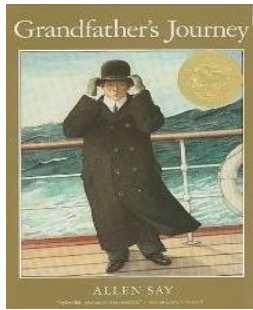


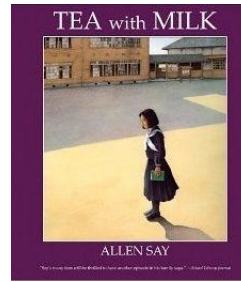
TCK Books: Children's Picture Books

FOUR CLASSICS



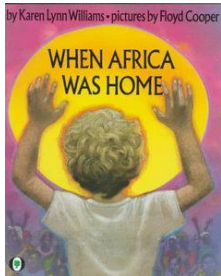
GRANDFATHER'S JOURNEY by Allen Say

The author-illustrator tells the story of his Japanese grandfather who traveled to the US, raised a family there, then returned to Japan, homesick for the friends & places of his youth. Unable to return to the US after the advent of WWII, he told his grandson stories, encouraging him to visit the US himself. A beautiful & poignant "prequel" to TEA WITH MILK, the story of his TCK daughter.



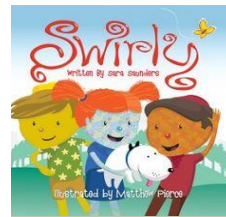
TEA WITH MILK by Allen Say

My favorite picture book about Re-entry / Repatriation, this sequel to GRANDFATHER'S JOURNEY isn't just for kids--teens & adults enjoy it, too. It tells the story of the author's mother, who was raised in the U.S. but, as a teen, returned "home" to Japan with her parents. Poignant & sometimes humorous, illustrated with beautiful watercolors, it describes how Masako finds her place in a country that should be home but isn't.



WHEN AFRICA WAS HOME by Karen Lynn Williams

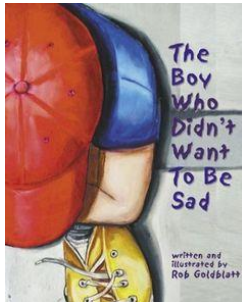
Peter, a blond, American child, loves his life in Africa, cared for by his Mayi (nanny) and playing with his friend, Yekha. When his parents take him back to the U.S. he longs to return to his real home in Africa. Lyrical writing and lovely illustrations make this a true TCK classic.



SWIRLY by Sara Saunders

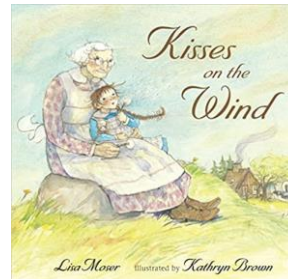
Lila is born to Blue parents in a Blue country, but when her family moves to a Yellow country then a Red one, she grows up "Swirly." Because she's not like her one-color friends, Lila feels like she doesn't belong anywhere. Then she meets another swirly kid & his swirly mother who tells her about Jesus, who was also swirly & has prepared a Home for them all. Written by an MK.

TWO OF MY FAVORITES...



THE BOY WHO DIDN'T WANT TO BE SAD - by Rob Goldblatt

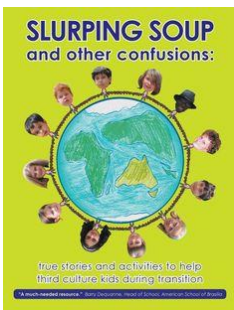
An all-ages book that should be in every TCK's library. A little boy decides to banish everything that makes him sad, only to find that without all those things he's...sad. Realizing that the things that make him sad also make him happy, he reclaims everything & lives happily & sadly ever after. A funny story with a powerful message about the paradox of TCK life--that joy & sadness go hand-in-hand.



KISSES ON THE WIND by Lisa Moser

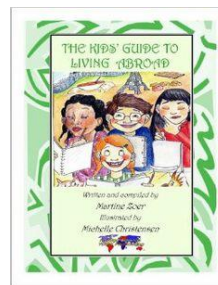
The covered wagon is packed for the long journey to Oregon, but Lydia can't bear to say good-bye to Grandma. How can she possibly say good-bye to someone she loves so very much? Her wise and comforting, Grandma guides Lydia through saying goodbye & teaches how to ease the hurt of "missing" with a love that's big enough to span the distance between them--yet small enough to be carried in the heart. A valuable story for TCKs, whether the goodbyes are to friends or extended family.

