

FAQ — Suggested Books and Resources

Compiled by Susan Poisson-Dollar, February, 2005, rev. Dec.2006

Table of Contents

I. Adoption

Adoption and InterCountry Adoption
Cross-cultural Issues
Attachment and Older Child Issues
Parenting for Beginners
Memoirs

II. Ethiopia and Africa-specific Resources

Adult Nonfiction and Fiction
Reference Books
Children's Fiction and Nonfiction
Other Ethiopian Items

III. Multicultural Children's Books

Ages 0-3
4-8
9-12
Young adult

IV. Cookbooks and Ingredient Sources

V. Hair Care Resources

I. Adoption

This section contains lists of books and resources that other AAI parents have found helpful both before and after their children arrive. Most are available through major booksellers, amazon.com and some of the discount online sources (alibris.com) and often at the public library. The book descriptions came from websites and personal recommendations by various parents, including Melissa Fay Greene who compiled the original list.

<http://www.tapestrybooks.com> -Tapestry Books carries exclusively adoption-related books and you will find many more resources there.

<http://www.perspectivespress.com/> -Perspectives Press, a publisher devoted to adoption and infertility.

<http://www.adoptivefamilies.com/> -the national family magazine devoted to adoption with articles and book reviews.

<http://www.adoptshoppe.com> -good resource for lifebooks and adoption-related books

<http://members.aol.com/billgage/lit-list.htm> -will lead you to the Reader's Guide to Adoption-Related Literature, updated to July 2006

<http://www.comeunity.com> – Parenting, adoption, and special needs resources on a variety of topics often faced by adoptive parents

A. **Adoption and InterCountry Adoption**

Bartholet, Elizabeth. Family Bonds: Adoption, Infertility, and the New World of Child Production. Beacon Press, 1999. Long-winded in the policy areas, written by a Harvard Law Professor, but wonderfully revealing in the memoir-type sections. A single woman with a grown son, she travels to Peru and adopts two boys.

Bascom, Barbara. The Complete Guide to Foreign Adoption. Pocket, 1997. An encyclopedic look at inter-country adoption.

Best, Mary Hopkins. Toddler Adoption: The Weaver's Craft. Perspectives Press, 1998. Parenting the young adopted child, good for ages 18 mos. to 4 years.

Brodzinsky, David; Marshall Schechter, M.D. and Robin Henig. Being Adopted: The Lifelong Search for Self. Anchor, 1992. Classic work exploring adoption as a lifelong process, including the experience of adoptees, developmental perspectives, normality, search for self and sense of loss.

De Hartog, Jan. Adopted Children. Adama Books, 1987. First published in 1969 as The Children, this book is now out of print but can still be purchased online from amazon.com and others. Sensitive, funny and heartwarming essays about many different aspects of the adoption experience—slightly dated enough to be amusing at times but mostly just right on target. Worth the price alone is the Appendix entitled *Some Common Objections to these Adoptions* where he responds to issues such as “adoption is not the solution” and “why not a child from your own country?”

Eldridge, Sherrie. Twenty Things Adopted Kids Wish Their Adoptive Parents Knew. Delta, 1999. Essays on various topics many adoptees are affected by with suggestions for handling issues with adopted children. Ms. Eldridge is also the author of Twenty Life-Transforming Choices Adoptees Need to Make, Pinon Press, 2003.

Gardner, Michelle. After the Dream Comes True. Pleasant Word, 2004. The author is an AAI parent! After months or even years of prayers, dreams and effort, your child is finally home. The days and months ahead will quite likely stretch you in ways you weren't expecting. Geared toward Christian families, the author uses Scripture and stories of her own adopted children to help you cope.

Johnson, Patricia Irwin. Adoption After Infertility. Perspectives Press, 1994. Adoption is not for everyone, but for those who embrace it realistically, it can be a wonderful route to parenthood.

Marindin, Hope. The Handbook for Single Adoptive Parents. National Council for Single Adoptive Parents, 2000. Indispensable guide for singles considering adoption.

Melina, Lois Ruskai. Raising Adopted Children. Quill, 2002. A practical manual covering all the basics with new sections on attachment and bonding, international adoption and open adoption. Also by this author: Making Sense of Adoption. Perennial, 1989. Covers the when to tell, what to tell, and how to tell of adoption.

Miller, Margie and Nancy Ward. With Eyes Wide Open: A Workbook for Parents Adopting International Children over Age One. Children's Home Society of Minnesota, 1996. Currently out of print but available from www.tapestrybooks.com and also comes as an interactive CD.

Register, Cherie. Beyond Good Intentions: A Mother Reflects on Raising Internationally Adopted Children. Yeong and Yeong Book Company, 2005. A collection of very thoughtful essays on topics that parents adopting internationally should contemplate. Chapter titles include "Believing Race Doesn't Matter" and "Believing Adoption Saves Souls."

