**Literary Resource Guide**

The titles listed below generally highlight literature regarding Asian American culture; however, there are also titles reflecting a range of cultural backgrounds that reflect similar themes.

Titles marked with an asterisk (\*) may contain authentic language or content that should be considered before using for instruction.

| **Title** | **Author** | **Age Group** | **Theme/Genre** | **Keywords / Tags** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *1001 Cranes* | Naomi Hirahara | 8 to 12 | identity, family, immigrant experience | Interpersonal relations; marriage; grandparents; Japanese Americans |
| *A Step From Heaven* | An Na | 12 and up | identity, immigrant experience | Korean American; family life; emigration and immigration |
| *A Suitcase of Seaweed and Other Poems* | Janet Wong | 9 to 12 | identity, poetry | Korean American; family life; poetry |
| *A Time to Dance* | Padma Venkatraman | 12 and up | identity, courage | novel in verse; dance; amputees; people with disabilities; India |
| *America is in the Heart: A Personal History* | Carlos Bulosan | 16 and up | identity, immigrant experience, discrimination | Filipino Americans; migrant agricultural laborers; social life and customs |
| *American Born Chinese\** | Gene Luen Yang | 12 and up | immigrant experience, identity | Graphic novel; Chinese Americans; identity; schools; popular culture |
| *Angel Island: Immigrant Gateway to America* | Erika Lee and Judy Yung | 16 and up | identity, immigrant experience, discrimination | emigration and immigration; Angel Island – San Francisco |
| *Ask Me No Questions* | Marina Budhos | 14 and up | identity, discrimination, war, immigrant experience | Bangladeshi Americans; Muslim; illegal aliens; school |
| *Bamboo People* | Mitali Perkins | 12 and up | war, family | Burma; survival; bildungsromans (coming-of-age); refugee |
| *Beacon Hill Boys* | Ken Mochizuki | 12 and up | identity, friendship | Japanese Americans; individuality; social and family issues; school; personal relationships |
| *Blackbird Fly* | Erin Entrada Kelly | 8 to 12 | identity | Beatles; bullying; schools; music; Filipino Americans; gifted children |
| *Born Confused* | Tanjua Desai Hidier | 14 and up | identity | East Indian Americans; traditions; friendship; schools; social and family issues |
| *Echoes of the White Giraffe* | Sook Nyul Choi | 12 and up | war, family | Korea; historical fiction |
| *Everything Asian* | Sung J. Woo | 16 and up | identity, immigrant experience, family | Koreans; teenage boys |
| *Faithful Elephants* | Yukio Tschiya | 10 to 12 | war | zoo keepers; World War II (1939 – 1945); Japan |
| *Farewell to Manzanar* | Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and James D. Houston | 12 and up | memoir, discrimination, identity | United States War Relocation Center; Japanese Americans; evacuation and relocation; World War II (1939 – 1945) |
| *God Loves Hair* | Vivek Shraya | 12 and up | identity, family, poetry | East Indians; Indo-Canadian; gender; sexuality; religion; race; desire to fit in; diversity; bildungsromans (coming-of-age) |
| *Good Enough* | Paula Yoo | 14 and up | identity, family | Korean Americans; gifted children; musicians; self-realization; family relationships; |
| *Good Fortune: A Journey to Gold Mountain* | Li Keng Wong | 9 to 12 | immigrant experience | Li Keng Wong; Chinese Americans; immigrants; biography; Chinatown; emigration and immigration |
| *Good Job, Kanani* | Lisa Yee | 8 and up | friendship, intergenerational | Hawaiians; racially mixed people; friendship; surfing; values |
| *Half and Half* | Lensey Namioka | 8 to 12 | identity, bi-racial | Chinese Americans; Scottish Americans; family life; identity; racially mixed people |
| *Ichiro* | Ryan Inzana | 12 and up | war, fantasy | Japanese Americans; graphic novels; monsters; grandfathers; fantasy |
| *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson* | Bette Bao Lord and Marc Simont | 8 to 12 | immigrant experience, identity | Chinese Americans; moving; school |
| *Ink and Ashes* | Valynne Maetani | 12 and up | mystery, suspense | Japanese Americans; Yakuza; organized crime; fathers; mystery |
| *Inside Out and Back Again\** | Thanhha Lai | 8 to 12 | refugee/immigrant experience, poetry | Vietnamese Americans; novels in verse; emigration and immigration; historical fiction |
| *Kampung Boy* | Lat | 12 and up | identity, graphic novel | Malaysia; families; country life; Muslims; graphic novels |
| *Kira-Kira\** | Cynthia Kadohata | 10 to 14 | death, identity, family | Japanese Americans; death; sisters; friendship |
| *Level Up* | Gene Luen Yang | 12 and up | identity | Video games; family life; graphic novels |
| *Maori Boy: A memoir of Childhood* | Witi Tame Ihimaera | 14 and up | identity, family | Memoir; family; community; rural life; New Zealand |
| *My Freedom Trip* | Francis Park and Ginger Park | 9 to 12 | war, family | North Korea; refugee children; military and wars |