BOOKS ABOUT MOVING TO A NEW HOME, SETTLING IN, AND MAKING FRIENDS...



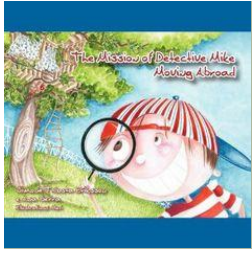
SLURPING SOUP AND OTHER CONFUSIONS by Tonges, Menezes, Gemmer Emigh

Of all the books I've reviewed for kids moving internationally, this is by far my top pick! Unlike other activity books, it is not about moving to a new house, but about challenges kids encounter when adjusting to a new culture. Each of the 23 topics includes stories by young TCKs, followed by an activity to help w/ problem-solving or gaining new perspectives. (Ages 3-12)



THE KIDS' GUIDE TO LIVING ABROAD by Martine Zoer

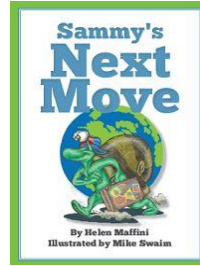
This excellent book for children has sections (5 chapters each) about preparing to move; moving; exploring the new culture; settling in; dealing with "the realities"; and moving on. In each chapter kids (ages 8-13) share their experiences, then the author answers common questions & closes with a "Real Life Tip." Relevant for elementary/primary students & above.



**THE MISSION OF DETECTIVE MIKE:
MOVING ABROAD**

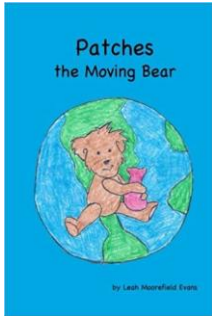
by Simone Costa Eriksson

Mike has lots of questions about moving overseas. With his friend Ikem, he becomes a detective, tracking down answers. Chapters answer questions like "What will happen to my toys" & "How will I find new friends?" For kids 4-9 yrs, but the pages full of small type make it a book better read TO them than BY them.



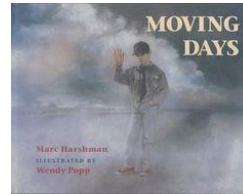
SAMMY'S NEXT MOVE by Helen Maffini

As expat snail, Sammy has already lived in several countries. Now it's time yet another move, and he's not happy about it. But after he recalls the things he loved in each place he's lived, and his sadness is balanced by his excitement to discover the special things awaiting him in his new home. Written specifically for young expat children.



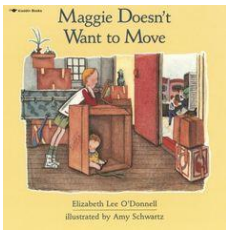
**PATCHES: THE MOVING BEAR
by Leah Moorfield Evans**

Patches has already lived in 4 countries and now he's moving yet again. Fortunately he has a special way to say goodbye to the places he loves, and he takes memories along with him, too. This simple story gives creative ideas that kids can try themselves when they need to say farewell to someplace they love.



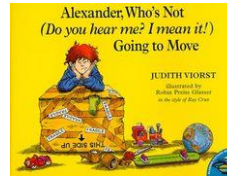
**MOVING DAYS
by Marc Harshman**

Though unhappy to hear his family will be moving far away, a boy is fascinated by the things they uncover while packing: photos of his parents in college, a snake skin, & a toy that stirs memories of family. Though not everything can come along, his father understands the importance of bringing a few treasured items as they say goodbye to their home. A touching story about the objects that hold our memories.



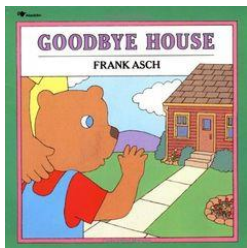
**MAGGIE DOESN'T WANT TO MOVE
by Elizabeth O'Donnell**

Simon insists to everyone who will listen, that his baby sister Maggie doesn't want to move! In the end, his mom persuades him that they should let "Maggie" look at the new home before deciding, and sure enough, "Maggie" likes it. Stylized illustrations make the neighborhood less American-looking (except the flag at school). A funny story -- perhaps funnier for adults than kids.



