

Sea Fever The True Adventures That Inspired Our Greatest Maritime Authors From Conrad To Masefield Melville And Hemingway

[The Mostly True Adventures Of Homer P. Figg \(Scholastic Gold\) True Adventures Collection](#) [The True Adventures of the Rolling Stones](#) [The Search for El Dorado \(Totally True Adventures\)](#) [The True Adventures of Nicolo Zen](#) **The Tragically True Adventures of Kit Donovan Climbing Everest (Totally True Adventures)** [The Awesome, Almost 100% True Adventures of Matt & Craz](#) [The Somewhat True Adventures of Sammy Shine](#) [The True Adventures of the World's Greatest Stuntman](#) [The True Adventures of Charley Darwin](#) [The All True Adventures \(and Rare Education\) of the Daredevil Daniel Bones](#) [True Adventure Stories Apollo 13 \(Totally True Adventures\)](#) [The Moth and the Mountain Looking out Windows](#) [The Titanic Sinks! \(Totally True Adventures\)](#) [The True Adventures of Gidon Lev](#) [The True Adventures of the Rolling Stones](#) [The True Adventures of Huckleberry Finn](#) [The Black Pimpernel Into Thin Air True Adventures with the King of Bluegrass](#) [The Gem Hunter Balto and the Great Race \(Totally True Adventures\)](#) [Shipwrecked! More Great True Adventures](#) [Queen of Freedom True Adventures of the Secret Service](#) [Logan's Adventures](#) [The True Adventures of Toopsie & Emilies](#) [The Race Around the World \(Totally True Adventures\)](#) [The Flag Never Touched The Ground Marooned](#) [Bandit's Daughter](#) [The True Adventures of Esther the Wonder Pig](#) [The Absolutely True Adventures of Daydreamer Dev \(omnibus edition, 3 in 1\)](#) [George Washington's Spies \(Totally True Adventures\)](#) [The Mysterious Life of Dr Barry Shark Lady](#)

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Into Thin Air Jan 08 2021 #1 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • "A harrowing tale of the perils of high-altitude climbing, a story of bad luck and worse judgment and of heartbreaking heroism." —PEOPLE A bank of clouds was assembling on the not-so-distant horizon, but journalist-mountaineer Jon Krakauer, standing on the summit of Mt. Everest, saw nothing that "suggested that a murderous storm was bearing down." He was wrong. The storm, which claimed five lives and left countless more—including Krakauer's—in guilt-ridden disarray, would also provide the impetus for *Into Thin Air*, Krakauer's epic account of the May 1996 disaster. By writing *Into Thin Air*, Krakauer may have hoped to exorcise some of his own demons and lay to rest some of the painful questions that still surround the event. He takes great pains to provide a balanced picture of the people and events he witnessed and gives due credit to the tireless and dedicated Sherpas. He also avoids blasting easy targets such as Sandy Pittman, the wealthy socialite who brought an espresso maker along on the expedition. Krakauer's highly personal inquiry into the catastrophe provides a great deal of insight into what went wrong. But for Krakauer himself, further interviews and investigations only lead him to the conclusion that his perceived failures were directly responsible for a fellow climber's death. Clearly, Krakauer remains haunted by the disaster, and although he relates a number of incidents in which he acted selflessly and even heroically, he seems unable to view those instances objectively. In the end, despite his evenhanded and even generous assessment of others' actions, he reserves a full measure of vitriol for himself. This updated trade paperback edition of *Into Thin Air* includes an extensive new postscript that sheds fascinating light on the acrimonious debate that flared between Krakauer and Everest guide Anatoli Boukreev in the wake of the tragedy. "I have no doubt that Boukreev's intentions were good on summit day," writes Krakauer in the postscript, dated August 1999. "What disturbs me, though, was Boukreev's refusal to acknowledge the possibility that he made even a single poor decision. Never did he indicate that perhaps it wasn't the best choice to climb without gas or go down ahead of his clients." As usual, Krakauer supports his points with dogged research and a good dose of humility. But rather than continue the heated discourse that has raged since *Into Thin Air*'s denouncement of guide Boukreev, Krakauer's tone is conciliatory; he points most of his criticism at G. Weston De Walt, who coauthored *The Climb*, Boukreev's version of events. And in a touching conclusion, Krakauer recounts his last conversation with the late Boukreev, in which the two weathered climbers agreed to disagree about certain points. Krakauer had great hopes to patch things up with Boukreev, but the Russian later died in an avalanche on another Himalayan peak, Annapurna I. In 1999, Krakauer received an Academy Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters—a prestigious prize intended "to honor writers of exceptional accomplishment." According to the Academy's citation, "Krakauer combines the tenacity and courage of the finest tradition of investigative journalism with the stylish subtlety and profound insight of the born writer. His account of an ascent of Mount Everest has led to a general reevaluation of climbing and of the commercialization of what was once a romantic, solitary sport; while his account of the life and death of Christopher McCandless, who died of starvation after challenging the Alaskan wilderness, delves even more deeply and disturbingly into the fascination of nature and the devastating effects of its lure on a young and curious mind."

