

Through Their Eyes: Great Biographies

Picture Books

Cardillo, Margaret **Just Being Audrey.** (JUV BIO HEPBU)

Short biography of actress Audrey Hepburn.

Cox, Lynne. **Elizabeth, Queen of the Seas.** (PB COX)

Here is the incredible story of Elizabeth, a real-life elephant seal who made her home in the Avon River in the city of Christchurch, New Zealand. When Elizabeth decides to stretch out across a two-lane road, the citizens worry she might get hurt or cause traffic accidents, so a group of volunteers tows her out to sea. But Elizabeth swims all the way back to Christchurch. The volunteers catch her again and again -- each time towing her farther, even hundreds of miles away -- but, still, Elizabeth finds her way back home.

Fern, Tracey E. **Dare the Wind.** (PB FERN)

Ellen Prentiss's papa said she was born with saltwater in her veins, so he gave her sailing lessons and taught her how to navigate. As soon as she met a man who loved sailing like she did, she married him. When her husband was given command of a clipper ship custom-made to travel quickly, she knew that they would need every bit of its speed for their maiden voyage: out of New York City, down around the tip of Cape Horn, and into San Francisco, where the Gold Rush was well under way. In a time when few women even accompanied their husbands onboard, Ellen Prentiss navigated their ship to set the world record for speed along that route.

Gandhi, Arun. **Grandfather Gandhi.** (JUV 954.035 GANDH)

Mahatma Gandhi's grandson tells the story of how his grandfather taught him to turn darkness into light in this uniquely personal and vibrantly illustrated tale that carries a message of peace.

Kerley, Barbara. **A Home for Mr. Emerson.** (JUV BIO EMERS)

Before Ralph Waldo Emerson was a great writer, he was a city boy who longed for the broad, open fields and deep, still woods of the country, and then a young man who treasured books, ideas, and people. When he grew up and set out in the world, he wondered, could he build a life around these things he loved?

Krull, Kathleen. **The Brothers Kennedy : John, Robert, Edward.** (JUV 929.209 KRULL)

The story of the three Kennedy brothers and how they relied on each other.

Powell, Patricia. **Josephine: the dazzling life of Josephine Baker.** (JUV BIO BAKER)

A portrait of the passionate performer and civil rights advocate Josephine Baker, the woman who worked her way from the slums of St. Louis to the grandest stages in the world. Meticulously researched by both author and artist, Josephine's powerful story of struggle and triumph is an inspiration and a spectacle, just like the legend herself.

Rabinowitz, Alan. **A Boy and A Jaguar.** (PB RABIN)

The renowned cat conservationist reflects on his early childhood struggles with a speech disorder, describing how he only spoke fluently when he was communicating with animals and how he resolved at a young age to find his voice to be their advocate.

Rosenstock, Barb. **The Streak: how Joe DiMaggio became America's hero.**

(JUV 921 DIMAG)

The Streak tells the riveting story of baseball legend Joe DiMaggio, his favorite bat, Betsy Ann, and the longest hitting streak in baseball history. As part of the storied New York Yankees, DiMaggio hit throughout the 1941 season and kept hitting for 56 straight games—a sports story that united the country on the brink of World War II. DiMaggio's Streak is widely regarded as the greatest unbroken sports record in history. His fame immortalized, he became the hero that Americans needed.

Russell-Brown, Kathryn. **Little Melba and her Big Trombone.** (JUV 788.2 LISTO)

A biography of African American musician Melba Doretta Liston, a virtuoso musician who played the trombone and composed and arranged music for many of the great jazz musicians of the twentieth century.

Stanton, Brandon. **Little Humans.** (PB STANT)

The creator of Humans of New York combines an original narrative with some of his favorite children's photos from the blog, in addition to all-new exclusive portraits.

Whelan, Gloria. **Queen Victoria's Bathing Machine.** (PB WHELA)

Inspired by a true story, when Queen Victoria is unable to go swimming without her subjects glimpsing her in a swimming suit, her husband, Prince Albert, comes up with an innovative solution so his wife can indulge in the healthy exercise.

Winter, Jonah. **Joltin' Joe DiMaggio.** (JUV 796.357 DIMAG)

A tribute to the golden-era baseball star traces his upbringing as a fourth-generation Italian in San Francisco while describing the influences that the Depression, World War II and his proud father made on his history-making career

Winter, Jonah. **Wild Women of the Wild West.** (JUV 920.72 WINTE)

Presents an account of frontier life for women in the American West through brief biographies of fifteen famous individuals.

Woelfle, Gretchen. **Mumbet's Declaration of Independence.** (JUV BIO FREEM)

Mumbet's Declaration of Independence tells the story of a Massachusetts slave from the Revolutionary era--in 1781, she successfully used the new Massachusetts Constitution to make a legal case that she should be free.

Chapter Books

Bragg, Georgia. **How They Croaked: the awful ends of the awfully famous.**

(JUV BIO BRAGG)

A look at the deaths of several famous people throughout history and the circumstances surrounding those deaths.

Bryant, Jennifer. **The Right Word: Roget and his thesaurus.** (JUV BIO ROGET)

The story of "shy young Peter Mark Roget, for whom books were the best companions--and it wasn't long before Peter began writing his own book. But he didn't write stories; he wrote lists. Peter took his love for words and turned it to organizing ideas and finding exactly the right word to express just what he thought. His lists grew and grew, eventually turning into one of the most important reference books of all time.