Rothman, Barbara Katz. Weaving a Family: Untangling Race and Adoption. Beacon Press, 2005. The sociologist author adopted an African-American baby and this work intertwines her very personal narrative with a scholarly look at transracial adoption and racism in the U.S.

Verrier, Nancy Newton. The Primal Wound: Understanding the Adopted Child. Nancy Verrier, 1993. Classic and somewhat controversial work which uses information about pre- and peri-natal psychology, attachment, bonding and loss to analyze the effect of separating adopted children from their birthmothers. Also Growing Home to Self: The Adopted Child Grows Up, 2003.

Volkman, Toby A. ed. Cultures of Transnational Adoption. Duke University Press, 2005. A collection of essays by social scientists on the international adoption phenomenon. For people interested in a scholarly perspective—most of the authors are adoptive parents themselves and that informs their professional interest.

B. Cross-cultural Issues

Alpherson, Myra. Dim Sum Bagels and Grits: A Sourcebook for Multicultural Families. Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 2001. Insight into combining cultures, confronting prejudice, developing role models, and locating multi-cultural resources.

Kaeser, Gigi and Peggy Gillespie. Of Many Colors: Portraits of Multi-racial Families. University of Massachusetts Press, 1997. A coffee table book; shows a wide variety of diverse families in photos and first-person narratives

Register, Sherry, Are Those Kids Yours? American Families with Children Adopted from Other Countries. Free Press, 1990. A good guide to becoming a visibly international family and answering the usually well-intentioned questions of others.

Trenka, Jane Jeong; Oparah, J.; Shin, Sun Y. Outsiders Within: Writing on Transracial Adoption. Southend Press, 2006. A collection of 30 essays and poems, mostly by adult adoptees, that was intended as a “corrective” to the perspectives normally presented by others involved in the process—parents, social workers, academics, etc. It is difficult but ultimately worthwhile reading for adoptive parents striving to raise emotionally healthy children.

Steinberg, Gail and Beth Hall. Inside Transracial Adoption. Perspectives Press, 2000. Advice for the multi-cultural family, nothing earth-shatteringly new but good for those just starting out.

Wright, Marguerite. I’m Chocolate, You’re Vanilla: Raising Healthy Black and Biracial Children in a Race-Conscious Society. Jossey-Bass, 2000. Refreshing, research-based look at how children conceptualize race and skin color at different developmental levels with related advice for parents and caregivers to promote healthy attitudes.

C. Attachment and Older Child Issues

Cline, Foster & Cathy Helding. Can This Child Be Saved? Solutions for Adoptive and Foster Families. by Foster Cline World Enterprises, 1999. Examines causes behind behaviors, suggests reasons why conventional strategies may fail, and gives some parenting techniques and therapeutic approaches that can succeed with disturbed children.

Cline, Foster & Cathy Helding. CHAFCA: Cline/Helding Adopted & Foster Child Assessment. <http://www.netw.com/chafca/> This is an assessment tool designed for use by a parent, caretaker, or other person who has lived with the child at least 6 months. It covers RAD, ADD,

AHD, OD, Passive/Aggressive, Giftedness, PTSD, & other issues, along with recommended reading lists.

Federici, Dr. Ronald S. Help for the Hopeless Child: A Guide for Families. Federici and Associates, 2003. Must-have handbook for families adopting from Eastern Europe but still helpful and insightful for any adoptive parent.

Gray, Deborah. Attaching in Adoption: Practical Tools for Today's Parents. Perspectives Press, 2002. An exhaustive and useful resource about attachment issues with a positive outlook. Since attachment problems are a risk in any adoption, well worth reading as preparation.

Hughes, Dan. Building the Bonds of Attachment. Jason Aronson, 1998. Another therapist's approach to attachment issues. Another title: Facilitating Developmental Attachment.

Jewett, Claudia L. Adopting the Older Child. Harvard Common Press, 1979. A half-dozen composite portraits of children journeying through the American foster-care system with valuable information about the tough issues faced by those children, including transition from foster to adoptive families. Some of these issues may also be seen in international adoption.

Keck, Gregory and Kupecky, Regina. Parenting the Hurt Child: Helping Adoptive Families Heal and Grow. Pinon Press, 2002. Written for domestic special needs adoption, much of the information applies to adopting older children internationally, including grief, loss and attachment issues. Includes excellent description of Reactive Attachment Disorder and behaviors (mild and extreme) that relate to each facet of RAD.

Pavao, Joyce Maguire. The Family of Adoption. Beacon Press, 1999. Another must-have book by an adoption therapist, herself adopted, about identity formation and challenges through the lifespan. Particularly useful for understanding adolescents and young adults.

Post, B. Bryan. For All Things a Season: An essential guide to a peaceful parent/child relationship. M. Brynn Publishing, 2002. Many AAI parents have found Dr. Bryan Post's child-rearing philosophy very helpful in understanding the trauma their adopted children have experienced and its effect on their present behavior. He places emphasis on true communication and emotional healing.