Bandit's Daughter Nov 25 2019 An extraordinary true adventure story – how the bandit's daughter Mu Guiying became a great general in Ancient China ANCIENT CHINA, ONE THOUSAND YEARS AGO. It began with a duel. When General Yang wanted to get rid of a troublesome bandit, he sent his fiercest warrior: his son, Captain Zongbao. But on his way through the forest to find the outlaw, Zongbao unexpectedly encountered the bandit's teenage daughter, Mu Guiying, who challenged him to unarmed combat. And she was better. The fight launched Mu Guiying's astonishing journey from fearless outcast to the great defender of her country, as she masterminded the Chinese defence against the invading horsemen from the north. Simon Mason has written numerous books for younger readers, including *The Quigleys*, *Moon Pie*, and the YA crime thriller series featuring Garvie Smith: *Running Girl*, *Kid Got Shot* and *Hey, Sherlock!* He has always been fascinated by history, particularly by stories from around the world.

The Absolutely True Adventures of Daydreamer Dev (omnibus edition, 3 in 1) Sep 23 2019 Sitting in class or watching clouds from the roof of Kwaliti Carpets, Dev's flights of fancy land him in challenging environments all over the globe. He brings home notes from his teacher so regularly that Amma only rolls her eyes as she fishes them from his satchel. Baba says that if there were medals for daydreaming, Dev would be an All-India Champion—maybe even an Olympic hero. These action-packed stories transport the reader to three iconic locations, each one testing Dev's survival skills while teaching him to respect environments and cultures that seem alien to him. Follow Dev as he accompanies the ghost of a Sherpa woman on a quest to conquer Mount Everest. Ride with Dev as he traces the Amazon River, which proves much more difficult than going with the flow! Join Dev and his pal OP as they set out from Timbuktu to cross the Sahara on malodorous camels. For Dev and his colourful imagination, it's Access All Areas and No Holds Barred.

Looking out Windows Jul 14 2021 When Scotty Hazel began high school in the mid 1970s, he was oblivious to the amazing journey he was beginning. The forty year saga to realize his dreams traverses the country with characters and events that must be fictional but they are not; they are real. Scotty masterfully guides readers through the candid details of the crazy twists and turns of his life. Just when readers feel they can predict what is coming, Scotty blind-sides them with something totally unexpected. Adventure, drama, romance, humor, deceit, tragedy, triumph, and inspiration; *Looking Out Windows* has it all.

