

# Across Five Aprils Study Guide Answers

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## Ghetto Cowboy

From Walter Dean Myers comes a powerful and timely novel about the heroics and horror of war---a gripping companion to FALLEN ANGELS. Robin "Birdy" Perry, a new army recruit from Harlem, isn't quite sure why he joined the army, but he's sure where he's headed: Iraq. Birdy and the others in the Civilian Affairs Battalion are supposed to help secure and stabilize

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the country and successfully interact with the Iraqi people. Officially, the code name for their maneuvers is Operation Iraqi Freedom. But the young men and women in the CA unit have a simpler name for it: WAR

### **Angel on the Square**

Each succeeding spring brings a young Illinois boy closer to manhood as he faces the harsh realities of the American Civil War.

### **Stand Tall**

Fallen Angels by Walter Dean Myers is a young adult novel about seventeen-year-old Richie Perry, a Harlem teenager who volunteers for the Army when unable to afford college and is sent to fight in the Vietnam War. Perry and his platoon—Peewee, Lobel, Johnson, and Brunner—come face-to-face with the Vietcong, the harsh realities of war, and some dark truths about themselves. A thoughtful young man with a gift for writing and love of basketball, Perry learns to navigate among fellow soldiers under tremendous stress and struggles with his own fear as he sees things he'll never forget: the filling of body bags, the deaths of civilians and soldier friends, the effects of claymore mines, the fires of Napalm, and jungle diseases like Nam Rot. Available as an e-book for the first time on the 25th anniversary of its publication, Fallen Angels has been called one of the best Vietnam War books ever and one of the great coming-of-age Vietnam War stories. Filled with unforgettable characters, not least Peewee Gates of

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Chicago who copes with war by relying on wisecracks and dark humor, *Fallen Angels* “reaches deep into the minds of soldiers” and makes “readers feel they are there, deep in the heart of war.” *Fallen Angels* has won numerous awards and honors, including the Coretta Scott King Award, an ALA Best Book for Young Adults, a Booklist Editors Choice, and a School Library Journal Best Book. *Fallen Angels* was #16 on the American Library Association’s list of the most frequently challenged books of 1990–2000 for its realistic depiction of war and those who fight in wars.

### **A Boy at War**

From his 1776 Pennsylvania homestead, thirteen-year-old Samuel, who is a highly-skilled woodsman, sets out toward New York City to rescue his parents from the band of British soldiers and Indians who kidnapped them after slaughtering most of their community. Includes historical notes.

### **Johnny Tremain**

Jeff Bussey walked briskly up the rutted wagon road toward Fort Leavenworth on his way to join the Union volunteers. It was 1861 in Linn County, Kansas, and Jeff was elated at the prospect of fighting for the North at last. In the Indian country south of Kansas there was dread in the air; and the name, Stand Watie, was on every tongue. A hero to the rebel, a devil to the Union man, Stand Watie led the Cherokee Indian Na-tion fearlessly and successfully on savage raids behind the Union lines. Jeff came to know the

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Watie men only too well. He was probably the only soldier in the West to see the Civil War from both sides and live to tell about it. Amid the roar of cannon and the swish of flying grape, Jeff learned what it meant to fight in battle. He learned how it felt never to have enough to eat, to forage for his food or starve. He saw the green fields of Kansas and Oklahoma laid waste by Watie's raiding parties, homes gutted, precious corn deliberately uprooted. He marched endlessly across parched, hot land, through mud and slash-ing rain, always hungry, always dirty and dog-tired. And, Jeff, plain-spoken and honest, made friends and enemies. The friends were strong men like Noah Babbitt, the itinerant printer who once walked from Topeka to Galveston to see the magnolias in bloom; boys like Jimmy Lear, too young to carry a gun but old enough to give up his life at Cane Hill; ugly, big-eared Heifer, who made the best sourdough biscuits in the Choctaw country; and beautiful Lucy Washbourne, rebel to the marrow and proud of it. The enemies were men of an-other breed - hard-bitten Captain Clardy for one, a cruel officer with hatred for Jeff in his eyes and a dark secret on his soul. This is a rich and sweeping novel-rich in its panorama of history; in its details so clear that the reader never doubts for a moment that he is there; in its dozens of different people, each one fully realized and wholly recognizable. It is a story of a lesser -- known part of the Civil War, the Western campaign, a part different in its issues and its problems, and fought with a different savagery. Inexorably it moves to a dramat-ic climax, evoking a brilliant picture of a war and the men of both sides who fought in it.