Ryan, Jane. Broken Spirits Lost Souls: Loving Children With Attachment and Bonding Difficulties. Universe Star, 2004. Personal stories of

children with RAD with practical advice for coping on a daily basis.

Thomas, Nancy. When Love is Not Enough : A Guide to Parenting Children with RAD - Reactive Attachment Disorder. Families by Design, 1997. see also Dandelion on my Pillow, Butcher Knife Beneath. Nancy Thomas has parented severely emotionally disturbed children and shares tools for parenting with love those children who don't know how to live in a family.

Van Gulden, Holly and Lisa M. Bartels-Reb. Real Parents, Real Children: Parenting the Adopted Child. Crossroad Publishing Company, 1995. Designed to help parents and professionals better understand why children of each age think and feel the way they do about being adopted. Some of the specific issues addressed include helping adopted children who struggle with identity, grief for birth parents, and building healthy bonds and attachment with the adoptive family.

Welch, Martha G. Holding Time. Simon and Schuster, 1989. The account of a parenting strategy designed to overcome attachment difficulties.

D. Parenting for Beginners

This section is meant particularly for those adoptive parents who are first-time parents. While there are many outstanding books on parenting in general, the following have been recommended as helpful by AAI parents.

Ames, Louise Bates and Frances L. Ilg. Your One-Year Old: The Fun-Loving Fussy 12-24 Month Old. Dell, 1983. This is the first in a series titled similarly: Your Two Year Old, etc. and goes up to adolescence. If you don't have other children, these are a good introduction to each age level and will give you an idea of what's "typical." Inexpensive paperback editions available.

Cline, Foster and Jim Fay. Parenting with Love and Logic: Teaching Children Responsibility. Pinon Press, 1990. There are a number of books by this team on the same theme—love and logic.

Kurcinka, Mary Sheedy. Kids, Parents and Power Struggle: Winning for a Lifetime. Harper, 2001. Addresses the causes behind power struggles, techniques using struggles as pathways to better understanding.

Welchel, Lisa. Creative Correction: Extraordinary Ideas for Everyday Discipline. Tyndale, 2000. Creative, "proven" approaches for typical issues such as sibling conflict. Note: Christian perspective

E. Memoirs

Bates, J. Douglas. Gift Children: A Story of Race, Family and Adoption in a Divided America. Ticknor & Fields, 1996. One father's story of raising African-American children in a white society a generation ago.

Bialosky, Jill and Schulman, Helen. Wanting a Child. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1998. Essays by writers on their quests to be parents. Some are about infertility, assisted reproduction, etc. with some very nice ones on adoption.

Dann, Patty. The Baby Boat: A Memoir of Adoption. Hyperion, 1998. A quiet, rather melancholy story of waiting and longing, well-written and wrenching.

Holt, Mrs. Harry. The Seed from the East. Unknown publisher, first published in 1956, reprinted several times since. Remarkable memoir by the wife of the man who launched the international adoption movement. Currently available from Amazon and the Holt adoption agency.

John, Jaiya. Black Baby, White Hands. Soul Water, 2002. A black man's memoir of being raised by white parents.

Kruger, Pamela and Jill Smolowe. A Love Like No Other. Riverhead Books, 2005.
Collection of essays by domestic and international adoptive parents, including an excellent one by Melissa Fay Greene about post-adoption blues.

McBride, James. The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother. Riverhead Books, 1997. Both biographical and autobiographical, this is the story of Ruth McBride Jordan, the author's mother, who had two African-American husbands and raised their twelve children, battling racism, isolation, loss and recovery.

Simon, Rita and Rhonda Roorda. In Their Own Voices. Columbia University Press, 2000. A collection of about 20 interviews with adult transracial adoptees about their experiences growing up and their perspectives on being transracially adopted.

Tucker, Neely. Love in the Driest Season. Crown, 2004. Moving account of this journalist's and his wife's struggle to save and then adopt an abandoned baby girl in Zimbabwe.

Wolff, Jana. Secret Thoughts of an Adoptive Mother. Vista Communications, revised edition 2000. A very honest, searching, funny account of a white couple adopting a black baby in an open domestic adoption.

Wooten, Jim. We Are All the Same: A Story of a Boy's Courage and a Mother's Love, Penguin Press, 2004. Although not an adoption story, it is about a South African boy's struggle with AIDS and his friendship with a veteran journalist.

II. Ethiopia and Africa-specific Resources.

A. Adult Nonfiction and Fiction

Asgedom, Mawi. Of Beetles and Angels. Little, Brown, 2002. The story of the author's journey as a young Ethiopian boy in a refugee camp to his graduation from Harvard University. This book may be particularly inspiring for older Ethiopian adoptees.

Donham, Donald L. Marxist Modern: An Ethnographic History of the Ethiopian Revolution. U. of California Press, 1999. As the title suggests, a more academic look at recent Ethiopian history.

Fuller, Alexandra. Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight. Random House, 2003. About the author's childhood in Rhodesia before the civil war and creation of Zimbabwe. Provides an honest look at the colonial attitudes of white settlers.

