Appendix 13.1. Additional Films and Books on Adolescent Long-Distance Runners

While a substantial number of these books and films through the 1980s focused on young, male, white, Western protagonists, the theme has now long since expanded to include books and films in a variety of fiction and nonfiction genres focused on women as well as young people from diverse ethnic and international backgrounds. Beyond the particular novella featured in this lesson, a somewhat open-ended class-wide inquiry unit could explore the historical unfolding of the figure of the adolescent long-distance runner and continue to refine and complicate some of the observations about techniques and patterns of storytelling discussed in the lesson on Sillitoe’s story and Richardson’s film.

For purposes of this list, the focus has been—in works of fiction—on protagonists ranging from early teens to just beyond college age. The nonfiction works about the history and meaning of pedestrian athleticism to human beings are not exclusively focused on young adults, though many of those listed below do feature prominently the stories of actual people who parallel some of the stories told in fiction.

Fiction
**Nonfiction**


**Movies (Narrative)**

*Across the Tracks*. Sandy Tung, 1990.


Movies (Documentary)
Endurance. Leslie Woodhead and Bud Greenspan, 1998.
Runners High: It’s 26.2 Miles from East Oakland to Anywhere They Wanna Go. Justine Jacob and Alex D. da Silva, 2006.
Up Heartbreak Hill. Erica Scharf, 2011.