The True Adventures of the World's Greatest Stuntman Jan 20 2022 You may not know it, but you've seen Vic Armstrong's work in countless movies. From performing stunts in the James Bond movie *You Only Live Twice* to directing the action scenes for recent blockbusters *The Green Hornet* and *Thor*, the Academy Award-winning Vic Armstrong has been a legend in the movie industry for over 40 years. Along the way he's been the stunt double for a whole host of iconic heroes, including 007, Superman, and most memorably, Indiana Jones - as Harrison Ford once joked to him, "If you learn to talk I'm in deep trouble." As a stunt co-ordinator and second unit director, Vic is behind the creation of such movies as *Total Recall*, *The Mission*, *Dune*, *Rambo III*, *Terminator 2*, *Charlie's Angels*, *Gangs of New York*, *War of the Worlds*, *I Am Legend* and *Mission: Impossible III*, to name but a few, as well as several Bond films. He's got a lot of amazing stories to tell, and they're all here in this hugely entertaining movie memoir, which also features exclusive contributions from many of Vic's colleagues and friends, including Harrison Ford, George Lucas, Martin Scorsese, Pierce Brosnan, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Angelina Jolie, Kenneth Branagh and Sir Christopher Lee. With an introduction by Steven Spielberg, and over 100 previously unpublished on-set photos from Vic's own collection.

More Great True Adventures Aug 03 2020

The True Adventures of Toopsie & Emilies Mar 30 2020 *The True Adventures of Toopsie and Emilies* is a wonderful, cute, and funny tale about the bond between a woman and her beloved furry little friend. When love was found at a pet store that day the moment their eyes locked, the endless smiles and adventures began... And the rest is history!

The Search for El Dorado (Totally True Adventures) Jul 26 2022 Was the City of Gold a real place? Treasure seekers and mystery readers alike will love this action-packed Totally True Adventure. Towers of gold! Glittering streets! Jewels, coins, and more! Early Spanish explorers heard a story about El Dorado. It was a lost city in the Americas made of gold. The explorers believed it was real—and they believed they could find it! Soon the story became a legend, and the legend changed the world. But the city of El Dorado has not been found . . . yet. This nonfiction chapter book makes history exciting and accessible for younger readers and features illustrations, photographs, a map, Common Core connections, and additional Story Behind the Story facts. Perfect for readers of the *I Survived* series and the *Who Was . . . ?* series, Totally True Adventures are captivating nonfiction stories with not-to-be-missed bonus content.

The Black Pimpernel Feb 09 2021 The story of Nelson Mandela's early years on the run from the apartheid authorities JOHANNESBURG. MARCH 1961. Thirty-one activists are on trial for treason. Among their number is Nelson Mandela, a rising star of the resistance movement and one of the biggest threats to the South African government and their racist

system of apartheid. To everyone's surprise, they are found not guilty. But rather than relish his newfound freedom, Nelson disappears. With this, the incredible true story of Nelson Mandela's life on the run begins. For months, he is an outlaw, the police and secret services hunting him in vain, living under new identities and separated from his young family. His mission? To set up armed resistance to apartheid, and in doing so change the course of history.

The Awesome, Almost 100% True Adventures of Matt & Craz Mar 22 2022 A magical pen causes creative chaos in this quirky, comic-style story from the Sid Fleischman Award-winning author of *Milo*. Best friends Matt and Larry "Craz" Czazinski couldn't be more different. Matt loves order, while Craz lives on the edge. The boys share a passion for cartooning, but thanks to the school paper gatekeeper (and kind-of bully), Skip Turkle, it seems their cartoons will never be published. But then the boys discover a pen that promises to help them DRAW BETTER NOW!—and quickly realize it's no ordinary pen: Whatever they draw comes to life! They start small with their drawings—bags of cash, cool gadgets. Next, they get their pesky English teacher to take a unique and extended vacation. But when the boys get a little bolder in their magical drawings, they realize that things don't always end up as perfect as the art they create... In this funny, slightly zany, and ultimately heartwarming story, Sid Fleischman Award-winner Alan Silberberg demonstrates the power of friendship—and that the best life is not always sketched out in advance.

