Civil War and Reconstruction Historical Fiction: An Annotated Bibliography
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Alphin, Elaine Marie. *Ghost Cadet.*
Benjy, a twelve year old boy visiting his grandmother, meets the ghost of a Virginia Military Institute cadet killed during the Battle of New Market in 1964. Civil War

Beatty, Patricia. *Charley Skedaddle.*
New York City boy joins the Union Army during the Civil War as a drummer boy, but deserts during a battle in Virginia, and encounters a hostile old mountain woman. Civil War

Beatty, Patricia. *Jayhawker.*
Teenage Kansan farm boy becomes a Jayhawker, an abolitionist raider freeing slave from the neighboring state of Missouri, and then goes undercover as a spy. Underground Railroad; Slavery; Border Conflicts

Beatty, Patricia. *Turn Homeward, Hannalee;* Sequel: *Be Ever Hopeful, Hannalee*
Hannalee, a young mill girl forced to relocate from Georgia to Indiana, leaves her mother with a promise to return home as soon as the war ends. Civil War – social conditions; Textile workers
In the sequel, Hannalee, now fourteen years old, reunites with her family in 1865 in Atlanta, where jobs are plentiful to rebuild the devastated city. Reconstruction in Atlanta, Georgia

Beatty, Patricia. *Who Comes With Cannons?*
In 1861, a Quaker girl from Indiana staying with relatives who run a North Carolina station of the Underground Railroad, experiences enormous changes in her lifestyle with the onset of the Civil War. Quakers; Underground Railroad

Clapp, Patricia. *Tamarack Tree, The*
Hardships experience by an eighteen year old English girl and her friends during the forty-seven day siege of Vicksburg in the spring of 1863. Civil War: Siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi

In 1787, a 14-year-old slave boy escapes from his dishonest master. Slavery / African-Americans; Constitutional Convention

Collier, James Lincoln & Christopher Collier. *Who Is Carrie?*
A young black girl living in New York City during the late eighteenth century observes historic events and questions her own identity. Slavery / African-Americans

While his father is fighting in the Civil War, Johnny helps manage his family farm. When Johnny volunteers to transport food to Richmond, Virginia, he is captured by a black Union soldier. Civil War; Inter-racial Relationships

Set during the time of the Civil War, this novel deals with a young soldier’s struggle with the horrors of war. Powerful psychological drama recommended for advanced readers. Civil War

Donahue, John. *An Island Far From Home.*
A young boy whose father, a Union army doctor, is killed during the fighting in Fredericksburg, questions the meaning of war, friends and enemies when he begins corresponding with a young Confederate prisoner of war. Civil War; POWs

Northerners, Southerners, generals, couriers, soldier boys and their sisters all present different perspectives as they describe the glory, horror, thrill, and disillusionment of the first battle of the Civil War. Civil War: Bull Run, Virginia, 1861
Forman, James D. *Becca’s Story.*
A Civil War romance between a Michigan girl and two soldiers.  

Forrester, Sandra. *Sound the Jubilee.*
A young black girl and her family find refuge on Roanoke Island, North Carolina, during the Civil War.  

Kidnapped by the crew of an Africa-bound ship, a young teenage boy discovers to his horror that he must play music for the exercise periods of the human cargo.  

Gaines, Ernest J. *Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman, The.*  VHS of TV movie w/ Cicely Tyson (110 mins.)
Classic memoir.  Story of the long life of Miss Jane Pittman, who began her life as a slave in the South and later marched for Civil Rights at the age of 110.  

Hansen, Joyce. *Captive, The.*
When Kofi’s father, an Ashanti chief, is killed, Kofi is sold as a slave; eventually, he ends up in Massachusetts, where an African American shipbuilder assists in returning slaves to their homeland in Africa.  

Hansen, Joyce. *I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly: the Diary of Patsy, a Freed Girl.*
Patsy, a twelve year old black girl, keeps a diary of the confusing time at the end of the Civil War and granting of freedom to former slaves; setting off the coast of South Carolina.  

