Text Set 5: Refugee Experiences in African Countries

Overview: In the relentless face of adversity, the refugee experience emerges as an epic testament to human resilience. Fleeing the horrors of conflict and persecution, they embark on perilous journeys, bearing the weight of shattered dreams and unspeakable loss. Yet, they carry an abundance of hope and determination. Overcoming treacherous terrains and hostile borders, they face the walls of indifference with unwavering courage, defying the limits of geography and culture. Their stories are a vivid reminder of our shared vulnerability and the universal longing for safety and belonging. The refugee experience calls upon us to stand as beacons of compassion, to listen, to embrace, and to forge a world where the strength of humanity's spirit knows no bounds.

Refugee Experiences in African Countries: Picturebooks



Boundless Sky

by Amanda Addison (Author), Manuela Adreani (Illustrator)

A bird and a young girl from southern Africa travel across the world, meeting at the common end of their journeys in northern England. Parallel migration story.



Wherever I Go

by Mary Wagley Copp (Author), Munir D. Mohammed (Illustrator)

Abia is the self-proclaimed queen of a refugee camp in Ethiopia, where she has spent her childhood. When her family is resettled, she takes her story of resilience and strength with her.



Joseph's Big Ride

by Terry Farish (Author), Ken Daley (Illustrator)

A refugee from Kenya in Canada is determined to ride a bicycle, leading to an unexpected friendship.



Idriss and His Marble

by René Gouichoux (Author), Zau (Illustrator)

War forces a child and his mother to flee a country in Africa, as he clings to his lucky charm, a marble.



My Two Blankets

by Irena Kobald (Author), Freya Blackwood (Illustrator)

A Sudanese girl clings to an old blanket when she is sad, but a friendship helps her create a new blanket.

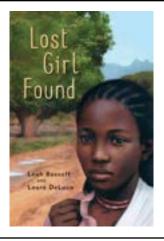
Refugee Experiences in African Countries: Novels



Let's Go Swimming on Doomsday

by Natalie C. Anderson (Author)

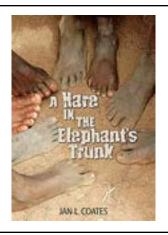
Forced to become a child soldier, a 16-year-old Somali refugee confronts his painful past.



Lost Girl Found

by Leah Bassoff (Author), Laura DeLuca (Author)

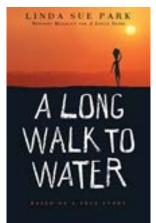
Poni must run for her life due to the Sudanese war in a long and dangerous trek to a camp in Kenya



A Hare in the Elephant's Trunk

by Jan Coates (Author)

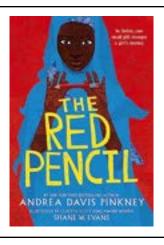
After an attack on his Sudanese village, an orphaned boy struggles to survive and escape the violence.



A Long Walk to Water: Based on a True Story

by Linda Sue Park

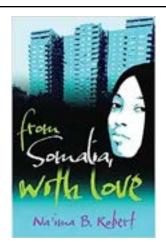
Two stories in alternating sections connecting a "lost boy" of the Sudan in 1985 with a girl in the Sudan in 2008 who must walk long distances for water.



The Red Pencil

by Andrea Davis Pinkney (Author), Shane W. Evans (Illustrator)

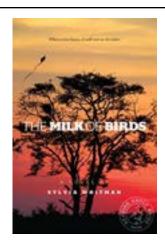
Amira's Sudanese village is attacked, and she flees to a refugee camp, expressing her dreams in drawings.



From Somalia with Love

by Na'ima B. Robert (Author)

A Somalian teen's life in London is turned upside down when her father returns from Mogadishu after 12 years, expecting the family to live by his rules.



The Milk of Birds

by Sylvia Whitman (Author)

Two teens are paired as pen pals, one in a Sudanese refugee camp and the other in Richmond, Virginia.

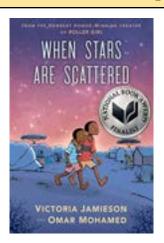


Now Is the Time for Running

by Michael Williams (Author)

Deo goes on the run with his brother after his village is attacked in Zimbabwe, trying to get to South Africa.

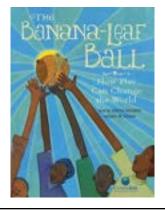
Refugee Experiences in African Countries: Nonfiction



When Stars Are Scattered

by Victoria Jamieson, Omar Mohamed, Iman Geddy

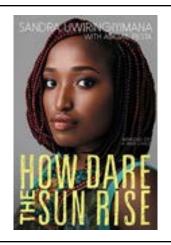
Omar, a Somali refugee, who has spent most of his life in a refugee camp in Kenya, gets an opportunity for an education, but that would mean a separation from his nonverbal brother.



The Banana-Leaf Ball: How Play Can Change the World

by Katie Smith Milway (Author, Illustrator)

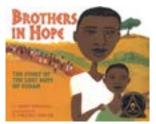
When gangs become a problem in a refugee camp in Tanzania, a coach organizes soccer games.



How Dare the Sun Rise: Memoirs of a War Child

by Sandra Uwiringiyimana (Author), Abigail Pesta (Author)

A memoir of a Congolese teen who survived a massacre to come to the U.S. as an activist and artist.



Brothers in Hope: The Story of the Lost Boys of Sudan

by Mary Williams (Author), R. Gregory Christie (Illustrator)

Orphaned by the Sudanese civil war, a boy leads other "lost" boys on a long walk to Ethiopia and Kenya.