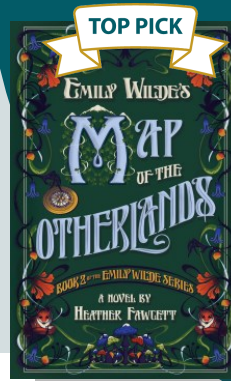




# January 2024

## The Top Ten Adult Fiction and Nonfiction Chosen Monthly by America's Library Staff

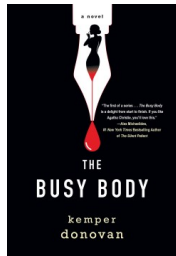
Find out more at [www.LibraryReads.org](http://www.LibraryReads.org)



**Emily Wilde's Map of the Otherlands**  
Heather Fawcett  
(Del Rey)

After the events of the first book, Emily sets a new goal of creating the first Map of the Folk. Her plans progress well until an attack from Wendell's stepmother forces Emily to embark on a quest for an elusive door. Will they find it this time? This fun series installment has fantastical new creatures and realms to discover, and the dynamic between Wendell and Emily is sweet and exciting. Recommended for fans of cozy academia with a dash of magic.

—Lisa Leinhos, Marx Library, AL  
Novelist read-alike: *A Marvelous Light* by Freya Marske



**The Busy Body**  
Kemper Donovan  
(Kensington)

A very talented ghostwriter signs on to help a failed female presidential candidate (shades of you know who!) write her memoir. Their initial work weekend is going well until there is a mysterious drowning next door. The politician feels called upon to investigate, taking her ghostwriter along—a Watson to her Holmes. An enjoyable mystery tale ensues.

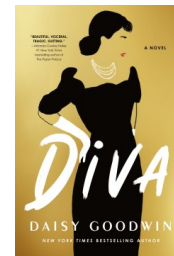
—Joan Hipp, Florham Park Public Library, NJ  
Novelist read-alike: *The Girl Who Took What She Wanted* by Stewart Hoag



**First Lie Wins: A Novel**  
Ashley Elston  
(Pamela Dorman Books)

Nothing is ever as it seems in this fast-paced novel. All the reader knows is that nothing about Evie is true. It's her job to lie and wrangle her way into situations, gather info, and create situations that put others at risk. Yet this time, things are different. During a con, someone shows up with her actual birth name and history. Perfect for readers who enjoy books with twists and turns around every corner.

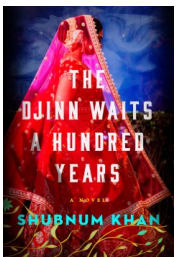
—Larissa Porach, Jefferson County Public Library, CO  
Novelist read-alike: *The Lies I Tell* by Julie Clark



**Diva: A Novel**  
Daisy Goodwin  
(St. Martin's Press)

Readers get behind the scenes of Maria Callas's life and her complicated relationships. She'd hoped to marry Aristotle Onassis, but instead he wed Jackie Kennedy. Callas ended up alone, even with all the money and accolades for her phenomenal soprano voice. This fictional portrait takes some creative license, but that doesn't detract from this well-researched portrait of an international superstar.

—Sandra Meyers, Frankford Public Library, DE  
Novelist read-alike: *Jackie & Maria* by Gill Paul



**The Djinn Waits a Hundred Years: A Novel**  
Shubnum Khan  
(Viking)

Hoping for a fresh start after tragedy, Sana and her father move into a South African apartment building with a host of quirky neighbors. Sana becomes fascinated by the story of Meena, a former resident when it was the estate of a wealthy troubled family. A lonely girl, a heartbroken djinn, and long-buried secrets come together in this gorgeously gothic tale of love and grief.

—Mara Bandy Fass, Champaign Public Library, IL  
Novelist read-alike: *The Last Dreamwalker* by Rita Woods



**The Clinic**  
Cate Quinn  
(Sourcebooks Landmark)

Meg enters an exclusive rehab facility undercover after the supposed suicide of her sister. In the process, she exposes some ugly truths about people who profess to have her best interests at heart. Quinn does a terrific job creating quirky characters and keeping readers guessing. The unexpected twists and eerie location make this a great pick for readers in the mood for atmospheric suspense!

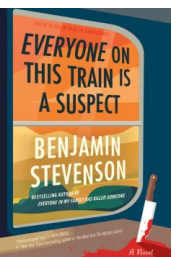
—Michelle Meeks, Wetumpka Public Library, AL  
Novelist read-alike: *I'll Be You* by Janelle Brown



**Come & Get It**  
Kiley Reid  
(G.P. Putnam's Sons)

Millie is a 24-year-old RA in a dorm of typical college girls. All she wants is to get through her delayed senior year, start saving for a home to call her own, and find a good job for when she graduates. When she makes some increasingly bad choices, she puts all of that in jeopardy and has to face the fact that she may not like the person she is becoming.