Camilla Gibb. Sweetness in the Belly. Doubleday Canada. 2005. A novel about a white Muslim nurse that alternates between her life in London and the city of Harar in Ethiopia.

Greene, Melissa Fay. There Is No Me Without You: One Woman's Odyssey to Save Africa's Children. Bloomsbury Press. 2006. An AAI parent's compelling book about Ethiopian foster mother Haregewoin Tesferra's journey from ordinary middle class woman to someone on the frontlines of the AIDS orphan epidemic in her country. A heartwarming adoption tale, a gripping personal drama, and a lucid account of the history and the present state of the fight against AIDS in Africa. A must-read for anyone contemplating adopting from Ethiopia! Visit the book's website at www.thereisnomewithoutyou.com and read Melissa's first article from the New York Times Magazine (12/22/02)—“What Will Happen to Africa's AIDS Orphans?”-- at the AAI website www.adoptionadvocates.org and follow the “what's happening” link.

Henze, Paul. Layers: of Time: A History of Ethiopia. Palgrave, MacMillan, 2000.

Kaplan, Robert D. Surrender or Starve: Travels in Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia and Eritrea. Vintage Books, first published in 1988, updated edition 2003. A veteran journalist examines the reasons behind the famines in the 1980's, and explores the ethnic, religious and class conflicts that are important for understanding the region now.

Kapuscinski, Ryszard. The Shadow of the Sun. Vintage, 2002. Stories from four decades of this journalist's travels in Africa. Emperor: Downfall of an aristocrat (1989) contains stories of Selassie's life of luxury while the common folk were close to starvation.

Marcus, Harold G. A History of Ethiopia: Updated Edition. University of California Press, 2002. Ethiopian history to the fall of the Mengistu government in 1991.

Mezlekia, Nega. Notes from the Hyena's Belly: An Ethiopian Boyhood. Picador, 2002. At turns funny and sad, this memoir of the author's youth in rural Ethiopia and his education in Addis is a great and readable introduction to the turmoil of recent Ethiopian history. A novel by the same author The God Who Begat A Jackal (2003) is set in 18th century Abyssinia and is a love story amid vassal uprisings and the Crusades.

Morrell, Virginia. Blue Nile: Ethiopia's River of Magic and Mystery. National Geographic, 2002. A chronicle of the author's travel on a National Geographic Expedition.

Munro-Hay, Stuart. Ethiopia, the Unknown Land: A Cultural and Historical Guide. I.B.Tauris, 2002.

Pankhurst, Richard. The Ethiopians: A History (Peoples of Africa). Blackwell Publishers, 2001. The author is a professor at the Institute for Ethiopian Studies in Addis Ababa.

Reader, John. Africa: A Biography of the Continent. Vintage, 1999. A comprehensive synthesis drawing upon disciplines from geography, geology, and biology to anthropology to explain Africa's history and development. Long, but readable, with some sections relating specifically to Ethiopia.

B. Reference Books

Balletto, Barbara Lawrence. Spectrum Guide to Ethiopia. Interlink Publishing Group, 2000.

Briggs, Philip. Ethiopia, 3rd: The Bradt Travel Guide. Bradt Travel Guides, 2002. Good general travel reference with nice photos.

Gordon, Frances Linzee and Jean Bernard Carillet. Lonely Planet Ethiopia and Eritrea. Lonely Planet Publications, 2003. Many AAI parents are fans of the Lonely Planet Guide Series for cultural/historical information and travel advice.

Kebede, Tilahun and Catherine Snow. Lonely Planet Ethiopian Amharic Phrasebook. Lonely Planet Publications, 2002. A guide to give you some basic travel phrases. Note: it is organized by topic and has no index so it can take some time to find what you're looking for.

Leslau, Wolf. Concise Amharic Dictionary: Amharic--English English--Amharic. University of California Press, 1996. Popular dictionary used by parents with older children.

C. Children's Fiction and Nonfiction

It is impossible to keep up with the many new children's books that come on the market. The following website reviews children's books related to African themes and has a great search feature through which you can search for literature by country. They also award an annual prize to the best children's book about Africa. <http://africaaccessreview.org/>

The books listed below were compiled with the assistance of an amazon.com reader list (Marisa McDowell, who is an adoptive parent herself), my own favorites, and the above website.

