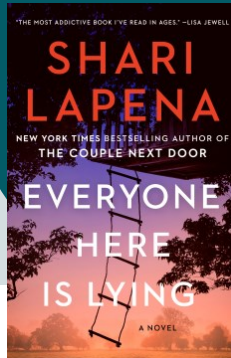




July 2023

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

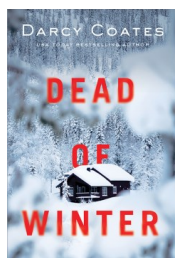
Find out more at www.LibraryReads.org



Everyone Here Is Lying
Shari Lapena
(Pamela Dorman Books)

William's lies are piling up. An extramarital affair just ended; returning home, he finds his young daughter there instead of at school. Soon after, she goes missing. If he confesses having seen her, he's caught in his deception. Will the truth come out before it's too late? Great pick for Gillian Flynn fans.

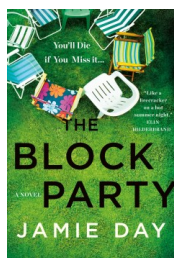
—Selena Swink, Lake Public Library, MS
Novelist read-alike: *Something She's Not Telling Us* by Darcy Bell



Dead of Winter
Darcy Coates
(Poisoned Pen Press)

Ten strangers are trapped in a cabin during a blizzard. None will be lucky enough to die of hypothermia, though, since a murderer is methodically decapitating the stranded travelers. Short chapters and constant cliffhangers keep the action moving propulsively in this gore-filled thriller.

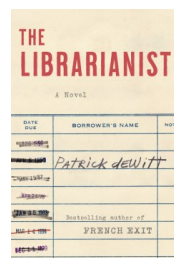
—Sarah Walker, Indianapolis Public Library
Novelist read-alike: *They All Fall Down* by Rachel Howzel Hall



The Block Party
Jamie Day
(St. Martin's Press)

What would happen if the women of Desperate Housewives held a block party that resulted in a murder? The answer would be something like this thriller, a quick read with the gossipy twists and turns of a residential neighborhood full of its fair share of betrayals and suspects.

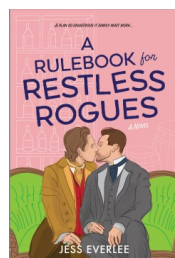
—Mary Robinson, Vernon Area Public Library Dist., IL
Novelist read-alike: *Cul-De-Sac* by Joy Fielding



The Librarianist
Patrick deWitt
(Ecco)

Retired librarian Bob lives alone, has no friends, and dwells on the time long ago when he was jilted by his bride. One day at the local market, an encounter with an older woman in the frozen food aisle changes his melancholy existence. This is a quiet and compelling character-focused read.

—Crystal Faris, Kansas City Public Library, MO
Novelist read-alike: *The Authenticity Project* by Claire Pooley



A Rulebook for Restless Rogues
Jess Everlee
(Carina Adores/Harlequin)

In 1885 London, Noah is a confident, talented tailor. His best friend David runs The Curious Fox, an underground queer club. When the club's future is threatened, the two team up to save it amid miscommunication, withheld secrets, and mutual pining. This delightful romp is swoony and sweet.

—Dabney Kinser, Middle Georgia Regional Library, GA
Novelist read-alike: *The Queer Principles of Kit Webb* by Cat Sebastian



A Lady's Guide to Scandal
Sophie Irwin
(Penguin Books)

At 28, widow Eliza Balfour is the dowager Lady Somerset, and plans to enjoy her wealth and title. How Eliza relates to the people around her and how she changes are wonderfully nuanced and satisfying. Irwin's story forges its own path with liveliness and an attention to a wider scope of high society. Highly recommended to fans of historical romance.

—Allison Smith, Minuteman Library Network, MA
Novelist read-alike: *To Swoon and To Spar* by Martha Waters



The Woman in the Castello
Kelsey James
(Kensington Books)

1960s Italy: a horror movie filmed in a crumbling, possibly haunted, castle owned by the estranged aunt of the starlet. What could be better? As the lines between reality and the movie plot begin to blur in this tautly written novel, family secrets begin to emerge that if revealed, might lead to unforeseen (and possibly deadly) consequences for everyone.

—Jennifer Winberry, Hunterdon County Library, NJ
Novelist read-alike: *The Villaby* Rachel Hawkins



One Summer in Savannah
Terah Shelton Harris
(Sourcebooks Landmark)

This story about forgiveness and family is told from the dual perspectives of Sara, who has not been back to Savannah since she discovered she was pregnant with her rapist's child; and Jacob, the twin brother of Sara's rapist who discovers his niece at the Science Center. As the story progresses, Sara and Jacob form a bond complicated by their connection.