| *No No Boy* | John Okada | 16 and up | identity, discrimination | Japanese Americans; evacuation and relocation; conscientious objectors |
| *Roots and Wings* | Many Ly | 12 to 14 | identity, family, immigrant experience | Cambodian Americans; mothers and daughters; identity; grandmothers; Buddhism; funeral rites and ceremonies |
| *Ruby's Wish* | Shirin Yim | 8 to 12 | gender, identity, education | China; education; sex role; self-esteem and self-respect; friendship; social skills and school; historical fiction |
| *Same Sun Here* | Silas House and Neela Vaswani | 9 to 12 | identity, immigrant experience, environmental issues | East Indian Americans; friendship; pen pals; immigrant; family life; values |
| *Saving Kabul Corner* | N.H. Senzai | 10 to 14 | identity, war, immigrant experience | Afghan Americans; grocery trade; vendetta; immigrants; family life; prejudice and racism; mystery and detective stories |
| *Shadow Hero\** | Gene Luen Yang | 12 and up | identity, comic/graphic novel | Chinese American; prejudice and racism; superheroes; stereotypes; graphic novel |
| *Shooting Kabul\** | N.H. Senzai | 10 to 14 | war, family | Afghan Americans; refugees; emigration and immigration; war |
| *Sita's Ramayanna* | Samhita Arni | 10 and up | heritage, folklore | Ramayana Vishnu (Hindu diety); folklore; India; Rama; self-esteem; strength; graphic novel |
| *Standford Wong Flunks Big-time* | Lisa Yee | 8 to 12 | family | School; sports; family relations; self-esteem and self-respect; humor |
| *The Detention Club* | David Yoo | 8 to 12 | identity, friendship | Korean Americans; school; boys; popularity; conduct of life |
| *The Grand Plan to Fix Everything\** | Uma Krishnaswami | 12 and up | identity, family | East Indian Americans; friendship; actors; moving |
| *The Great Wall of Lucy Wu* | Wendy Wan-Long Shang | 8 to 12 | identity | Chinese Americans; individuality; families; school |
| *The Land of Forgotten Girls\** | Erin Entrada Kelly | 8 to 12 | identity, family, friendship | Filipino Americans; immigrants; dysfunctional families; sisters; stepmothers |
| *The Latehomecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir* | Kao Kalia Yang | 16 and up | identity, family, immigrant experience, memoir | Hmong Americans; immigrants; grandmothers; Vietnam War; refugees; biography |
| *The Secret Sky: A Novel of Forbidden Love* | Atia Abawi | 14 and up | war, courage | Taliban; ethnic relations; families; Pushtuns; Afghanistan; love stories |
| *The Song Poet: A Memoir of My Father* | Kao Kalia Yang | 16 and up | identity, family, immigrant experience, war | Hmong Americans; singers; refugees; fathers and daughters; tragedy memoir |
| *The Thing About Luck* | Cynthia Kadohata, Julia Kuo | 10 to 14 | family | Japanese Americans; farm life; grandparents; brothers and sisters; fortune; fate and fatalism |
| *The Way Home Looks Now* | Wendy Wan-Long Shang | 8 to 12 | family, friendship | Chinese Americans; accident; bereavement; Little League baseball |
| *The Whole Story of a Half Girl* | Veena Hiranandani | 10 to 13 | identity, family | East Indian Americans; racially mixed people; mental depression; school; bildungsromans (coming-of-age) |
| *The Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts\** | Maxine Hong Kingston | 16 and up | identity, family, immigrant experience, memoir | Chinese Americans; women; memoir |
| *Ticket to India* | N.H. Senzai | 10 to 14 | identity, war | India; Partition (1947); adventure |
| *Tiger Girl* | May-Lee Chai | 14 and up | identity, war, family | Asian Americans; Cambodians; refugees; self-realization in women; college; war; family secrets; coming-of-age |
| *Tilting the Continent: Southeast Asian American Writing* | Shirley Goek-Lin Lim and Cheng Lok Chua | 16 and up | identity, immigrant experience, war, discrimination, etc… | Asian Americans; emigration and immigration |
| *Tina's Mouth: An Existential Comic Diary* | Keshni Kashyap | 12 and up | identity, family | Indian Americans; individuality; school; teens; humor; graphic novel |
| *Whale Rider* | Witi Tame Ihimaera | 10 and up | identity, gender, family | New Zealand; Maori; human-animal relationships; family life; rulers |
| *When the Emperor Was Divine* | Julie Otsuka | 14 and up | identity, war, discrimination | Japanese Americans; evacuation and relocation; World War II (1939 – 1945); concentration camps; war |
| *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* | Grace Lin | 8 to 12 | fantasy, adventure | fairy tales; dragons; moon |
| *Words in Dust* | Trent Reedy | 12 and up | war, gender, courage | Afghanistan; facial deformity; family life; sex role; stepmother |
| *Year of the Impossible Goodbye* | Sook Nyul Choi | 12 and up | war, family | Korea; war; family relations; courage |
| *Yell-Oh Girls! Emerging Voices Explore Culture Identity, and Growing Up Asian American* | Vickie Nam | 13 and up | identity, gender, immigrant experience, etc… | Asian Americans; teenage girls; self-esteem; body image book |