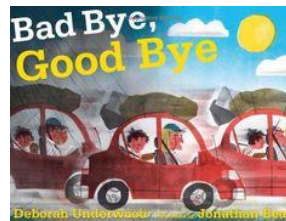
**ALEXANDER, WHO'S NOT (DO YOU HEAR ME? I MEAN IT!) GOING TO MOVE
by Judith Viorst**

His family is moving a thousand miles away but Alexander has decided he's not going! He investigates other living arrangements while at the same time saying goodbye to people, places & things. His parents gently help him work through his feeling, until he finds himself packing. A humorous yet realistic look at a difficult situation.



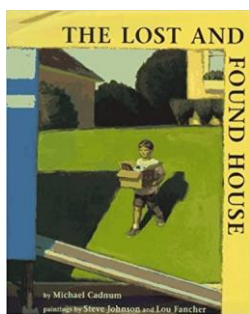
**GOODBYE HOUSE
by Frank Asch**

The house is empty & the moving van is packed, but Baby Bear runs back inside feeling he's forgotten something. After he and his father go around the house saying their farewells to room after room, he realizes what he forgot was to say goodbye. A classic book for very young children about saying goodbye to a place.



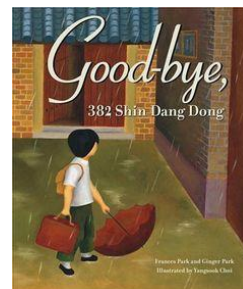
**BAD BYE, GOOD BYE
by Deborah Underwood**

The text of this book is deceptively simple-- pairs of rhyming words ("Bad truck, Bad guy, Bad wave, Bad bye"), deftly tell the story of a cross-country move from a pre-schooler's perspective. Illustrations fill in the story (e.g. the sad friend with a goodbye present). Not TCK-specific, but the rhythm & positive end make this a soothing book for very young global nomads.



**LOST AND FOUND HOUSE
By Michael Cadnum**

In this beautifully written and illustrated book, a boy moves from his old house to a new home far away. Before leaving, he walks through the empty rooms saying goodbye, and as the car drives out of town, he takes a last, sad look at familiar places. But the first morning in his new home brings stirrings of hope as familiar possessions are found and potential new friends await outside.



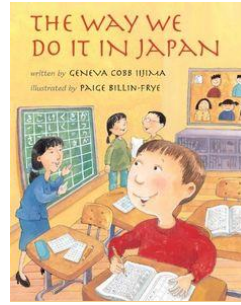
**GOOD-BYE, 382 SHIN DANG DONG
by Frances & Ginger Park**

"My heart beats in two places: Here, where I live, and also in a place where I once lived." Jangmi describes a sad memory of the day she said goodbye to her best friend and her home in Korea and came to her new home in the U.S. A very touching story of a child moving to a new country. The ending is realistic - hopeful rather than happy.



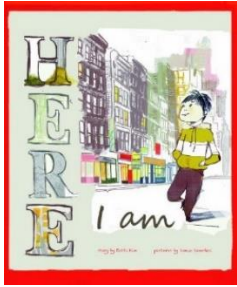
ADELINA AVIATOR
by Jessica Vana

Little Adelina loves to help her father repair airplanes. When her family prepares to move to the jungle as missionary pilots, she has to say goodbye to all the people, places & things she knows & loves. But with God giving her "courage bigger than the sky" she sets out boldly on her new adventure. This wonderful book for missionary kids has appealing illustrations & a cute, touching story.

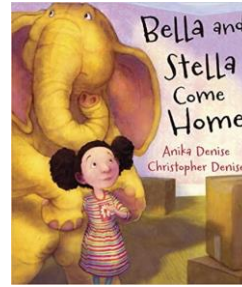


THE WAY WE DO IT IN JAPAN
by Geneva Cobb Iijima

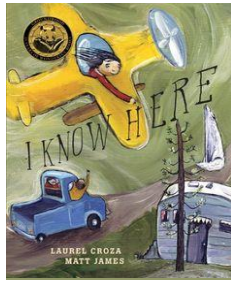
Gregory lives in the US with his Japanese dad & American mom until his dad's company sends the family to Japan. There Gregory finds many things strange, but his dad explains, "That's the way we do it in Japan." Although hesitant about some of the differences, he is always willing to try things the Japanese way. A good story that illustrates a positive attitude towards a new culture.



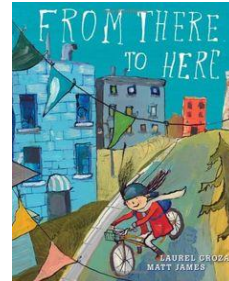
HERE I AM
by Patti Kim, illus by Sonia Sanchez
A wordless story about "leaving a beloved home, coming to a different place, and...creating a new life for yourself." After moving to a new country, a child clings to his memories of home until an unexpected event leads him to discover delightful things in his new home. The author, who moved from Korea to the US at age 4, writes: "I hope my story helps you see that you're not alone."