Hansen, Joyce. *Out From This Place.*
Emancipation of slaves at the end of the Civil War, and the relationships formed between freed blacks and the Union Army.  

Hunt, Irene. *Across Five Aprils.*  Newbery Award sound cassette (38 min.): juvenile dramatization
Saga of the difficult years and diverse hardships suffered during the Civil War, as told through the eyes of young Jethro Creighton, who is left to take care of the family farm in Illinois.  

Lester, Julius. *Long Journey Home: Stories from Black History*  
Six stories recount the plight of runaway slaves, plantation life of black slaves, and African American dreams & search for freedom.  

Lester, Julius. *To Be a Slave.*  
African American experiences compiled from various sources and arranged chronologically, narrating reminiscences of slaves from the time when they left Africa through the Civil War to the present.  

Love, D. Anne. *Three Against the Tide*
A young girl leads her two younger brothers on a difficult journey to find their father after he is called away from their plantation in Charleston, South Carolina during the Civil War.  

Lyons, Mary E. *Letters from a Slave Girl: Story of Harriet Jacobs.*  
Fictionalized version of the life of Harriet Jacobs, told in the form of letters written during her slavery in North Carolina as she prepared for escape to the North in 1842.  

Harriet Jacobs (1813-1897); Pre-Civil War South
A courageous young white man aids slaves escaping from Kentucky in pre-Civil War days.

Underground Railroad: Borderland Conflicts.

The Confederacy alters family lifestyle of Southern society.

Civil War and its aftermath

Paulsen, Gary. *Soldier’s Heart.*
Narrates the story of the enlistment and service of Charley Goddard in the First Minnesota Volunteers, and examines the psychological effects of war on young boys. Although eager to enlist, 15-year-old Charley has a change of heart after experiencing both the physical horrors and mental anguish of Civil War combat.

Civil War: Minnesota

Reeder, Carolyn. *Captain Kate.*
At the height of the Civil War, Kate & her stepbrother, Seth, take their family barge down the Cumberland & Ohio Canal; plenty of action & adventures, presenting a different perspective on children’s roles during Civil War times.

Chesapeake & Ohio Canal.

Two sisters, growing up in Virginia during the Civil War era, experience conflicts within their household as their world changes. Loosely based on the actual story of Wilmer McLean, whose farm in Manassas was pivotal at the beginning of the Civil War; after McLean moved his family to Appomattox, his parlor became the scene for Robert E. Lee’s surrender to Grant to end the Civil War.

Civil War aftermath; Conscientious Objectors

During the Civil War, Susan finds a way to help the Confederate Army and uncovers a series of mysterious family secrets.

Civil War: Confederacy

*Rinaldi, Ann. Mine Eyes Have Seen.*
Narrated in form of a journal by Annie, for Louisa May Alcott. Annie, teenage daughter of John Brown, maintained her father’s household in 1859 while he organized his provisional army, prior to their raid on the United States arsenal at nearby Harper’s Ferry.

John Brown; Harper’s Ferry

Wisler, G. Clifton. *Drummer Boy of Vicksburg*
Based on the true story of a fourteen year old drummer boy, Orion Howe, who displayed great bravery during the Civil War Battle of Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Civil War: Vicksburg; Howe, Orion P. (d.1930)

Wisler, G. Clifton. *Mr. Lincoln’s Drummer.*
Based on the true story of Willie Johnston, an eleven year old boy who served as a Civil War drummer; due to his great courage, became youngest recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Civil War history; Johnston, William J.

Wisler, G. Clifton. *Red Cap.*
Based on the true story of Ransom Powell, a thirteen year old boy captured by the Confederate Army & eventually sent to the notorious Andersonville Prison. Red Cap, as Powell was known in prison, became a hero when he refused to renounce his pledge of loyalty to the Union.

Powell, Ransom J. (1849-1899); Andersonville Prison