

## **TACT RECOMMENDED READING LIST: Grades 2-3**

Listed in ascending order of difficulty within each topic

### **Historical Fiction**

58. *Henry and the Kite Dragon*. Bruce Edward Hall. Chinese and Italian children in 1920s New York Chinatown clash over a mishap with a dragon kite
59. *When the Circus Came to Town*. Laurence Yep. Smallpox hits family in Montana in early 1900s ; a Chinese cook helps them out
60. *Mei Ling in China City*. Icy Smith. Chinese & Japanese girls write to each other in WWII

### **Food**

61. *The Ugly Vegetables*. Grace Lin. Chinese vegetables become tasty soup
62. *Everybody Cooks Rice*. Norah Dooley. Rice dishes of many cultures
63. *Rice*. Lynne Merrison. Growing, harvesting, cooking and eating rice.
64. *Auntie Yang's Great Soybean Picnic*. Ginnie Lo. Soybean party grows in Midwest
65. *The Have a Good Day Café*. Frances and Ginger Park. A boy asks his immigrant grandmother to add Korean food to save the family business
66. *Love As Strong as Ginger*. Lenore Look. Grandmother cooks seafood dishes

### **Growing Up/Friends**

67. Ruby Lu book series: *Ruby Lu, Brave and True, Ruby Lu, Empress Everything, Ruby Lu, Star of the show*. Lenore Look. The adventures of spunky Ruby
68. *Alvin Ho* series. Lenore Look. Hapless Alvin confronts so many issues growing up
69. Pacy Lin book series: *Year of the Dog, Year of the Rat, Dumpling Days*. Grace Lin. Girl raised in suburbia of professional parents confronts being Taiwanese American

### **Biography/Autobiography/Realistic Fiction**

70. *Earthquake*. Milly Lee. Her family in 1906 in San Francisco
71. *Nim and the War Effort*. Milly Lee. A family saves newspapers during WWII
72. *Landed*. Milly Lee. A family is interrogated at Angel Island
73. *A Place Where Sunflowers Grow*. Amy Lee-Tai. Silent child finds relief in art in Topaz where her family is incarcerated during WWII
74. *Fish for Jimmy: Inspired By One Family's Experience in a Japanese American Internment Camp*. Katie Yamasaki. Older brother sneaks out to catch fish to feed sick younger brother.
75. *The Bracelet*. Yoshiko Uchida. Girl loses a gift bracelet while incarcerated at the converted racetrack stables during WWII
76. *Tucky Jo and Little Heart*. Patricia Polacco. Friendship between American soldier and Filipina girl during WWII

77. *Hannah is My Name*. Belle Yang. Author comes to San Francisco from Taiwan
78. *My Chinatown: One Year in Poems*. Kam Mak. Hong Kong immigrant's poems.
79. *Hiromi's Hands*. Lynne Barasch. Biography of sushi chef Hiromi Suzuki
80. *The Favorite Daughter*. Allen Say. Daughter of mixed heritage questions her identity and name, based on author's own daughter
81. *Be Water, My Friend: The Early Years of Bruce Lee*. Ken Mochizuki. The young life of martial artist legend Bruce Lee.
82. *Sky High: The True Story of Maggie Gee*. Marissa Moss. WWII pilot.
83. *Sixteen Years in Sixteen Seconds: The Sammy Lee Story*. Paula Yoo and Dom Lee. Korean boy dives when pools were segregated and eventually wins Olympic Gold Medal in 1948

### **Celebrations**

84. *Celebrating Chinese New Year*. Diane Hoyt-Goldsmith. Good facts with photos.
85. *Sam and the Lucky Money*. Karen Chinn/Cornelius Wright. Red envelope custom
86. *Duck for Turkey Day*. Jacqueline Jules. Vietnamese American girl wants turkey for Thanksgiving Day
87. *Dear Santa, Please Come to the 19<sup>th</sup> Floor*. Yin & Chris Soentpiet. Inner city Latino and Asian American boys wait for Santa's arrival

### **Family/Immigration**

88. *Journey Home*. Lawrence McKay. Girl goes to Vietnam to find her mother's lost home and family
89. *Good-Bye, 382 Shin Dang Dong*. Frances Park. Korean girl immigrates to America leaving her best friend in Korea
90. *Grandparent's Song*. Sheila Hamanaka. Beautiful poetic picture book about multiethnic heritage, a story of America
91. *Grandfather's Journey*. Allen Say. Author's grandfather comes to America by boat
92. *Grandfather's Story Cloth*. Linda Gerdner. Hmong boy's grandfather has Alzheimer's
93. *Willie Wins*. Almira Astudillo Gilles and Carl Angel. Grandfather gives boy a treasure in a coconut bank
94. *The Wakame Gatherers*. Holly Thompson. Girl explains how seaweed is used by both her Japanese and Maine grandmothers, and their different experiences in WWII
95. *Lakas and the Manilatown Fish*. Anthony D. Robles, Carl Angel, & Magdalena Guzman A fish leads a boy and his father through Manilatown & San Francisco

96. *Lakas and the Makibaka Hotel*. Anthony D. Robles. A community tries to save a hotel

**Folktales/Myths**

97. *Lon Po Po*. Ed Young. A Red Riding Hood story

98. *Cat and Rat*. Ed Young. The Chinese zodiac, with bold, startling images

99. *The Magic Paintbrush*. Laurence Yep. Chapter book of folktale set in Chinatown and China

100. *Filipino Children's Favorite Stories*. Liana Elena Romulo and Joanne de Leon