Jane Kurtz—many titles written by an author who grew up in Ethiopia and maintains a great love for the country and people. Her website is www.janekurtz.com. Titles include:

The Storyteller's Beads—story of two Ethiopian girls who became refugees in the 1980's (4-8)

Saba: Under the hyena's foot (can be ordered with an Ethiopian doll from American Girl Co.)—historical fiction about an Ethiopian princess (9-12)

Water Hole Waiting—A monkey and his family wait their turn at the water hole (4-8)

Fire on the Mountain—Ethiopian folktale (4-8)

Only a Pigeon—A boy in Addis Ababa Raises pigeons (4-8)

Faraway Home—A daughter worries as her Ethiopian father travels back to his homeland (4-8)

Trouble—traditional tale from Eritrea (4-8)

Pulling the Lion's Tail—Ethiopian folktale (4-8)

Ethiopia: The Roof of Africa—non-fiction history and culture (9-12)

Araujo, Frank P. The Perfect Orange: A Tale from Ethiopia. Rayve Productions, 1994. The tale of a generous girl. (4-8)

Ashabranner, Brent K. The Lion's Whiskers and Other Ethiopian Tales. Linnet Books, Revised Edition, 1997. A collection of tales from the 9 tribes of Ethiopia. (9-12)

Corona, Laurel. Ethiopia (Modern Nations of the World series). Lucent Books, San Diego, CA, 2001. Appropriate for middle school, more detailed information, black-and-white pictures, and current information.. Includes sections on Arts and Music and Sports as well as history and government.

Day, Nancy Raines and Nancy Grifalconi. The Lion's Whiskers: An Ethiopian folktale. Scholastic, 1995. A stepmother learns the secret of bonding with her stepson. (4-8)

Gish, Stephen. Ethiopia—Cultures of the World. Benchmark Books, 1996. (9-12)

Laird, Elizabeth. Garbage King. Barron's, 2003. Story of two children's survival in Addis Ababa after their mother dies. (young adult)

Laird, Elizabeth. When the World Began: Stories Collected from Ethiopia. Oxford University Press, 2000. Ages 9-12 for independent reading, younger for read aloud. Beautifully illustrated keepsake book.

Lassieur, Allison. Ethiopia (Countries and Cultures series). Capstone Press, 2004. Appropriate for upper elementary, maybe middle school, depending on reading level. Great color pictures, current information, all the information needed for a school report. (8-12)

Levitin, Sonya. The Return. Fawcett, 1988. An account of an Ethiopian Jewish girl's harrowing journey on foot to the Sudan and finally, Israel. (young adult)

MacKnish, Neil. Welcome to Ethiopia (Welcome to my country). Gareth Stevens / World Almanac, 2001. Introduction to Ethiopian culture and political organization for elementary school students. (6-12)

Mann, Kenny. Egypt, Kush, Aksum: Northeast Africa. Simon and Schuster/Dillon Press, 1997. A history of the region for middle-high school level readers. (8-young adult)

Pankhurst, Alula et al. Coocooloo. Two books in one package containing 10 Stories in Amharic and English by Ethiopian writers. Available from www.Africansouk.com . (9-12, younger for read aloud)

Price, Leontyne. Aida. Gulliver Books, 1990. The famous opera singer recounts the tale of an Ethiopian princess from the opera. (4-8)

Schrier, Jeffrey. On the Wings of Eagles. Millbrook Press, 1998. A children's book recounting the airlift of Ethiopian Jews to Israel in the 1980's. (4-8)

Schnapper, LaDena. Teenage Refugees from Ethiopia Speak Out. Rosen Publishing Group, 1997. Moving accounts by actual teens forced to leave their homeland. Relatively easy reading for ESL students. (young adult or mature 11-12 year old).

Waterlow, Julia. A Family from Ethiopia. Raintree, 1998. An introduction to the way a typical Ethiopian family lives for young readers. (4-8)

Yohannes, Gebregeorgis. Silly Mammo: An Ethiopian tale. African Sun Publishing, 2002. Wonderful story told in both English and Amharic. All profits from the sale of this book support the Ethiopian Books for Children and Educational Foundation in Ethiopia (<http://ethiopiareads.org/>). Can be purchased via www.silverchicks.com . (4-8)

D. Other Ethiopian Items

An adoptive parent volunteer has created an on-line store (www.benefitorphans.org) which makes available cultural items (clothing, baskets, etc.), books, and music. Proceeds support AAI's humanitarian efforts in Ethiopia and Ghana.

DVD—"Ethiopian Kids Playground"—a 90 minute film shot in a typical Ethiopian village. Descriptions of over 30 games. Edited, Produced and Directed by Prof. Eyassu Woldesenbet, 2004. One AAI parent says it was "informative, fun, interesting to watch" and recommends it to anyone with an adopted Ethiopian child. Available from www.africansouk.com and www.wkethiopia.com .

DVD and VHS—Endurance, 2003 Disney film about the life of the famous Ethiopian runner Haile Gebreselassie. Widely available.

DVD—Yesterday, 2005. Oscar-nominated film from South Africa about a young mother's diagnosis with AIDS and her struggle to leave her beloved daughter well-cared for. A truly moving and beautiful story especially for parents of children orphaned by the disease.

Cassette tape—The Life of Childhood: 57 Children's Songs in English and Amharic. Produced by Hiwot Mamo. Available at bookstores in Addis Ababa. Comes with a bilingual song book. Ask a traveling parent to purchase an extra one if you're not going yourself. Great for children up to age 10 or so.

