This multi-media resource list, compiled by Debby DeSoer of the Ellensburg Public Library, includes books, films and other materials related to the issues presented in the film This Way Up.

This is a story about a wall — the separation it’s meant to enforce, and the unintended ones it gives birth to. The security wall being constructed by Israel on the West Bank has divided Palestinian families and communities. It has also isolated the Catholic-run Our Lady of Sorrows nursing home outside of Jerusalem, leaving its feisty residents to face old age in the throes of one of the world’s most bitter conflicts. With beautiful imagery, moments of laughter and use of a quietly eccentric old-guider, This Way Up examines the social, economic and religious barriers that arise from physical ones.

ADULT NONFICTION


Cypek, Sylvain. Walled: Israeli Society at an Impasse. New York: Other Press, 2006. A Jewish editor of the French newspaper Le Monde, and one time resident of Israel, argues that the security wall and Israeli treatment of Palestinians results in brutalization not only of Palestinians, but also of Israelis themselves.

Dershowitz, Alan. The Case for Israel. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley, 2003. This book explores the different accusations that have been thrown at Israel, revealing the “truth” as proven by history.


Makdisi, Saree. Palestine Inside Out: An Everyday Occupation. New York: W. W. Norton, 2008. Examines how the security wall isolates Palestinians from their livelihoods and from each other, as well as how the peace process has failed them so far.


Tolan, Sandy. The Lemon Tree: An Arab, A Jew, and the Heart of the Middle East. Bloomsbury USA, 2006. This is a true story about a Palestinian refugee, a Jewish settler and a stone house in Ramla.

Winslow, Philip C. Victory for Us Is to See You Suffer: In the West Bank with the Palestinians and the Israelis. Beacon Press, 2007. Winslow, a journalist, offers his view of the effects of war on both sides of the conflict after serving 30 months with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in the West Bank.

ADULT FICTION


POETRY

Nye, Naomi Shihab. 19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East. HarperTeen, 2005. This is a collection of over four dozen poems about the Middle East and about living in the US as an Arab-American.

NONFICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

Delve Deeper into This Way Up
A film by Georgi Lazarevski

Grades 7 and up. This book provides basic information to help young adults understand the conflict through history.

Fiction for Younger Readers

Grades 3 and up. This story is about an Arab boy who has to have surgery in an Israeli hospital where he befriends a Jewish boy.

Levy, Marilyn. Checkpoints. Jewish Publication Society, 2008. Grades 9 and up. This is a story about two girls, one Israeli and the other is Arab, who find themselves friends with complex conflicts.


Films

Blood & Tears: The Arab-Israeli Conflict. Directed by Rosmarin Isidore. VELOCITY/THINKFILM, DVD release 2007. TRT: 74 minutes. A film that goes behind the scenes and finds out what is going on in the Arab-Israeli conflict from the fanatics to the ordinary families trying to live their lives.
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