Shark Lady Jun 20 2019 Shows that Eugenie Clark's childhood fascination with fishes led her to become an ichthyologist, the director of a marine laboratory, and a professor of zoology and recounts her adventures as she traveled around the world studying sharks

Queen of Freedom Jul 02 2020 The thrilling true story of how one woman masterminded slave resistance to British rule in eighteenth-century Jamaica - part of the True Adventures series 1720. Blue Mountains, windward Jamaica. In the sweltering heat Captain Shettlewood leads a troop of British soldiers through the thick trees towards the river. They are hunting slaves who have escaped from the brutal plantations. Their mission: to find them, and kill them. But up ahead, hidden among the rocks above the water, a group of men with cutlasses and muskets wait patiently for the instructions of their leader. Queen Nanny is a 'wise woman' with a reputation for ancient obeah magic, and a guerilla fighter with a genius for organisation. So the battle for Jamaica begins, the First Maroon War, in which the maroons - escaped slaves - will make a final, do-or-die stand against the slavers and soldiers of Empire.

The All True Adventures (and Rare Education) of the Daredevil Daniel Bones Nov 18 2021 A gloriously moving and entertaining, picaresque debut novel, about a young man's sentimental education in late 19th-Century Europe; inspired by a real historical figure: 'Captain' Paul Boyton – the 'Fearless Frogman'

The True Adventures of Gidon Lev May 12 2021 By most accounts, Gidon Lev, born in 1935 in former Czechoslovakia, is an ordinary man - except for the fact that of the approximately 15,000 children who were imprisoned in the Nazi concentration camp of Terezin, only an estimated 92 survived. Gidon is one of those children. The True Adventures of Gidon Lev is the story of a charming, playful octogenarian Holocaust survivor, a Californian thirty years his junior and the writing of a book about a very long and storied life. With humor, humanity, and compassion, the story of Gidon Lev offers insights into carrying on despite a painful past, a primer on Jewish and Israeli history, and observations of both the ethos of the modern state of Israel and its conflict today and the opportunities that disaster can create. Weaving Gidon's valuable first-person recollections together with the cultural and historical backstory of time and place, Julie Gray invites readers inside the process of mining memories for truths and history for lessons.

True Adventures with the King of Bluegrass Dec 07 2020 Jimmy Martin was just twenty-two years old when Bill Monroe asked him to join the Blue Grass Boys. That invitation was the start of a career that spanned half a century and culminated with Martin's induction into the International Bluegrass Music Association's Hall of Honor. Always an enigmatic figure, Martin was as famous for his temper as he was for his talent. On assignment from the Oxford American magazine, fiction writer and music critic Tom Piazza drove from his home in New Orleans to Nashville to interview Martin and found himself pitched headlong into a world he couldn't have anticipated. Martin's mercurial personality drew the writer into a series of escalating encounters (with mean dogs, broken-down cars, and near electrocution), culminating in a harrowing and unforgettable expedition, with Martin, to the Grand Ole Opry. Though, or perhaps because, visits to the Opry like the one Piazza recounts were common for Martin, and though he frequently played on its stage and always hoped to become a member, he died before seeing his dream fulfilled. True Adventures with the King of Bluegrass is the funny, scary, and powerfully poignant portrait of one of the legends of American music. Co-published with the Country Music Foundation Press

Marooned Dec 27 2019 In 1704, Alexander Selkirk was voyaging across the South Pacific when, after arguing with the ship's captain, he was put ashore—alone—on an uninhabited island. Equipped with little more than a musket and his wits, Selkirk not only survived in complete solitude for more than four years, but to come to be quite comfortable and happy. After being rescued by a British privateer in 1709, he took a leading role in several dramatic captures of merchant ships. Although he returned to civilization a rich man, he couldn't find a place in society and always longed to return to the paradise of his island. Selkirk's well-documented adventures so inspired Daniel Defoe that they became the basis for his perennial classic, *Robinson Crusoe*. In an account that is every bit as fascinating as Defoe's novel, Robert Kraske provides vivid descriptions of Selkirk's days on the island and aboard ship, including details of the violent, bloody, and legally sanctioned pirating that went on in the early 18th century. Author's note, glossary, bibliography, index.

The Gem Hunter Nov 06 2020 This is the story of one man's endeavor to discover precious gems and to lead a life filled with loyal friends and extraordinary adventures. He finds it all in the Hindu Kush region of Afghanistan but not without risking his life. In this book Gary W. Bowersox spins his tales of thirty two years of discovery both introspective and worldwide. Along the way he encounters danger and intrigue as he builds lasting friendships. He has traded gems and stories with Afghan miners, ethnic peoples, freedom fighters, government officials, scientist, and on a few occasions, international spies.