—Alison Zaya, Pollard Memorial Library, MA
Novelist read-alike: *You Made a Fool of Death with Your Beauty* by Akwaeke Emezi



How Can I Help You
Laura Sims
(G.P. Putnam's Sons)

Margo moved to Carlyle two years ago to get a fresh start as a librarian, her days filled with helping patrons. But when a new employee is hired, Margo feels unsettled by the curious Patricia. When a patron is discovered dead in the library bathroom, Margo's carefully crafted mundane life starts to unravel and may pull Patricia into a tangle of terrifying secrets.

—Priscilla Garvin, Cecil County Public Library, MD
Novelist read-alike: *Social Creature* by Tara Isabella Burton



Thief Liar Lady: A Novel
D. L. Soria
(Del Rey)

A reimagined Cinderella tale with the political intrigue and violence of *Game of Thrones*. Lady Aislinn is a revolutionary hiding behind the cover of the meek beautiful girl the prince fell in love with at the ball. Her plan might work except for the bandit that is now on the loose, the captive prince who gets under her skin, and her conniving stepmother.

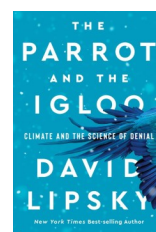
—Kimberly McGee, Lake Travis Community Library, TX
Novelist read-alike: *Uprooted* by Naomi Novik

Bonus pick:



Excavations: A Novel
Hannah Michell
(One World)

Notable Nonfiction:



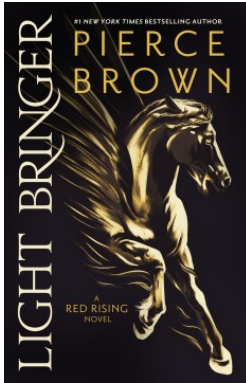
The Parrot and the Igloo: Climate and the Science of Denial
David Lipsky
(W.W. Norton)

See our social media for annotations of these bonus picks!



July 2023 HALL OF FAME TITLES

The LibraryReads Hall of Fame designation honors authors who have had multiple titles appear on the monthly list since 2013.



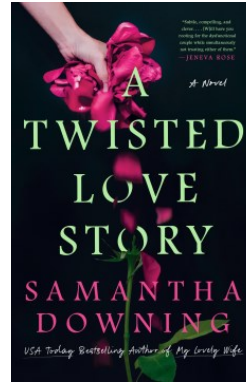
Light Bringer:
A Red Rising Novel
Pierce Brown
(Del Rey Books)

Novelist readalike:
Some Desperate Glory
by Emily Tesch



Hello, Stranger
Katherine Center
(St. Martin's Press)

Novelist readalike:
The Life Lucy Knew
by Karma Brown



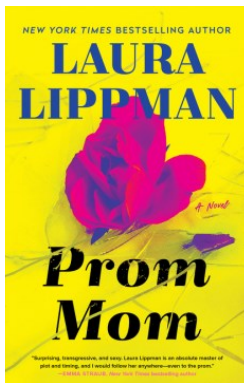
A Twisted Love Story
Downing, Samantha
(Berkley)

Novelist readalike:
The Woman Inside
by E.G. Scott



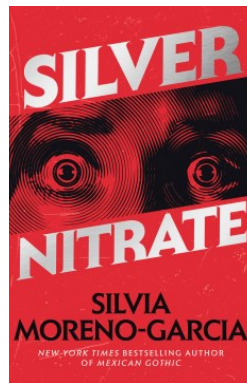
The Summer Girl
Elle Kennedy
(St. Martin's Griffin)

Novelist readalike:
Bellinger Sisters series
by Tessa Bailey



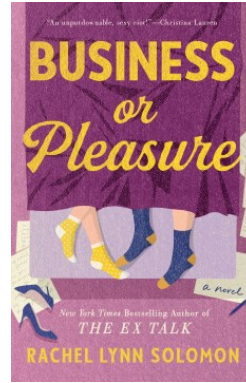
Prom Mom: A Novel
Laura Lippman
(William Morrow)

Novelist readalike:
Darling Rose Gold
by Stephanie Wrobel



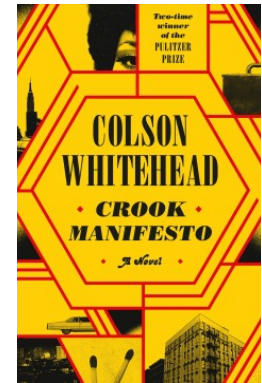
Silver Nitrate
Silvia Moreno-Garcia
(Del Rey)

Novelist readalike:
The Remaking
by Clay McLeod Chapman



Business or Pleasure
Rachel Lynn Solomon
(Berkley)

Novelist readalike:
Bet on It by Jodie Slaughter



Crook Manifesto: A Novel
Colson Whitehead
(Doubleday)

Novelist readalike:
Trouble the Saints
by Alaya Dawn Johnson

Find out more at www.LibraryReads.org/HOF