National Geographic/PBS Video Series—Africa—has about 1 hour pertaining to Ethiopia and a coffee table book.

Talk Now! Learn Amharic - Beginning Level -- an interactive software program by Eurotalk. Available through www.amazon.com

<http://www.africanlanguage.com/> --This website offers software for learning to read and write Amharic and Tigrinya (another Ethiopian language)

Check FAQ: Basic Amharic for other self-teaching materials and websites.

III. Multicultural and Adoption-Related Children's Books

Online sources to purchase books listed below:

www.tapestrybooks.com –for adoption-related books

www.chinaberry.com –for general selections.

www.leeandlow.com –exclusively multicultural books; great catalog.

Links to multicultural book lists

<http://www.multiculturalchildrenslit.com/africanamericans.html>

<http://www.cultureforkids.com/>

<http://als.lib.wi.us/AACList.html>

<http://www.isomedia.com/homes/jmele/joe.html>

<http://www.youngimmigrants.com/> --contains reviews about books for children of all ages about the immigrant experience.

http://www.skippingstones.org/honors_98.htm – **Skipping Stones**, an international multicultural magazine with good book reviews in each issue (a few summarized here)

PACT, an adoption alliance group has a good website (www.pactadopt.org) and pamphlet of recommended titles that's available for download at <http://www.pactadopt.org/favoritebooks/>

A. Ages 0-3

Ajmera, Maya and John D. Ivanko. *Animal Friends: A Global Celebration of Children and Animals*. Charlesbridge Publishing, 2002. Children around the world adore animals.

Asquith, Ros. *Babies*. Simon & Schuster, 2003. A multicultural look at babies with a mirror included for your own.

Elliot, David. *And Here's to You!* Candlewick Press, 2004. A celebration of everyone's uniqueness in verse.

Kates, Bobbi Jane. *We're Different, We're the Same*. Random House, 1992. Uses the familiar Sesame Street characters to explore the theme.

Koehler, Phoebe. *The Day We Met You*. Aladdin Paperbacks, 1997. Simple illustrated book about a couple's meeting their adopted newborn for the first time.

London, Jonathan. *A Koala for Katie*. Albert Whitman and Co., 1997. Katie wonders what would happen if the mommy koala couldn't care for its baby. She pretends to adopt her stuffed koala.

O'Shea, Robbie. *I'm Brown and my Sister Isn't*. 2002. Available from www.tapestrybooks.com. Told in the words of an adopted child.

Williams, Vera B. *More, More, More Said the Baby*. Harper Collins/Greenwillow, 1990. A classic with babies of all races and colors. This author has more good titles and is widely available.

B. Ages 4-8. Picture books about "naming emotions" can be especially good for newly arrived children of all ages because the stories and the character's facial expressions can help identify feelings. For example: *Feelings* by Alikei, *When Sophie Gets Angry ...* by Molly Bang, and *Today I feel silly...* by Jamie Lee Curtis.

Band, Sandy. *Lavendar Lottie*. 2004. Available through AAI's www.fromethiopia.us website. An AAI adoptive mom wrote this picture book about how a family isn't just about "color and spots."

Bunin, Catherine and Sherry. Is that Your Sister?: A True Story of Adoption. Our Child Press, 1992. Shows two adopted children from two different racial backgrounds.

Cosby, Bill. Little Bill—a series with many titles. Scholastic Press. Widely available multicultural book series.

Edmonds, Lyra and Anne Wilson. An African Princess. Candlewick Press, 2004. A young girl learns of her “princess” heritage while on a journey to visit an aunt.

Forche, Carolyn. Colors Come from God Just Like Me. Abingdon Press, 1996. Written for the author’s Ethiopian grandchild; this book celebrates all colors.

Gordon, Sol. All Families Are Different. Prometheus Publishing. 2001. The many ways families are different are explored in this picture book.

Greenfield, Eloise. Africa Dream, 1977. A child’s dreams are filled with the images of the people and places of Africa.

Hicks, Randall B. Adoption Stories for Young Children. Wordslinger Press, 1995. True-life adoption stories with real photos of parents and children.

Holman, Sandy Lynne Holman, Grandpa, Is Everything Black Bad? The Culture CO-OP, 1998. An African-American boy learns to appreciate his African heritage with his grandfather.

Hooks, Bell. Happy to Be Nappy. Jump at the Sun, 1999. A joyous celebration of African hair. This title has seen controversy because “nappy” (referring to tightly curled hair) has been considered a negative/racist term by some people.

Hubble, Patricia. Black all Around. Lee & Low, 2004. An African-American girl celebrates the color black in verse. Great illustrations.

Hru, Dakari. The Magic Moonberry Jump Ropes. Dial, 1995. Uncle Zambezi arrives from East Africa with a pair of magic jump ropes for his nieces.

Katz, Karen. The Colors of Us. Owlet Paperback, 2002. An artist mother shows her daughter all the different shades of brown.

