

TACT RECOMMENDED READING LIST: Grades 8 – 9

In ascending order of difficulty with each category

Biography/Autobiography

163. *Nisei Daughter*. Monica Sone. Japanese Seattle family deals with incarceration. For some, a bit too apologetically
164. *Fifth Chinese Daughter*. Jade Snow Wong. Growing up in 1940s in a family sewing factory, slim margin of existence, with harsh discipline by parents
165. *Chinese Yankee*. Ruthanne Lum McCunn. Thomas Sylvanus (Ah Yee Way)'s wounds, imprisonment and survival during and after the Civil War
166. *Asians and Pacific Islanders and the Civil War*. National Park Service. Asian and Pacific Islander soldiers and their fight for rights after the war

Historical Fiction

167. *Home is East*. Many Ly. Cambodian girl has to deal with abandonment by mother and father's alcoholism, a compelling first novel. *Roots and Wings*. Girl returns to Florida for Grandmother's funeral.
168. *A Million Shades of Gray*. Cynthia Kadohata. A Montagnard boy serves as a tracker through the jungle, vivid recreation of war in South Vietnam
169. *Thousand Pieces of Gold*. Ruthanne Lum McCunn. Fictionalized account of Polly Bemis, a Chinese woman sent to Idaho mining town in late 1800s.
170. *Wooden Fish Songs*. Ruthanne Lum McCunn, Fictionalized account of horticulturist Lue Gim Gong, told from point of view of 3 women: his mother in China, his Christian mentor, and a servant in the late 19th century
171. *The Serpent's Children, 1849 (Golden Mountain Chronicles)* Laurence Yep.. A girl tries to keep family together amidst famine and war, a love story.
172. *Mountain Light (Golden Mountain Chronicles)* Laurence Yep. A boy must leave China and his beloved to survive in his 19th century warring villager
173. *Dragonwings. (Golden Mountain Chronicles)* Fictional version of Fong Joe Guey's flight off Oakland hills. Pair it with newspaper article in *The Call*, September 23, 1909.

History

174. *An Illustrated History of the Chinese in America*. Ruthanne Lum McCunn
Historic photos, illustrations, clear and informative
175. *Hear that Train Whistle Blow! How the Railroad Changed the World*. Milton Meltzer. Good details about railroad building, involving different groups
176. *Everything You Needed to Know about Asian Americans*. Lan Lao + Himilee Novas. Question and answer format about culture and short history of major Asian American groups.
177. "The Strange Case of the Chinese Laundry" in *A History of US: Reconstruction and Reform, Vol 7*. Two laundrymen brought *Yick Wo v Hopkins* to the Supreme Court to fight against discrimination pages 123-129. Grades 5-8
178. *Korematsu v United States: Japanese American Internment Camps*. Karen Alonso. Fred Korematsu questions the legality of WWII internment in Supreme Court case
179. *Strike!: The Farm Workers' Fight for Their Rights*. Larry Dane Brimner. How Filipino farmworkers started the grape strike, and their relationship to Cesar Chavez with quotes, political cartoons, sidebars.