## **A Study Guide for Daphne du Maurier's "The Birds"**

A literature unit to use while reading Across Five Aprils.

### **Once**

Felix, a Jewish boy in Poland in 1942, is hiding from the Nazis in a Catholic orphanage. The only problem is that he doesn't know anything about the war, and thinks he's only in the orphanage while his parents travel and try to salvage their bookselling business. And when he thinks his parents are in danger, Felix sets off to warn them--straight into the heart of Nazi-occupied Poland. To Felix, everything is a story: Why did he get a whole carrot in his soup? It must be sign that his parents are coming to get him. Why are the Nazis burning books? They must be foreign librarians sent to clean out the orphanage's outdated library. But as Felix's journey gets increasingly dangerous, he begins to see horrors that not even stories can explain. Despite his grim surroundings, Felix never loses hope. Morris Gleitzman takes a painful subject and expertly turns it into a story filled with love, friendship, and even humor.

### **Across Five Aprils**

Provides teaching strategies, background, and suggested resources; reproducible student pages to use before, during, and after reading--Cover.

## **Wagon Wheels**

In the fall of 1914, safe behind palace walls, Katya Ivanova sees St. Petersburg as a magical place. The daughter of a lady-in-waiting to the Empress, Katya spends all her time with the Grand Duchesses; the royal family feels like her own. But outside the palace, a terrible war is sweeping through Europe, and Russia is beginning to crumble under the weight of a growing revolution. Now, as Katya's once-certain future begins to dissolve, she must seek to understand what is happening to her beloved country and, for the first time in her life, take charge of her own destiny.

## **Bound for Oregon**

This is a new release of the original 1955 edition.

## **Fallen Angels**

Free people, Free land The Muldie boys and their father have come a long way to Kansas. But when Daddy moves on, the three boys must begin their own journey. They must learn to care for one another and face the dangers of the wilderness alone.

## **A Guide for Using the Sign of the Beaver in the Classroom**

A Newbery Medal Winner Richard Peck's Newbery Medal-winning sequel to *A Long Way from Chicago* Mary Alice's childhood summers in Grandma Dowdel's sleepy Illinois town were packed with enough drama

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to fill the double bill of any picture show. But now she is fifteen, and faces a whole long year with Grandma, a woman well known for shaking up her neighbors—and everyone else! All Mary Alice can know for certain is this: when trying to predict how life with Grandma might turn out . . . better not. This wry, delightful sequel to the Newbery Honor Book *A Long Way from Chicago* has already taken its place among the classics of children's literature. "Hilarious and poignant." —Publishers Weekly, starred review A Newbery Medal Winner A New York Times Bestseller An ALA Notable Book An ALA Best Book for Young Adults A Booklist Best Book of the Year A School Library Journal Best Book of the Year From the Trade Paperback edition.

### **Paper Things**

From the Newbery Award-winning author of *Across Five Aprils* and *Up a Road Slowly* comes a tale of a brave young man's struggle to find his own strength during the Great Depression. "A powerfully moving story."—Chicago Daily News In 1932, American's dreams were simple: a job, food to eat, a place to sleep, and shoes without holes. But for millions of people these simple needs were nothing more than dreams. At fifteen years of age, Josh has to make his own way through a country of angry and frightened people. This is the story of a young man's struggle to find a life for himself in the most turbulent of times.

