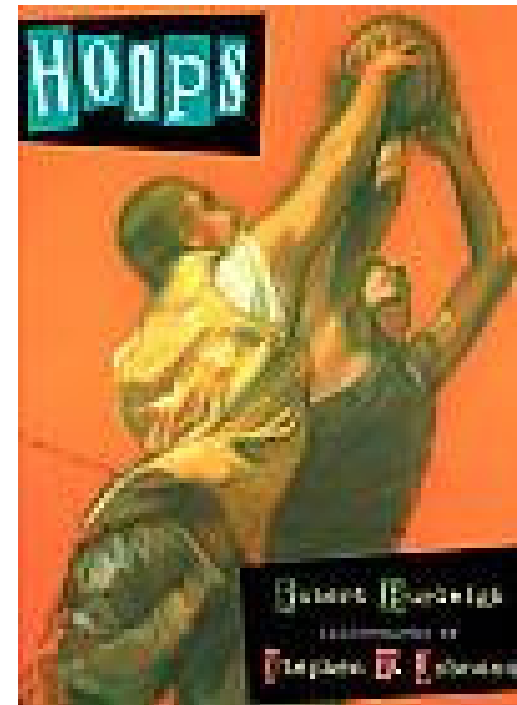
- Teenage parents
- Winner – Printz Award for YA Lit

Multicultural Lit

Hoops

By Walter Dean Myers

A teenage basketball player from Harlem is befriended by a former professional player who, after being forced to quit because of a point shaving scandal, hopes to prevent other young athletes from repeating his mistake.



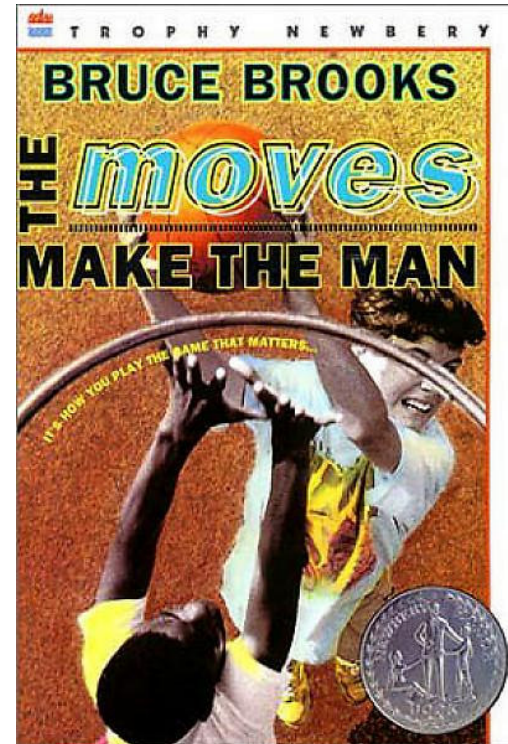
Multicultural Lit

The Moves Make the Man

By Bruce Brooks

A black boy and an emotionally troubled white boy in North Carolina form a precarious friendship.

- Friendships
- Emotional problems
- Realistic fiction



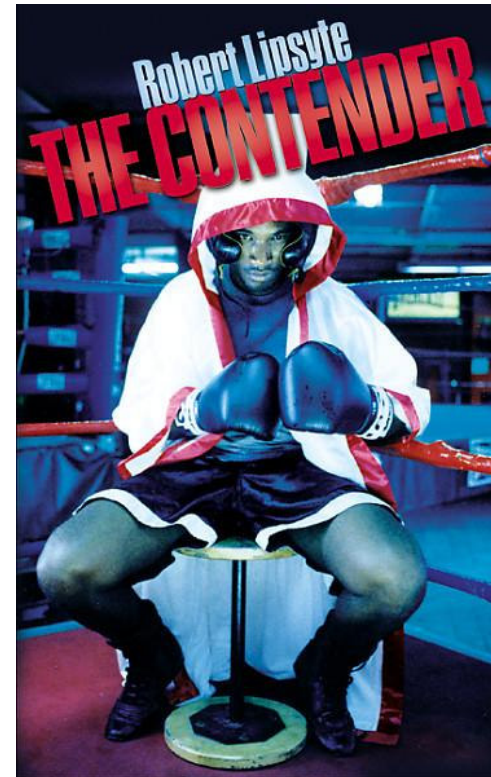
Multicultural Lit

The Contender

By Robert Lipsyte

After a successful start in a boxing career, a Harlem high school dropout decides that competing in the ring isn't enough of life and resolves to aim for different goals.

- Boxing



Historical Fiction

The Pillars of the Earth by Ken Follett

A story of passion and idealism, which describes a group of men and women in the Middle Ages whose destinies are fatefully linked with the building of a cathedral.

- Epic
- Historical fiction
- Sequel:

World Without End

