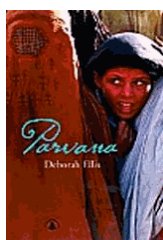


A bridge to other cultures



Ellis, Deborah

Parvana

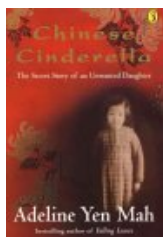
When soldiers burst into her home and drag her father off to prison, Parvana is forced to take responsibility for her whole family, dressing as a boy to make a living in the marketplace of Kabul, risking her life in the dangerous and volatile city.

Laird, Elizabeth

A little piece of ground



Karim Aboudi and his family are trapped in their Ramallah home by a strict curfew. Israeli tanks control the city in response to a Palestinian suicide bombing. Karim longs to play football with his mates - being stuck inside with his teenage brother and fearful parents is driving him crazy. When the curfew ends, he and his friend discover an unused patch of ground that's the perfect site for football. But in this city there's constant danger, even for schoolboys. And when Israeli soldiers find Karim outside during the next curfew, it seems impossible that he will survive...



Mah, Adeline Yen

Chinese Cinderella

Adeline Yen Mah's family considered her to be bad luck because her mother died giving birth to her. They discriminated against her and made her feel unwanted all her life. In response to the many letters she received from young people who also felt unloved and unwanted, she wrote this book.



Mankell, Henning

Secrets in the fire

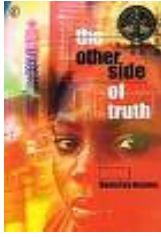
"It was the most dangerous thing she could have done. But Sofia was only playing... didn't mean to step off the path. She didn't mean to tread on the monster: the monster that lurked, waiting, under the ground..." Based on the true story of a land-mine victim in Mozambique, this story is moving and unforgettable.



Mankell, Henning

Playing with fire

Sofia's story continues... her older sister Rosafalls ill, and their mother puts her faith in African magic. But it's Sofia who must help Rosa face the reality of AIDS, and the difficult road ahead. Another brave, moving and unflinchingly honest story from Mankell.



Naidoo, Beverley

The other side of truth

A shot. Two shots at the gate in the early morning and a car screeches away down an avenue of palm trees. A tragedy and a terrible loss for Sade and her younger brother, Femi, children of an outspoken Nigerian journalist. Now they must flee the country for England. At once. And alone.



Namioka, Lensey

Ties that Bind, Ties that Break

Ailin's life takes a different turn when she defies the traditions of upper class Chinese society by refusing to have her feet bound.



Satrapi, Marjane

Persepolis & Persepolis 2

In graphic novel format, the author describes her youth in revolutionary Iran. From the overthrow of the Shah to the establishment of the new regime, she witnesses heartbreak and struggle. In Persepolis 2, her struggles adjusting to a different culture as a student in Vienna are documented.



Staples, Suzanne Fisher

Daughter of the wind

Shabanu lives with her family in Pakistan's Cholistan Desert. At 12 years old, Shabanu is already betrothed. Then tragedy strikes and she is faced with a decision that will change her life forever – she must choose between the strength of her own dreams of freedom and independence and her obligation to her family and culture..

Sue, Chun.

Beijing doll



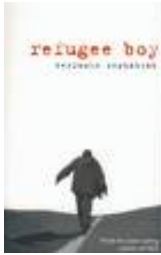
This book sold thousands of copies in China before the government banned it. In it, high-school-dropout-turned-journalist Chun Sue chronicles one teenage girl's struggle to find herself through rebellion, sex, and hair-colour changes. Like a punked-out Holden Caulfield, the endearingly crude protagonist navigates repressive conventions, societal expectations, and a rigid educational system — all in search of a way to express herself.

Taylor, Theodore

Ice drift



14 year old Inuit boys Alika and his younger brother, Sulu, are hunting for seals on an ice floe attached to their island in the Arctic. Suddenly they hear the terrible sound of the floe breaking free from land. The boys watch with horror as they start drifting south--away from their home, their family, and everything they've ever known. Throughout their six-month-long journey down the Greenland Strait, the boys face bitter cold, starvation, and vicious polar bears.



Zephaniah, Benjamin

Refugee boy

Alem, the product of an Ethiopian father and Eritrean mother, is left alone in London, his fate resting in the hands of the Refugee Council and the British justice system. This story charts Alem's fate as he is moved from children's home to foster family, and in and out of court hearings. Winner of the 2002 Portsmouth Book Award