### **The Lottery Rose**

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**COURAGE WEARS MANY FACES** The Civil War may be over, but for twelve-year-old Will Page, the pain and bitterness haven't ended. How could they have, when the Yankees were responsible for the deaths of everyone in his entire immediate family? And now Will has to leave his comfortable home in the Shenandoah Valley and live with relatives he has never met, people struggling to eke out a living on their farm in the war-torn Virginia Piedmont. But the worst of it is that Will's uncle Jed had refused to fight for the Confederacy. At first, Will regards his uncle as a traitor -- or at least a coward. But as they work side by side, Will begins to respect the man. And when he sees his uncle stand up for what he believes in, Will realizes that he must rethink his definition of honor and courage.

### **Up a Road Slowly**

Tree, a six-foot-three-inch twelve-year-old, copes with his parents' recent divorce and his failure as an athlete by helping his grandfather, a Vietnam vet and recent amputee, and Sophie, a new girl at school.

## **LETTER TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN**

### **The Assistant**

When forced to choose between staying with her guardian and being with her big brother, Ari chose her big brother. There's just one problem—Gage doesn't actually have a place to live. When Ari's mother died

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four years ago, she had two final wishes: that Ari and her older brother, Gage, would stay together always, and that Ari would go to Carter, the middle school for gifted students. So when nineteen-year-old Gage decides he can no longer live with their bossy guardian, Janna, Ari knows she has to go with him. But it's been two months, and Gage still hasn't found them an apartment. He and Ari have been "couch surfing," staying with Gage's friend in a tiny apartment, crashing with Gage's girlfriend and two roommates, and if necessary, sneaking into a juvenile shelter to escape the cold Maine nights. But all of this jumping around makes it hard for Ari to keep up with her schoolwork, never mind her friendships, and getting into Carter starts to seem impossible. Will Ari be forced to break one of her promises to Mama? Told in an open, authentic voice, this nuanced story of hiding in plain sight may have readers thinking about homelessness in a whole new way.

### **The Bears on Hemlock Mountain**

Howard Fast's bestselling coming-of-age novel about one boy's introduction to the horrors of war amid the brutal first battle of the American Revolution On April 19, 1775, musket shots ring out over Lexington, Massachusetts. As the sun rises over the battlefield, fifteen-year-old Adam Cooper stands among the outmatched patriots, facing a line of British troops. Determined to defend his home and prove his worth to his disapproving father, Cooper is about to embark on the most significant day of his life. The Battle of Lexington and Concord will be the starting point of

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the American Revolution—and when Cooper becomes a man. Sweeping in scope and masterful in execution, *April Morning* is a classic of American literature and an unforgettable story of one community's fateful struggle for freedom. This ebook features an illustrated biography of Howard Fast including rare photos from the author's estate.

### **Abraham Lincoln**

Fourteen-year-old Chris, bitterly hating the Yankees for invading his Tennessee mountain home, learns a difficult lesson about the waste of war and the meaning of tolerance and courage when he reports the approach of a Yankee supply troop to the Confederates.

### **Civil War in Pictures**

A struggling neighborhood Jewish grocer takes on a helper who falls in love with his daughter and steals from his store.

### **Across Five Aprils**

Are there bears on Hemlock Mountain? One boy is about to find out in this classic tale. People have always told Jonathan that there are no bears on Hemlock Mountain, no bears at all. So he isn't afraid to set out alone over the mountain. But as Jonathan discovers one cold winter night, people aren't always right...There are bears on Hemlock Mountain!