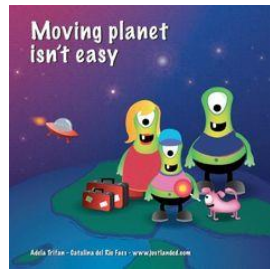
BELLA AND STELLA COME HOME
by Anika & Christopher Denise
After Bella says good-bye to her old house, it's time to meet her new one. But this house isn't anything like Bella expected. The entranceway has ten steps instead of three, the bathtub has feet, and worst of all, it does not feel like home. But Bella knows how to be brave, and with her imaginary best friend Stella by her side, her feelings about her new house soon change-especially when she spies a next-door neighbor who looks like he'd make a perfect new friend.



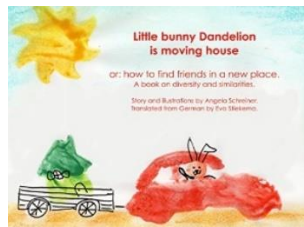
I KNOW HERE
by Laura Croza
"This is where I live. I don't know Toronto. I know here." A little girl preparing to move to the city from a remote part of Canada recalls all the things she loves about her home. When she wonders "have people in Toronto seen what I've seen?" her teacher helps her find a way to carry along & share her memories of everything she loves "here." A wonderfully poignant book for any age.



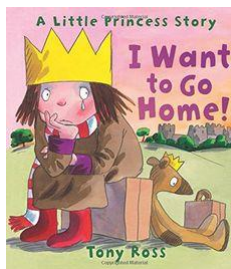
FROM THERE TO HERE
by Laurel Croza
"It's different here, not the same as there." In this sequel to "I Know Here" the same little girl compares how things were in her previous home with how they are now in Toronto. Some changes are hard, some are neutral, but one important change, a little girl the same age, makes the new place different in a very good way. Another beautifully written book - almost poetic.



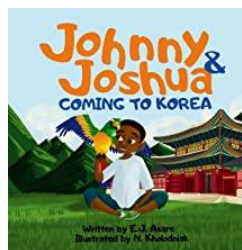
MOVING PLANET ISN'T EASY
by Catalina del Rio Faes
"Flup is a happy, young alien living w/ his family...One day...his parents [get] new jobs on a planet millions of miles away, a scary place called Earth. How will Flup manage without his best friend? Will humans be as strange as he thinks? Through Flup and his engaging story, parents can begin to talk to their children about moving country." Includes an advice section written by expat parents.



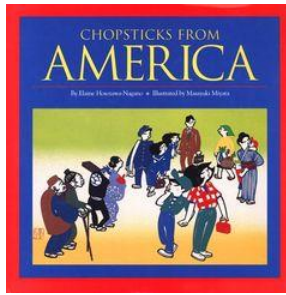
LITTLE BUNNY DANDELION IS MOVING HOUSE
by Angela Schreiner
Dandelion moves from Rabbiton, where he had many bunny friends, to another land where everything is different. How will he find a friend when there are no other bunnies? As he watches frog and chameleon play "catch the fly with your tongue," turtle and snail meandering slowing together, and other animal friends, he realizes the key to making friends with others who don't look like him.



I WANT TO GO HOME!
by Tony Ross
The Little Princess' family moves to a bigger castle, but despite all its good points, she just wants to go home! Finally she & her mother visit her old castle, but when the Duke & Duchess of Somewhereoother proudly show off all the changes they've made, the Little Princess decides that actually... "I want to go home!" A funny story about a sad reality--that the houses you've left aren't home anymore.



JOHNNY & JOSHUA - COMING TO KOREA
by E.J. Asare
Joshua is an American TCK living in Ghana where his parrot Johnny is his best friend. When his family moves to Korea, he's heartbroken that Johnny can't come along, and though he discovers new and interesting things about his new home, he doesn't feel truly happy until he takes the initiative to find new friends. One of only a few TCK books where the main character is African-American.