Fleischman, **Sid. Escape!: the story of the great Houdini.** (JUV BIO HOUDI)

How did he walk through walls, escape drowning, and shatter iron chains that were tightly wrapped around him? The rare photos in this book might help you figure it out. So might the exclusive update about the rumor that Houdini was poisoned. But just remember, a true magician never reveals his tricks. . . .

Fleischman, Sid. **Sir Charlie : Chaplin, the funniest man in the world.** (JUV BIO CHAPL)

A Newbery Medalist presents one of the most compelling rags-to-riches stories of modern times, in this biography of the legendary Little Tramp, Charlie Chaplin.

Fleming, Candace. **The Great and Only Barnum : the tremendous, stupendous life of showman P.T. Barnum.** (JUV BIO BARNU)

A larger-than-life biography of showman P. T. Barnum. Known far and wide for his jumbo elephants, midgets, and three-ring circuses, here's a complete and captivating look at the man behind the Greatest Show on Earth.

Fleming, Candace. **Our Eleanor: a scrapbook look at Eleanor Roosevelt's remarkable life.** (JUV BIO ROOSE)

There has hardly been a life in the last century that Eleanor Roosevelt has not affected, in one way or another. From securing safe, low-cost housing for Kentucky's poor, to helping her grandchildren hang a tire swing on the White House's south lawn, to representing America as the first female delegate to the United Nations, Eleanor rarely kept a second of her life for herself -- and she wouldn't have had it any other way.

Freedman, Russel. **Angel Island : gateway to Gold Mountain.** (JUV 979.46 FREED)

A middle-grade history of the "other Ellis Island" traces how Angel Island served as an entry point for one million Asian immigrants to the United States in the early 20th century, drawing on memoirs, diaries, letters and "wall poems" discovered at the facility long after it closed to describe the center's screening process, immigration policies and eventual renaissance as a historic site.

Geras, Adèle. **Cleopatra.** (JUV BIO CLEOP)

Discover the world of Cleopatra through the diary of her handmaid Nefret.

Harness, Cheryl. **The Adventurous Life of Myles Standish and the Amazing-But-True Survival Story of the Plymouth Colony.** (JUV BIO STAND)

Say hello to Myles Standish, a fiery man with short legs and an even shorter temper. When he got mad his face turned as red as his hair, earning him the nickname "Captaine Shrimpe."

Heiligman, Deborah. **Charles and Emma : the Darwins' leap of faith.** (JUV BIO DARWI)

Charles Darwin and his wife, Emma, were deeply in love and very supportive of each other, but their opinions often clashed. Emma was extremely religious, and Charles questioned God's very existence.

Hodgman, Ann. **How to Die of Embarrassment Every Day.** (JUV BIO HODGM)

Ann Hodgman is a funny lady. In this book, she explains how she got that way. But the book only goes up through sixth grade. After that, her life became so embarrassing that writing it down would have caused the pages to burst into flames

Hoose, Phillip M. **Claudette Colvin : twice toward justice.** (JUV BIO COLVI)

On March 2, 1955, an impassioned teenager, fed up with the daily injustices of Jim Crow segregation, refused to give her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Instead of being celebrated as Rosa Parks would be just nine months later, fifteen-year-old Claudette Colvin found herself shunned by her classmates and dismissed by community leaders. Undaunted, a year later she dared to challenge segregation again as a key plaintiff in *Browder v. Gayle*, the landmark case that struck down the segregation laws of Montgomery and swept away the legal underpinnings of the Jim Crow South.

Lobel, Anita. **No Pretty Pictures: a child of war.** (JUV BIO LOBEL)

The author, known as an illustrator of children's books, describes her experiences as a Polish Jew during World War II and for years in Sweden afterwards.

Potter, Alicia. **Jubilee!: one man's big, bold, and very, very loud celebration of peace.** (JUV 784.092 GILMO)

As a young boy growing up in Ireland, Patrick Sarsfield Gilmore loved music -- the louder, the better! This love of music followed him to Boston in 1849, where he became a band leader. During the brutal Civil War, it was music that kept up his spirits and those of his fellow soldiers. So when the war ended and peace was restored to the country, Patrick had an idea. He would create the biggest, boldest, loudest concert the world had ever known to celebrate. A peace jubilee! But with twelve cannons, forty church bells, one thousand musicians, and ten thousand singers, just how would all of this sound?

Stone, Tanya Lee. **Almost Astronauts: 13 women who dared to dream.** (JUV BIO STONE)

What does it take to be an astronaut? Excellence at flying, courage, intelligence, resistance to stress, top physical shape any checklist would include these. But when America created NASA in 1958, there was another unspoken rule: you had to be a man. Here is the tale of thirteen women who proved that they were not only as tough as the toughest man but also brave enough to challenge the government. They were blocked by prejudice, jealousy, and the scrawled note of one of the most powerful men in Washington.

Woodson, Jacqueline. **Brown Girl Dreaming.** (JUV BIO WOODS)

Jacqueline Woodson, one of today's finest writers, tells the moving story of her childhood in mesmerizing verse. Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement.

Yousafzai, Malala. **I Am Malala : how one girl stood up for education and changed the world.** (BIO YOUSAFZAI)

This is my story. Malala Yousafzai was only ten years old when the Taliban took control of her region. Raised in a once-peaceful area of Pakistan transformed by terrorism, Malala was taught to stand up for what she believes. So she fought for her right to be educated. And on October 9, 2012, she nearly lost her life for the cause: She was shot point-blank while riding the bus on her way home from school. No one expected her to survive let alone thrive.