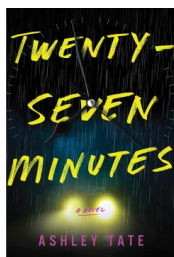
—Linda Quinn, LibraryReads Ambassador  
Novelist read-alike: *Wahala* by Nikki May



**Everyone on This Train Is a Suspect**  
Benjamin Stevenson  
(Mariner Books)

Ernest is struggling to write his second book. He hits the jackpot, so to speak, when a murder is committed on a train hosting the literary festival he is attending. He now has his new topic and narrates this murder mystery. Full of quick dialogue, clever clues, and odd characters, this off-beat offering will be much fun for the right reader.

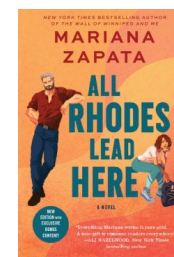
—Crystal Faris, Kansas City Public Library, MO  
Novelist read-alike: *There Should Have Been Eight* by Nalini Singh



**Twenty-Seven Minutes**  
Ashley Tate  
(Poisoned Pen Press)

A young woman died in a car accident while her brother Grant, who was driving, survived, along with another passenger. What really happened that evening is a mystery. Why did Grant wait so long to call for help—and what was his sister so angry about? Readers looking for a page-turning narrative with a strong sense of place will find this compulsive thriller a great read.

—Carri Genovese, Indianapolis Public Library, IN  
Novelist read-alike: *The Only Survivors* by Megan Miranda



**All Rhodes Lead Here**  
Mariana Zapata  
(Avon)

Rhodes, the ultimate silver-fox grump, and bright ray of sunshine Aurora, are complete opposites in many ways. This gentle and sweet love story is built through action as the characters learn to trust each other. Including Rhodes's son Amos in the story adds a level of care between the couple by being the first thing they bond over.

—Jordan Abitz, Pottawatomie Wabaunsee Regional Library, KS  
Novelist read-alike: *Said No One Ever* by Stephanie Eding

### Bonus pick:



**Family Family**  
Laurie Frankel  
(Henry Holt)

### Notable Nonfiction:



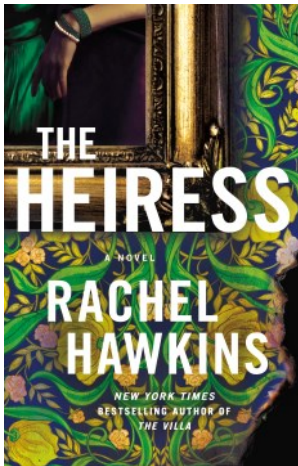
**Who Owns This Sentence?**  
David Bellos and Alexandre Montagu  
(W.W. Norton & Company)

Be sure to check out our social media for the Bonus Pick annotations!



# January 2024 HALL OF FAME TITLES

The LibraryReads Hall of Fame designation honors authors who have had multiple titles appear on the monthly list since 2013. As of the October 2018 list, when an author's third title places on a monthly list via library staff votes, the author moves into our Hall of Fame.



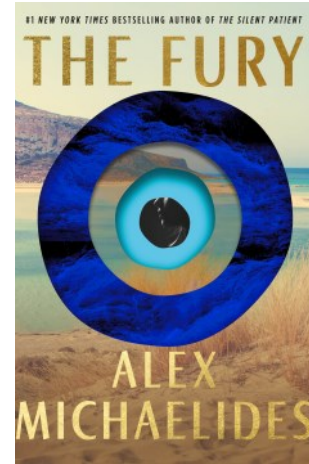
*The Heiress: A Novel*  
Rachel Hawkins  
(St. Martin's Press)

Novelist read-alike:  
*The Daughters of Foxcote Manor*  
by Eve Chase



*Mislaid in Parts Half-Known*  
Seanan McGuire  
(Tordotcom)

Novelist read-alike:  
The Book of Lost Things series  
by John Connolly



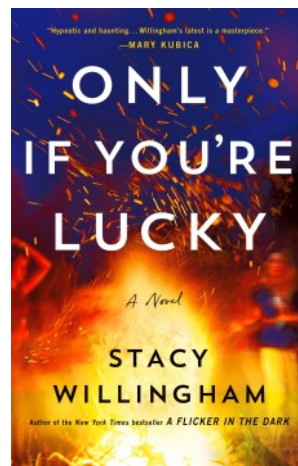
*The Fury: A Novel*  
Alex Michaelides  
(Celadon Books)

Novelist read-alike:  
*The Night of the Storm*  
by Nishita Parekh



*Midnight Ruin*  
Katee Robert  
(Sourcebooks Casablanca)

Novelist read-alike:  
Lore Olympus series by Rachel Smythe



*Only If You're Lucky: A Novel*  
Stacy Willingham  
(Minotaur Books)

Novelist read-alike:  
*The Girls Are All So Nice Here*  
by Laurie Elizabeth Flynn

Find out more at [www.LibraryReads.org/HOF](http://www.LibraryReads.org/HOF)