The True Adventures of Charley Darwin Dec 19 2021 In nineteenth-century England, young Charles Darwin rejects the more traditional careers of physician and clergyman, choosing instead to embark on a dangerous five-year journey by ship to explore the natural world.

True Adventures of the Secret Service Jun 01 2020

The Mysterious Life of Dr Barry Jul 22 2019

George Washington's Spies (Totally True Adventures) Aug 23 2019 Think you know everything about Washington? Think again. During the Revolutionary War, General George Washington (AKA "Agent 711") was the leader of a ring of spies! The group—called the Culper Ring—used secret names, codes, invisible ink, and more to spy on the British and pass along information. Nobody knew about it at the time (and few do so today), but those sneaky heroes risked their lives to help win the American Revolution! Illustrated throughout in black and white, with an appendix that includes photographs, bonus content, and links to primary source materials, this Totally True Adventures series book is ideal for supporting the Common Core State Standards and today's renewed interest in nonfiction. It's a thrilling read—made even better because it really happened!

The Mostly True Adventures Of Homer P. Figg (Scholastic Gold) Oct 29 2022 A Newbery Honor Book, this warm, funny, & heart-wrenching Civil War novel introduces readers to the Battle of Gettysburg & "Little Round Top," one of the most famous feats of bravery in U.S. history!

The Race Around the World (Totally True Adventures) Feb 27 2020 Does Nellie Bly have what it takes to race around the world? Travel to all corners of the globe in this action-packed Totally True Adventure. When Nellie Bly read *Around the World in Eighty Days* by Jules Verne, she had an amazing idea. What if she traveled around the world in real life, and did it in less than eighty days? In 1889, people doubted it could be done—especially by a woman. But with one small bag and a sturdy coat, Nellie set out anyway. Soon the whole world was rooting for her. Could she make it back home in time? This nonfiction chapter book makes history exciting and accessible for younger readers and features illustrations, photographs, a map, Common Core connections, and additional Story Behind the Story facts. Perfect for readers of the *I Survived* series and the *Who Was . . . ?* series, Totally True Adventures are captivating nonfiction stories with not-to-be-missed bonus content.

True Adventure Stories Oct 17 2021 This compilation includes 30 true stories of heroism, desperation, courage and daring; from the first exploration of Everest to the story of the real Indiana Jones.

The True Adventures of Huckleberry Finn Mar 10 2021 "Seelye's version seems even funnier than the original, and also more moving, since Seelye's Huck Finn is even less sentimental about life and Tom Sawyer than Twain's Huck Finn. He is also more perceptive about black people than the original." -- Hughes Rudd, CBS News "Seelye has stitched together a whale of a book. Without reference to Twain's own version, it is almost impossible to see the seams where 1970 joins 1884." -- Geoffrey Wolff, Newsweek

The Moth and the Mountain Aug 15 2021 "In the 1930s, as official government expeditions set their sights on conquering Mount Everest, a little-known World War I veteran named Maurice Wilson conceives his own crazy, beautiful plan: he will fly a plane from England to Everest, crash-land on its lower slopes, then become the first person to reach its summit--all utterly alone. Wilson doesn't know how to climb. He barely knows how to fly. But he has the right plane, the right equipment, and a deep yearning to achieve his goal. In 1933, he takes off from London in a Gipsy Moth biplane with his course set for the highest mountain on earth. Wilson's eleven-month journey to Everest is wild: full of twists, turns, and daring. Eventually, in disguise, he sneaks into Tibet. His icy ordeal is just beginning." --Provided by publisher.