Knight, Margy Burns and Mark Melnicove. Africa is not a Country. Millbrook Press, 2000. Shows Africa’s children in all their diversity.

McCutcheon, John. Happy Adoption Day! Little Brown & Co., 1996. Warm verses and cheerful art tell the story of one couple's adoption. The song is available on two of McCutcheon's albums (Family Garden, Supper's on the table) -- <http://www.folkmusic.com/>

Monk, Isabel. Family. Carolrhoda Publishing, 2001. A multicultural family gets together for dinner.

Pitts, Mildren Walter. Justin and the Best Biscuits in the World. Lothrop, 1986. 10-year-old Justin jumps at the chance to visit his cowboy grandfather, where he traces his black cowboy ancestors and learns that cooking is not just "women's work."

Polacco, Patricia. Chicken Sunday. Philomel, 1992. A story of intergenerational, interracial friendship and creativity. This popular author has many other titles that are appropriate for teaching tolerance.

Step toe, John. Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters. Morrow, 1987. Beautifully illustrated tale of two sisters who travel to meet the king who is choosing a wife. This author has other titles available.

Tarpley, Natasha Anastasia. I Love My Hair. Megan Tingley, 1998. A young African-American girl celebrates the uniqueness of her hair.

Thomas, Pat. My New Family: A First Look at Adoption. Explains to a child how lucky s/he is to be part of a loving family and how fortunate the parents are to have the child.

Williams, Vera. A Chair for my Mother. Harper/Trophy, 1984. A single parent story that is multi-generational (grandmother, mother, daughter) and multicultural.

Zisk, Mary. The Best Single Mom in the World: How I was Adopted. Albert Whitman and Company, 2001. A mother shares her story of wanting a child, traveling overseas to find her, and becoming a family together.

C. Ages 9-12

Angelou, Maya. My Painted House, My Friendly Chicken and Me. Crown Publishing, 2003. A girl grows up in a South African village.

Curtis, Christopher. The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963. Yearling Books, 1997. The weird and wonderful Watsons travel to Birmingham and a dark moment in American history. Also Bud, Not Buddy—a Newberry book (2002) by the same author.

Ferreira, Anton. Zulu Dog. Harrar, Straus & Giroux, 2002. A tale of an interracial friendship in South Africa.

Fox, Paula. The Slave Dancer. Yearling Books, 1990. Thirteen year-old Jessie is forced to play his fife aboard a slave ship.

Hanson, Joyce. African Princess: The Amazing Lives of Africa's Royal Women. Jump at the Sun, 2004. Strong African women through history.

Hanson, Joyce. I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly: The Diary of Patsy, a Freed Girl (Dear America). Scholastic, 1997. Many good titles in this historical fiction series.

Jenness, Aylette. Families: A Celebration of Diversity, Commitment and Love. Houghton-Mifflin, 1993. Families come in all shapes and sizes; a photographic tribute.

Kindersley, Anabel and Barnabas. Children Just Like Me and Celebrations. DK Publishing, 1995 and 1997 respectively. Both of these titles include children from Ethiopia and other African nations. Wonderful photographs of people and places.

Lester, Julius, Let's Talk About Race. Picture book which introduces race as simply one part of a person's life story.

Naidoo, Beverly. Out of Bounds: Seven Stories of Conflict and Hope. Harper and Collins, 2003. Stories set in South Africa during apartheid.

McBrier, Beatrice's Goat. Atheneum, 2001. Beautiful picture book about a young girl and her goats in Uganda. A great read-aloud for younger children and the author gives a portion of the profits to Heifer International.

Miner, Chalise. Rainforest Girl: More than an Adoption Story. Mitchell Lane Publishers, 1998. Written by her adoptive mother, this is the true story of a Brazilian girl and her adoption to the United States. Unique because it is told from the child's perspective and shares her experiences with communication difficulties, homesickness, and cultural confusion. Can be a read-aloud for younger children.

Musgrove, Margaret. Ashanti to Zulu: African Traditions. Puffin 1992. Lovely “picture book” with paragraphs about the traditions of 26 African tribes, one for each letter of the alphabet. Suitable as a read-aloud for younger ages.

Myers, Walter Dean. One More River to Cross: An African American Photograph Album. Browndeer Press, 1999. A documentation of the African-American Experience.

Paterson, Katherine. Jip: His Story. Puffin Novel, 1998. Jip tumbles off a wagon and ends up in a Vermont poor farm.

Parks, Rosa and Gregory J. Reed. Dear Mrs. Parks: A Dialogue with Today's Youth. Lee & Low Books, 1997. Rosa Parks replies to letters from children.

Schreck, Karen Halvorsen. Lucy's Family Tree. 2001. One adopted girl's approach to this common classroom project.

Spinelli, Jerry. Maniac Magee. Little, Brown & Co. 1999. A wonderful novel touching on issues of homelessness, racial prejudice and illiteracy.