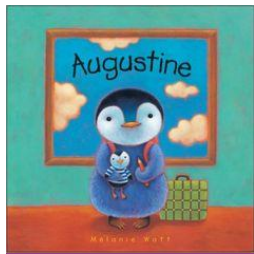
CHOPSTICKS FROM AMERICA
by Elaine Hosozawa-Nagano

Two Japanese-American kids, aged 5 & 11, reluctantly move to Japan. Though they have different attitudes and approaches to settling into new surroundings, both children eventually adjust, recognizing finally that they've grown in "ways that can't be measured by a yardstick." This oversized chapter/picture book is long for young children but would be good for older elementary or even middle schoolers. Since it covers months of adjustment, it provides a lot of possible topics for discussion.



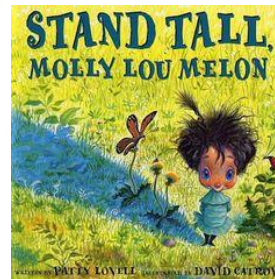
THE GREAT BIG MOVE
by Meghan Marie Geary

This story makes a great discussion-starter for TCKs. Katie has already lived in two states & now, as she gets ready for another big move, she thinks about how much she'll miss the people, places & things she'll leave behind --just like she missed everyone & everything after her first move. And she'll need to do the hard work of making new friends, just like last move. But then Katie realizes something--if she'd never moved, she'd had missed out on the "treasures" of this home & friends.



AUGUSTINE
by Melanie Watt

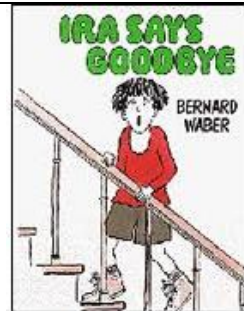
Young penguin, Augustine (named after painter Pierre-Auguste Renoir) is moving from the South Pole to the North Pole b/c of his dad's new job. Anxious about his new school, he spends recess drawing, and that turns out to be a great way to make new friends. A sweet story expat kids will understand. Illustrations are fun - with nods to many famous paintings.



STAND TALL, MOLLY LOU MELON
by Patty Lovell

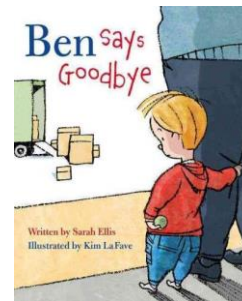
This story makes a great discussion-starter when TCKs face friend changes. Molly is a very tiny, clumsy girl, with buck teeth, a voice like a bullfrog...AND a lot of self-confidence thanks to her Grandma. When she moves to a new town, she has to say goodbye to grandma & all her friends, but at her new school, she ignores teasing & wins friends--even the school bully.

...AND BEING LEFT BEHIND WHEN FRIENDS MOVE AWAY...



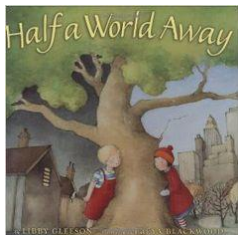
IRA SAYS GOODBYE
by Bernard Waber

Ira's best friend, Reggie, is moving away. Ira is hurt when Reggie idealizes the new location and loses interest in spending time with him, but when they finally reconcile, Ira realizes that Reggie felt sad, too. Though parts of this funny, touching story don't fit an international move, it's still a great story for TCKs being left behind when a friend moves away.



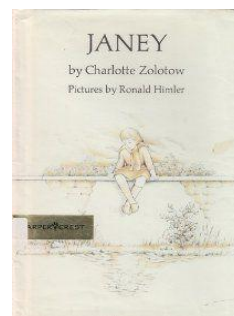
BEN SAYS GOODBYE
by Sarah Ellis

What do you do when your best friend moves half way round the world? You move too - into a "cave" under the kitchen table! A touching story about a sad little boy, and the loving family who supports him until he's ready to rejoin the world...and maybe even to make a new friend.



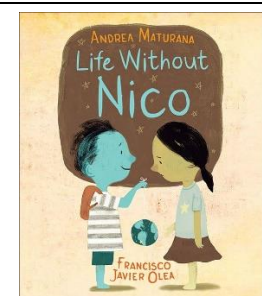
HALF A WORLD AWAY
(alternate title "AMY & LOUIS")
by Libby Gleeson

Best friends Amy & Louie have a special connection, but things change when Amy moves "half a world away." Now they aren't even awake at the same time! Most similar stories have simplistic endings (a new friend arrives; the old friend visits; etc). This one does not, though it finds a sweet way for the children to connect across the world. A good story for TCKs missing friends who are too far away to visit.