The Flag Never Touched The Ground Jan 28 2020 The story of an all-black regiment's assault on the impregnable Fort Wagner in the Civil War, an act of extraordinary courage that changed hearts and minds in America for ever THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR. 1863. On a cold beach in South Carolina, the soldiers of the 54th Massachussets Regiment are marching into battle. Their mission: to capture the impregnable Fort Wagner. The odds are heavily against them, and the stakes could not be higher - they are one of the first all-Black regiments in the Union Army, and all of America is watching them. Among their ranks is William Harvey Carney. A former enslaved man who escaped to the North, he knows what a precious thing freedom is. So when the bugle sounds, and the regimental flag is hoisted high, William charges towards the guns. An author, speaker and writing teacher, Kekla Magoon has been longlisted for the National Book Award, received an NAACP Image Award, and three Coretta Scott King Awards. She initially studied history at Northwestern University in the US, and loves to uncover the stories of the brave and creative people who have come before us. Her books about civil rights and social justice in America include *X*, a novel about Malcolm X co-written with his daughter, and *The Rock and the River*, about a young boy torn between his civil rights leader father and his Black Panther brother.

Balto and the Great Race (Totally True Adventures) Oct 05 2020 Balto has a quiet life as a sled dog—until tragedy strikes. Dozens of children in Nome become sick with diphtheria. Without antitoxin serum, they will perish—and the closest supply is 650 miles away! The only way to get the serum to Nome is by sled, but can the dogs deliver it in time? Heading bravely into a brutal blizzard, Balto leads the race for life. A Kansas City Children's Book Award for Grades 1–3

The Tragically True Adventures of Kit Donovan May 24 2022 Life in a Nevada mining town in 1905 is not easy for 13-year-old Kit Donovan, who is trying to do right by her deceased mother and become a proper lady. When Kit discovers Papa's boss at the gold mine is profiting from unsafe working conditions, she realizes being a lady is tougher than it looks. With a man's hat and a printing press, Kit puts her big mouth and all the life skills she's learned from reading *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* to work, defying threats of violence and finding that justice doesn't always look like she imagined it would.

Shipwrecked! Sep 04 2020 Any person who leaves the country to go to another and later returns will be put to death. This was the law in Japan in the early 1800s. When fourteen-year-old Manjiro, working on a fishing boat to help support his family, was shipwrecked three hundred miles away from his homeland, he was heartbroken to think that he would never again be able to go home. So when an American whaling boat rescued him, Manjiro decided to do what no other Japanese person had ever done: He went to America, where he

received an education and took part in events that eventually made him a hero in the Land of the Rising Sun.

The True Adventures of the Rolling Stones Aug 27 2022

The Somewhat True Adventures of Sammy Shine Feb 21 2022 Sammy Shine's life as Hank's pet mouse is simple and quiet—until he flies off in remote controlled airplane and gets lost. When Sammy Shine crashes into the forest, he ends up in a whole new world; no longer does he live in comfort in his shoe box in Hank's room. Now he's lost in the woods, with no way to get home, and a dangerous enemy. Fortunately, a group of new friends, including another mouse, an injured crow, a newt, and a shrew, will help him find and repair his plane so he can try to get back home. Inspired by a childhood experience, New York Times-best-selling author-illustrator Henry Cole offers this charming illustrated novel featuring adorable animal characters, an exciting adventure, and an action-packed plot.

The True Adventures of Esther the Wonder Pig Oct 25 2019 The true story of social media sensation Esther the Wonder Pig and her two dads that inspired the New York Times bestselling memoir for adults is now available in a picture book with adorable illustrations and a message of love. When Steve and Derek adopted a mini pig named Esther, they had no idea that she would turn out to be not-so-mini after all. When her new family saw just how big and wonderful Esther really was, they fell in love--and their lives changed forever. Esther would soon grow too large for her bed, and their small apartment. She got into everything, including her neighbor's tasty garden. So the whole family moved from a small apartment to a big farm, where Esther and her animal friends could fit happily (and get into a little less mischief). Eventually, that farm would become the Happily Esther After animal sanctuary, home to rescued animals of all kinds.

True Adventures Collection Sep 28 2022 Presents three works which each collect stories of exploration and survival in the remotest places on Earth, including the North and South Poles, Mount Everest, and the great deserts.

