



British Columbia Teachers' Federation

100-550 West 6th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5Z 4P2 • 604-871-2283, 1-800-663-9163 • www.bctf.ca
TTY 604-871-2185 (deaf and hard of hearing)

Antiracism Annotated Bibliography 2013-14



Grades 5-7

As Long as the Rivers Flow by Larry Loyie—ISBN 978-0888996961

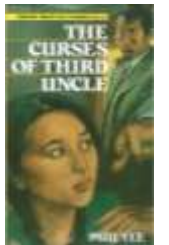
Taking place in 1994, this memoir recreates for the reader one summer of a ten year old Cree boy, the last summer he spent with his Cree family before the Canadian government forced him to attend a residential school. The memoir depicts the Cree values and respect for the land, the water and its natural inhabitants along with the despair and powerlessness of the Cree who are forced by the threat of prison not only to send their children away but also to experience the loss of Cree cultural values and language.

Grades 5-8



Tales from Gold Mountain (1989) by Paul Yee—ISBN 978-0888990983

Eight short stories detail the tumultuous and brave history of Chinese settlement on the Pacific coast which draw upon the real background of the Chinese role in the gold rush, the building of the railway, and the settlement of the west coast during the nineteenth century. These original stories are written in a folkloric style and are enhanced with beautiful illustrations from painter Simon Ng.



The Curses of Third Uncle (1986) by Paul Yee—ISBN 0-88862-909-5

Set in Vancouver in 1909, this story focusses on a teenage girl's experience when her father disappears in China while involved in rebel efforts to overthrow the corrupt ruling dynasty. This initiates a family crisis where her father's younger brother attempts to take over the family business and finances. Important themes of immigration involve disappointment in the new homeland, not fitting in, living between two worlds, facing racism, and the importance of family.



A Stranger at Home (2011) by Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton—ISBN 978-1554513611

This accessible novella is a sequel to *Fatty Legs* which describes the experiences of a young Inuit girl who spent two years in a residential boarding school and now returns home to a family who barely recognizes her as she was taught to forget her culture while taking on characteristics of a dominant Eurocentric culture. The story also details her painful journey of fitting in again as she learns to reconcile her old self with the new.



Grade 7-9

American Born Chinese (2006) by Gene Luen Yang—ISBN 1-59643-152-0

Three alternating stories are depicted in this graphic novel: the Monkey King, a hero in Chinese folk tales; Jin Wang, an Asian-American boy; and Chin-kee, the metaphor of all negative Chinese stereotypes. At the heart of the novel are themes relating to struggles with acceptance of cultural identity, attempting to fit in and be accepted, struggling with racism and racist stereotyping of Asians living in America.



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Grade 8-10



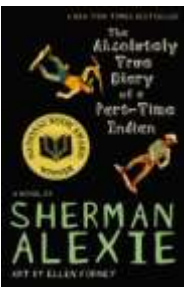
The Help (2009) by Kathryn Stockett—ISBN 978-0-425-24513-2

The story revolves around three different characters as they navigate their lives on different sides of the racial barrier in the 1960's, an era where segregation still exists in Mississippi households where African-American maids work cooking, cleaning, and bringing up their employers' children. It is a story of hope, resilience, and reconciliation.



Maus (1991) by Art Spiegelman—ISBN 0-394-74723-2

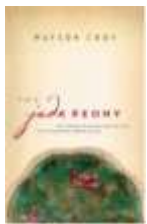
This Pulitzer winning graphic novel depicts races of humans as animals: Jews as mice, Germans as cats, and non-Jewish Poles as pigs. The novel features Spiegelman who interviews his father about his experiences as a Polish Jew and Holocaust survivor. Themes include the power and oppression of memory, the guilt of Holocaust survivors, and the racism as shown by the anti-Semitism displayed by both Germans and Poles.



The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian (2009) by Sherman Alexie—ISBN 978-0316013697

This novel is about the trials and tribulations of a Native American adolescent boy who leaves his community daily in order to attend a non-native public high school where he is a marginalized minority because he desires an education which he believes will empower him. The story also details his relationship with his best friend and the conflict he experiences as he navigates between the Native American cultures vs. the dominant culture where he experiences systemic discrimination.

Grades 10-12



The Jade Peony (1995) by Wayson Choy—ISBN 978-1-5505-4468-8

This novel, set in Vancouver's Chinatown between the 1930's and 1940's, features stories told by three Chinese siblings who each tell their own unique story exploring how Chinese immigrants work to find their identity as Chinese Canadians existing between two cultures and generation gaps. Other themes include discrimination experienced by Chinese immigrants who struggle against ethnic, gender, and financial constraints.

Grade 12



A Difficult Beauty by David Groulx—ISBN 978-1894987578

Containing mature language and subject matter, this is a gritty poetry anthology full of stark imagery and difficult themes relating back to the continuing impact of colonisation as felt in the daily lives of people in reservations including those who experienced residential schooling and those who continue to experience the effects of systemic discrimination. These poems document with searing honesty, the stories of First Nations' contemporary experiences with cultural loss.