



# SFPL eBooks for ESL



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## Levels 1-2

- [All Are Welcome](#) by Alexandra Penfold - A school where diversity is celebrated and songs, stories, and talents are shared
- [Hats of Faith](#) by Medeia Cohan - An introduction to the shared custom of religious head coverings
- [I'm New Here](#) by Anne Sibley O'Brien - Three children from other countries (Somalia, Guatemala, and Korea) struggle to adjust to their new home and school in the United States.
- [You Hold Me Up](#) by Monique Gray Smith - Helping children to show each other love and support

## Levels 3-4

- [Her Right Foot](#) by Dave Eggers - The Statue of Liberty's right foot is the powerful message of acceptance that is essential to an entire country's creation
- [Last Stop on Market Street](#) by Matt de la Pena - A young boy rides the bus across town with his grandmother and learns to appreciate the beauty in everyday things
- [We Are Grateful, Otsaliheliga](#) by Traci Sorell - Otsaliheliga is a Cherokee word that is used to express gratitude. Journey through the year with a Cherokee family and their tribal nation as they express thanks for celebrations big and small. A look at modern Native American life as told by a citizen of the Cherokee Nation.
- [When Angels Sing: The Story of Rock Legend Carlos Santana](#) by Michael James Mahin - Tells the life story of local SF Bay Area rock musician Carlos Santana.

## Levels 5-6

- [Chef Roy Choi and the Street Food Remix](#) by Jacqueline Briggs Martin - Describes the popular street cook's life, including working in his family's restaurant as a child, figuring out what he wanted to do with his life, and his success with his food truck and restaurant; includes audio read-aloud
- [Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah](#) by Laurie Ann Thompson - The story of a West African youth who pursued an education, helped support his family, and became a record-setting cyclist in spite of a disability

- **Separate Is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez & Her Family's Fight for Desegregation** by **Duncan Tonatiuh** - Sylvia Mendez, an 8-year-old girl of Mexican and Puerto Rican heritage, played an instrumental role in *MENDEZ v. WESTMINSTER*, the desegregation case of 1946 in California.
- **They Called Us Enemy** by **George Takei** - George Takei's childhood imprisoned within American concentration camps during World War II
- **Titanic: Voices from the Disaster** by **Deborah Hopkinson** - Draws on stories from survivors and archival photographs to describe the history of the "Titanic" from its launch to its sinking.
- **Year of the Garden** by **Andrea Cheng** - Join Anna in a year of discovery, new beginnings, friendships, and growth. When Anna is given a copy of *The Secret Garden*, it inspires her to follow her dreams, maybe she can plant ivy and purple crocuses and the birds will come.

#### Levels 7-8

- **America Is Not the Heart** by **Elaine Castillo** - After fleeing the Philippines, Hero De Vera arrives at her uncle's where she is given a fresh start. He asks no questions about her disturbing political past, but his daughter, the first American-born family member, is unable to resist her curiosity, especially about her cousin's damaged hands.
- **Bomb: the Race to Build and Steal the World's Most Dangerous Weapon** by **Steve Sheinkin** - This book is the story of the plotting, the risk-taking, the deceit, and genius that created the atomic bomb.
- **Crazy Rich Asians** by **Kevin Kwan** - Envisioning a summer vacation in the humble Singapore home of a boy she hopes to marry, Chinese American Rachel Chu is unexpectedly introduced to a rich and scheming clan that strongly opposes their son's relationship with an American girl.
- **Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina & New Orleans** by **Don Brown** - On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina's monstrous winds and surging water overwhelmed the protective levees around low-lying New Orleans, Louisiana
- **Epidemics and Pandemics : Real Tales of Deadly Diseases** by **Judy Dodge Cummings** (single user, PDF)
- **The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion & the Fall of Imperial Russia** by **Candace Fleming** - Using period photographs, compelling primary-source material, and riveting text, this book shares the story of Russia's Nicholas II and his wife, who lived in opulence as World War I raged on. The text contains violence and racial slurs.
- **Gender Queer** by **Maia Kobabe** - Gender Queer is more than a personal story: it is a useful and touching guide on gender identity--what it means and how to think about it--for advocates, friends, and humans everywhere
- **Good Talk: A Memoir in Conversations** by **Mira Jacob** - Mira Jacob's half-Jewish, half-Indian son, Z, has questions about everything. At first they are innocuous enough, but as tensions from the 2016 election spread from the media into his own family, they become much, much more complicated
- **The Handmaid's Tale** by **Margaret Atwood** - It is the future world, and Offred is a Handmaid in the home of the Commander and his wife. She is allowed out once a day,

*she is not permitted to read, and she is hoping the Commander makes her pregnant, because only then will she be valued. Also a popular TV series.*

- **March by John Lewis (series)** - *This graphic novel presents the life of Georgia congressman John Lewis, focusing on his youth in rural Alabama, his meeting with Martin Luther King Jr., and the birth of the Nashville Student Movement.*
- **Something New : Tales From A Makeshift Bride by Lucy Kinsley** - *In 2010, Lucy and her long-term boyfriend John broke up. Three long, lonely years later, John returned to New York, walked into Lucy's apartment, and proposed. This is not that story. It is the story of what came after: The Wedding.*
- **The American Dream?: A Journey on Route 66 Discovering Dinosaur Statues, Muffler Men, and the Perfect Breakfast Burrito by Shing Yin Khor** - *As a child growing up in Malaysia, Shing Yin Khor had two very different ideas of what "America" meant...*
- **There There by Tommy Orange** - *There There is a multi-generational, relentlessly paced story about violence and recovery, hope and loss, identity and power, dislocation and communion, and the beauty and despair woven into the history of a nation and its people. Set in Oakland and San Francisco.*
- **The Unwanted: Stories of the Syrian Refugees by Dan Brown** - *An important, timely, and eye-opening exploration of the ongoing Syrian refugee crisis, exposing the harsh realities of living in, and trying to escape, a war zone.*