## The Perilous Road

They rowed hard, away from the battleships and the bombs. Water sprayed over them. The rowboat pitched one way and then the other. Then, before his eyes, the Arizona lifted up out of the water. That enormous battleship bounced up in the air like a rubber ball and split apart. Fire burst out of the ship. A geyser of water shot into the air and came crashing down. Adam was almost thrown out of the rowboat. He clung to the seat as it swung around. He saw blue skies and the glittering city. The boat swung back again, and he saw black clouds, and the Arizona, his father's ship, sinking beneath the water. -- from *A Boy at War* "He kept looking up, afraid the planes would come back. The sky was obscured by black smoke. It was all unreal: the battleships half sunk, the bullet holes in the boat, Davi and Martin in the water." December 7, 1941: On a quiet Sunday morning, while Adam and his friends are fishing near Honolulu, a surprise attack by Japanese bombers destroys the fleet at Pearl Harbor. Even as Adam struggles to survive the sudden chaos all around him, and as his friends endure the brunt of the attack, a greater concern hangs over his head: Adam's father, a navy lieutenant, was stationed on the USS Arizona when the bombs fell. During the subsequent days Adam -- not yet a man, but no longer a boy -- is caught up in the war as he desperately tries to make sense of what happened to his friends and to find news of his father. Harry Mazer, whose autobiographical novel, *The Last Mission*, brought the European side of World War II to vivid life, now turns to the Pacific theater and how the

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impact of war can alter young lives forever.

### **Brian's Winter : a Novel Study**

After injuring his hand, a silversmith's apprentice in Boston becomes a messenger for the Sons of Liberty in the days before the American Revolution.

### **No Promises in the Wind (DIGEST)**

After her mother's death, Julie goes to live with Aunt Cordelia, a spinster schoolteacher, where she experiences many emotions and changes as she grows from seven to eighteen.

### **April Morning**

After finding a way to teach the ship's crew members to understand navigation, Nat, a self-taught mathematician and astronomer in eighteenth-century Salem, Massachusetts, writes down his explanations and compiles them into "The American Practical Navigator," also known as the "Sailors' Bible."

### **The Impossible Journey**

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### **Rifles for Watie**

A fictionalized account of the journey made by nine-year-old Mary Ellen Todd and her family from their home in Arkansas westward over the Oregon Trail in 1852

### **A Study Guide for Irene Hunt's "Across Five Aprils"**

The unforgettable story of young Jethro Creighton who comes of age during the turbulent years of the Civil War. "An intriguing and beautifully written book, a prize to those who take the time to read it, whatever their ages."—The New York Times "This is a beautifully written book, filled with bloodshed, hate, and tears, but also with love, loyalty, and compassion,

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with unforgettable characters, and with ideas and implications that have meaning for young people today."—Chicago Tribune "A powerfully moving story about the Creighton family of Southern Illinois and their personal struggles in the War Between the States."—Chicago Daily News "Drawing from family records and from stories told by her grandfather, the author has, in an uncommonly fine narrative, created living characters and vividly reconstructed a crucial period of history."—ALA Booklist "An impressive book both as a historically authenticated Civil War novel and as a beautifully written family story. The realistic treatment of the intricate emotional conflicts within a border-state family is superb. The details of battles and campaigns are deftly integrated into letters and conversations, and the characters are completely convincing."—University of Chicago Center for Children's Books From the Paperback edition.

### **Shades of Gray**

Confederate Winter is historical fiction based on a true family story backed up by an affidavit in the Confederate archives in Montgomery, Alabama. The author's great, great, great grandfather, William Sweeney, fought as a Confederate soldier at the tender age of 14. His father, John, had been drafted the year before into the Union Army. Confederate Winter is their story. By 1864 the Confederacy is on the verge of defeat. Atlanta has fallen and Confederate General John Bell Hood's army is in retreat. Hood formulates a bold plan to re-capture Nashville, the great base for the Union army in the

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West. A victory could change the course of the war. Hood needs manpower, however, and sends his conscription parties out to scour the countryside. Confederate Winter tells the story of a true-life family caught up in this grand adventure. The Federals conscript John Sweeney, the father, in late 1863 as General Sherman prepares his march on Atlanta and the sea. His son William is left in charge of the family farm, until one early fall morning

### **Confederate Winter**

Should we stay or should we go? Millions of parents with children in public schools can't believe they're asking this question. But they are. And you should be asking it too. Almost overnight, America's public schools have become morally toxic. And they are especially poisonous for the hearts and minds of children from religious families of every faith—ordinary families who value traditional morality and plain old common sense. Parents' first duty is to their children—to their intellect, their character, their souls. The facts on the ground point to one conclusion: get out now.