Smith, David J. and Shelagh Armstrong. If the World Were a Village: A Book About the World's People. Kids Can Press, 2002. A great way to teach your children that America isn't the center of the universe.

D. Young adult

Beals, Melba Patillo. Warriors Don't Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock's Central High. Archway Paperbacks, 1995. A personal account of an important Civil Rights event.

Flake, Sharon. The Skin I'm In. Jump at the Sun, 2000. A black teenager copes with the darkness of her skin and other issues.

Frost, Helen. Keesha's House. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2003. A story of seven troubled teens told in verse. A Michael L. Prinze Honor book.

Garcia, Rita Williams. No Laughter Here. Amistad, 2004. A girl learns that her friend has undergone female circumcision on a visit home to Nigeria.

Grimes, Nikki. Bronx Masquerade. Dial Books, 2002. A high school has an open poetry mike session. A Coretta Scott King Author Award Winner)

Johnson, Angela. The First Last Part. Simon & Schuster, 2003. A Coretta Scott King Author Award Winner. A young black male raises his child alone.

Lekuton, Joseph Lema. Facing the Lion: Growing up Maasai on the African Savanna. National Geographic Children's. 2003. A first-hand account of growing up in a nomadic tribe in Kenya.

Levine, Ellen. Freedom's Children: Young Civil Rights Activists Tell Their Own Stories. Putnam Publishing, 2000. People who were teenagers during the civil rights era tell their stories.

Menzel, Peter, Charles Mann and Paul Kennedy. Material World: A Global Family Portrait. Sierra Club Books, 1995. Fantastic book to jumpstart family discussions about social justice and living conditions in various countries. Presents amazing photos of "statistically average" families and their possessions in many nations.

Myers, Walter Dean. Monster. Amistad, 2001. Won many awards. A teenage boy caught up in the violence of the adult world. This African-American author has many good titles.

Naylor, Gloria. Mama Day. Vintage Books, 1988. A story about love, history, family, death, and the continuance of life.

Taylor, Mildred, Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry. Puffin, 1991. Cassie and her family live on land they own in the midst of white-owned plantations. Sequels also good.

Thompson, Tate. Senioritis. May Davenport Publishers, 2003. A cast of multicultural characters.

IV. Cookbooks and Ingredient Sources

Albyn, Carole Lisa and Lois Sinaiko Webb. Multicultural Cookbook for Students. Oryx Press, 1993. Kid-doable recipes from 122 countries, including Ethiopia.

Ayele, Tizita. Ethiopian Cooking in the American Kitchen. Vantage Press, 1999. Amazon.com lists this one as "out of print, limited availability."

Mesfin, Daniel. Exotic Ethiopian Cooking : Society, Culture, Hospitality, and Traditions. Revised Extended Edition. 178 Tested Recipes. With Food Composition Tables. Ethiopian Cookbook Enterprises, 1994. Available

from Amazon.com and from Ethiopian Cookbook Enterprises 7409 Carol Lane, Falls Church, VA 22042.

Samuelsson, Marcus. The Soul of a New Cuisine: A Discovery of the Foods and Flavors of Africa. John Wiley and Sons. 2006. A gorgeous coffee-table worthy cookbook with recipes from Ethiopia and elsewhere from the well-known New York chef who was also adopted from Ethiopia as a child.

Tsegaye, Webayehu and Tamiru Degefa. Taste of Ethiopia: A collection of delicious vegetarian and traditional recipes and products, including most popular food and spices. Mercato Publications, 1991.

Ethiopian recipes and food products online:

<http://www.recipesource.com/ethnic/africa/ethiopian/>

http://www.sas.upenn.edu/African_Studies/Cookbook/Ethiopia.html

<http://www.hotpaste.com/index.php> –Tektonic palate, a source for Ethiopian hot sauces

<http://www.teffco.com/> --The Teff Company website has information about and a source for the grain used to make injera.

V. Hair Care Resources

Check your local library under the subject headings *Hairdressing of African-Americans* or *Hairdressing-Africa*. See also the resources listed in the FAQ: Hair Care Resources.

Bonner, Lonnic Brittenum. Plaited glory: for colored girls who've considered braids, locks and twists. Three Rivers Press, 1996. Also Good hair: for colored girls who've considered weaves when the chemicals became too ruff. Three Rivers Press, 1994. Classic works explaining styles, chemical treatments and hairdressing issues.

Collison, Michele N-K. It's All Good Hair: The Guide to Styling and Grooming Black Children's Hair. Amistad, 2002. Basic hair care.

Farrell, Pamela. Kids Talk Hair: An Instruction Book for Grown-Ups & Kids. Cornrows and Company, 1999. This author has several other books for adult hair care.

Thomas-Osborne, Valerie and Carla Brown. Accent African: traditional and contemporary hairstyles for the black woman. Cultural Expressions, 1992

Williams, Jena Renee. Kinki Kreations : A Parent's Guide to Natural Black Hair Care for Kids. Harlem Moon, 2004. Step-by-step instructions for quick hairstyles.