The Titanic Sinks! (Totally True Adventures) Jun 13 2021 Here is the exciting true story about the "unsinkable" Titanic! Dramatic accounts, white-knuckle suspense, and fast-paced action of how the world's biggest, safest ship sank on its maiden voyage. Includes black-and-white photos and full-color underwater photos of the wreck.

Apollo 13 (Totally True Adventures) Sep 16 2021 Could you survive an outer-space disaster? Aspiring astronauts and young explorers will love this out-of-this-world Totally True Adventure. Astronauts Jim Lovell, Jack Swigert, and Fred Haise blasted off for the Moon on April 11, 1970. But after a disastrous explosion damaged their spacecraft, the three men had only one goal: to get back home safely. This informational text makes space travel exciting and accessible for younger readers and features illustrations, photographs, a map, and additional Story Behind the Story facts. Perfect for readers of the I Survived series and the Who Was series, Totally True Adventures are captivating nonfiction stories with not-to-be-missed bonus content.

Climbing Everest (Totally True Adventures) Apr 23 2022 Could you climb the world's highest mountain? Thrill seekers and young explorers will love this inspiring Totally True Adventure. The peak of Mount Everest is the highest place on Earth—and one of the deadliest. Terrible storms stop climbers in their tracks! Avalanches tumble down! Brave adventurers disappear on the snowy slopes. Then Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay decide to climb. They come from different cultures, but their dream is the same. Can teamwork help them make it to the roof of the world? This nonfiction chapter book makes history exciting and accessible for younger readers and features illustrations, photographs, a map, Common Core connections, and additional Story Behind the Story facts. Perfect for readers of the I Survived series and the Who Was . . . ? series, Totally True Adventures are captivating nonfiction stories with not-to-be-missed bonus content.

Logan's Adventures Apr 30 2020 Based on a true-life story, Logan's father decides to follow his dreams to build a log cabin on a homestead in the vast wilderness of Alaska. The family moves from the comforts and securities of their city home to travel by plane and boat into an unfamiliar world filled with many dangerous adventures. Can Logan conquer his fears as he faces unexpected challenges? He must grow up quickly in order to endure the hardships and dangers while helping to get a family cabin built before the long, cold dark winter arrives in the Alaskan wilderness. The growing family is kept busy with daily survival chores and striving for the promise of a new, self-sufficient life on the homestead.

The True Adventures of the Rolling Stones Apr 11 2021 Stanley Booth, a member of the Rolling Stones' inner circle, met the band just a few months before Brian Jones drowned in a swimming pool in 1968. He lived with them throughout their 1969 American tour, staying up all night together listening to blues, talking about music, ingesting drugs, and consorting with groupies. His thrilling account culminates with their final concert at Altamont Speedway--a nightmare of beating, stabbing, and killing that would signal the end of a generation's dreams of peace and freedom. But while this book renders in fine detail the entire history of the Stones, paying special attention to the tragedy of Brian Jones, it is about much more than a writer and a rock band. It has been called--by Harold Brodkey and Robert Stone, among others--the best book ever written about the sixties. In Booth's new afterword, he finally explains why it took him 15 years to write the book, relating an astonishing story of drugs, jails, and disasters.

The True Adventures of Nicolo Zen Jun 25 2022 This richly-detailed historical novel from master storyteller Nicholas Christopher features an unforgettable hero: Nicolo Zen is all alone in 1700s Venice, save for his clarinet, which a mysterious magician had magicked, allowing its first player to perform expertly. Soon Nicolo is a famous virtuoso, wealthy beyond his dreams. But he can't stop wondering if he earned the success or if it's due to the magician's spell. So he has the spell removed to test his own talents and capabilities. And throughout it all, he continues to think about the girl he met in Venice, what she might be doing and if she's safe from harm. With a guest appearance by composer Vivaldi, and brimming with fascinating period details, this is a compelling coming-of-age story full of universal themes teens will instantly recognize. The love story will conjure memories of Romeo and Juliet, perfect for teens who love stories set in other times, but without a paranormal storyline (as long as you don't count a magician who dresses all in white and can be in two places on once . . .).