### **Study Guide for Across Five Aprils by Irene Hunt**

A Study Guide for Daphne du Maurier's "The Birds," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Short Stories for Students. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further

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reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust *Short Stories for Students* for all of your research needs.

### **A Year Down Yonder**

### **Woods Runner**

### **The Witch of Blackbird Pond**

One Russian night in 1934, Marya and Georgi's parents disappear. Despite high risks, Katya and Misha had spoken against the government. The children, alone and desperate, fear the worst. Will they ever see their parents again? But all it takes is one crumpled letter to give Marya and Georgi hope and send them on a dangerous mission to reunite their family. They must steal away in the dark of night, escape the city, and find passage to the great Siberian wilderness. And even then, if they succeed in getting away, their journey will have only just begun. In this companion novel to her breathtaking Russian epic *Angel on the Square*, National Book Award winning author Gloria Whelan takes readers on a remarkable journey that is both perilous and transforming.

### **Summer of My German Soldier**

A boy learns what it means to give and receive love in this beautifully refreshed edition of *Lottery Rose* from

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Newbery Award-winning author Irene Hunt. Georgie Burgess doesn't talk about the abuse that he receives from his mother and her boyfriend. Even though he's constantly getting into trouble at school, he continues to hide his hurt, refusing to tell anyone what life is like at home. Instead, he finds escape between the pages of books depicting beautiful gardens and flowers. When Georgie wins a small rosebush in a supermarket lottery, he gives it all the love and caring he's never had. Soon after, his life begins to change when child services remove him from his mother's care and look for a new, safe home for him. But all the while, Georgie still needs to find a home for his rosebush, and through the people he meets, he slowly learns what it means to be loved and accepted.

### **Sunrise Over Fallujah**

A Study Guide for Irene Hunt's "Across Five Aprils," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Literary Themes for Students: War and Peace. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading; and much more. For any literature project, trust Literary Themes for Students: War and Peace for all of your research needs.

### **Get Out Now**

When the train pulls into the station in Jenkensville, Arkansas, Patty Bergen senses something exciting is going to happen. German prisoners of war have

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arrived to make their new home in the prison camp. To the rest of the town these prisoners are only Nazis, but to Patty, a young Jewish girl with a turbulent home life, one of the young soldiers becomes an unlikely friend. Anton understands her in a way her parents never could and Patty is willing to lose her own family, friends and even freedom for a boy who becomes the most important part of her life.

### **A Guide for Using Across Five Aprils in the Classroom**

A street-smart tale about a displaced teen who learns to defend what's right-the Cowboy Way. When Cole's mom dumps him in the mean streets of Philadelphia to live with the dad he's never met, the last thing Cole expects to see is a horse, let alone a stable full of them. He may not know much about cowboys, but what he knows for sure is that cowboys aren't black, and they don't live in the inner city. But in his dad's 'hood, horses are a way of life, and soon Cole's days of skipping school and getting in trouble in Detroit have been replaced by shoveling muck and trying not to get stomped on. At first, all Cole can think about is how to ditch these ghetto cowboys and get home. But when the City threatens to shut down the stables-- and take away the horse Cole has come to think of as his own-- he knows that it's time to step up and fight back. Inspired by the little-known urban riders of Philly and Brooklyn, this compelling tale of latter-day cowboy justice champions a world where your friends always have your back, especially when the chips are down.

## **Carry On, Mr. Bowditch**

Text and illustrations present the life of the boy born on the Kentucky frontier who became the sixteenth president of the United States.

## **The Prairie Primer**

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