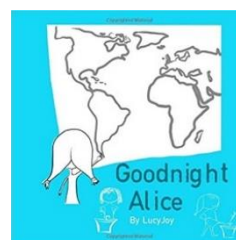
JANEY
by Charlotte Zolotow

After her best friend, Janey, moves away, a little girl expresses her feelings of missing her friend by recalling the fun times they had together. Less a story than a lyrical description of memories of special times with a special friend, written from the perspective of small child. This book about feeling lonesome for someone who is gone, can help give voice to sad feelings young children struggle to express after being parted from a good friend.



LIFE WITHOUT NICO
by Andrea Maturana

Best friends Maia & Nico do everything together, so when Nico's family moves abroad for a while, Maia's life has a hole in it. In time she fills it with new things, but when Nico comes back, will she still have room for him in her life? Especially relevant for young TCKs whose friends go on furlough, then return.

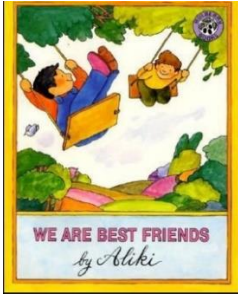


GOODNIGHT ALICE
by Lucy Joy

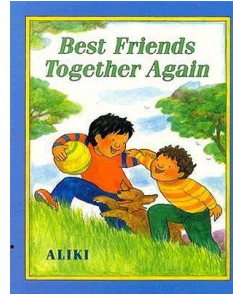
A gentle story about a little girl who loves being with her best friend Alice, whether they're playing puppies, sharing snacks, helping each other out, or forgiving each other's mistakes. She never says "Goodbye" - only "Goodnight, Alice." But when Alice moves to a country far away, the friends have to find a new way to remain connected over a great distance.

**BEST FRIENDS TOGETHER AGAIN
by Alik**

In this happy sequel to "We Are Best Friends," Peter, who moved away in the 1st book, is coming back to visit for 2 weeks. Though both boys notice ways the other has changed, they soon find their friendship is just as strong as ever. This lovely story of a happy reunion will appeal to TCKs who have been separated from a best friend, but may be sad to read if no real-life reunion is possible.



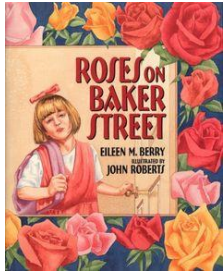
WE ARE BEST FRIENDS by Alik
This is a wonderful book for TCKs, written from the perspective of Robert whose best friend, Peter, moves away. Though at first Robert resists making a new friend, a letter from Peter helps him see he can have a new friend without forgetting the old.



...AND GOING ON HOME ASSIGNMENT

**ROSES ON BAKER STREET
by Eileen Berry**

To Danae, the young daughter of missionaries, "home" means a best friend, crusty French bread, church bells & climbing roses. But when her family moves to the US for a year, familiar things are gone & she must find "roses" in other ways. Although the colorful illustrations date the story to the 1990s, the sensitive writing means this book about a girl's first days in American school is still relevant for younger TCKs.



**GOING HOME, COMING HOME
by Tran Truong**

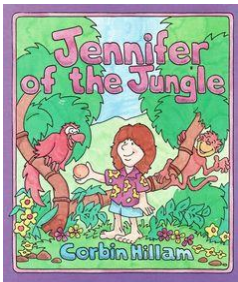
Though it's about the child of immigrants visiting extended family in Vietnam for the 1st time, this wonderful story will feel familiar to TCKs: unknown people who know you, an unfamiliar place, language, food, culture, climate...yet the discovery that this place can also be home. As this child concludes: *"I am from the East & I am from the West. My home is here. My home is there. Home is 2 different places"*



**JENNIFER OF THE JUNGLE
by Corbin Hillam**

Jennifer loves living in the Amazon jungle with her missionary parents. But it's time for the family to go on furlough to the U.S. Follow her through packing, airplane rides, reunion with unfamiliar relatives, and a new friend, and the discovery that she can be a missionary in the U.S., too. The book is hard to find in print, but you can read it on the author's website:

<https://www.corbinhillamdesign.com/jennifer-of-the-jungle.html>



....AND ONE BONUS BOOK – JUST FOR FUN...

ROSIE'S LETTERS by Kate Gehring:
Rosie gets a letter from the boy down the street...then he moves away. But he keeps writing...even after she moves to new places...again and again. Finally, it's time for Rosie to go home...but "Rosie had a problem... Rosie had too many homes." Which is her REAL home? In this truly delightful TCK love story (based on the author's real life experience), Rosie discovers home not a place but a person.

