

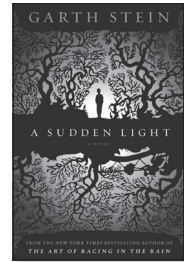
**A SUDDEN LIGHT:**

A Novel

by **Garth Stein**  
(Simon & Schuster)

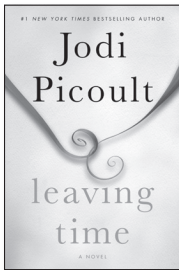
"Garth Stein has given us a masterpiece. This beautiful story takes readers on a thrilling exploration of a family estate brimming with generations of riveting Riddell family ghosts and secrets. This is a true exploratory novel, taking readers through secret passageways, hidden rooms, and darkened corridors that engage all of the senses."

—Whitney Gayle, James Blackstone Memorial Library, Branford, CT



The top ten books published this month that librarians across the country love.

OCTOBER 2014



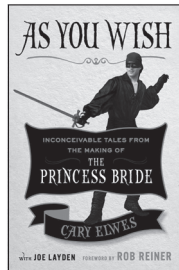
**LEAVING TIME:** A Novel  
by **Jodi Picoult**

(Ballantine)

"Leaving Time is a love story — love between mother and child, love between soulmates, and love between elephants. The story is told from a variety of narrators, all of whom are broken and lost. Jenna is searching for answers to the disappearance of her mother, and seeks the help

of a retired police detective and a psychic. Alice, Jenna's mom, disappeared after a tragic accident at the elephant sanctuary, and her work with the elephants is fascinating and touching. The book is an ode to motherhood in all its forms — the good, bad and the ugly — and it is brilliant."

—Kimberly McGee, Lake Travis Community Library, Austin, TX



**AS YOU WISH:**

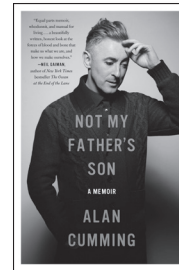
Inconceivable Tales from the Making of *The Princess Bride*  
by **Cary Elwes** with  
**Joe Layden**

Foreword by **Rob Reiner**  
(Touchstone)

"Even if you don't have a crush on Cary Elwes, you'll enjoy this vivid behind-the-scenes account of the making of *The Princess Bride*. His stories,

especially those involving Andre the Giant, will leave you in stitches. Robin Wright, Mandy Patinkin, Billy Crystal, and others also recount their experiences. An amusing account of a group of performers who came together to make a heartfelt film that is loved by many."

—Emily Weiss, Bedford Public Library, Bedford, NH



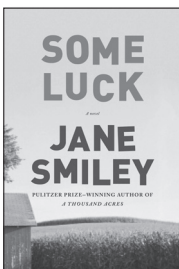
**NOT MY FATHER'S SON:** A Memoir  
by **Alan Cumming**

(Dey Street Books)

"This memoir focuses on Cumming's reaction to being told that his father was not, in fact, his father. An appearance on the UK's *Who Do You Think You Are* was meant to reveal the mystery behind what happened to Cumming's

maternal grandfather. Instead, his father's admission leads Cumming to resolve long-held memories of verbal abuse. Cumming is extremely open, allowing readers to share in his pain and understand his relationships."

—Tracy Babiasz, Alachua County Library District, Newberry, FL



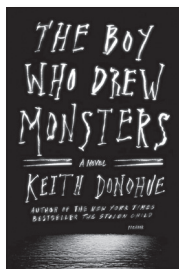
**SOME LUCK:** A Novel  
by **Jane Smiley**

(Knopf)

"Smiley's latest is a love song to American farms and the people who keep them. This glorious and heartfelt novel chronicles the lives of an Iowan farm family over 30 years, beginning in 1920. Family members are born, grow, change, and die. Readers follow

their triumphs and crushing losses and, along the way, learn about the evolution of farming and society in the United States. Definitely one of the best novels of 2014."

—Laurie Van Court, Douglas County Libraries, Parker, CO



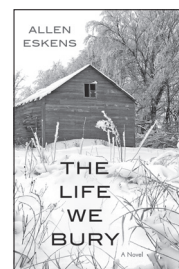
**THE BOY WHO DREW MONSTERS:** A Novel  
by **Keith Donohue**

(Picador)

"Emotionally scarred by a near-drowning experience, young Jack Keenan spends all his time indoors, fanatically preoccupied with drawing strange things. While Jack's parents chalk his drawings up to the imagination, Nick, Jack's

only friend, notices mysterious things happen whenever Jack picks up a pencil. This detailed coming-of-age tale with a twist offers unique insights into boyhood friendships and the complexities of adult relationships."

—Courtney Block, Charlestown Clark County Public Library, Charlestown, IN



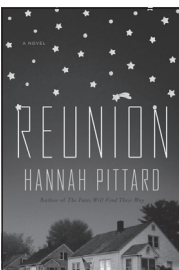
**THE LIFE WE BURY**  
by **Allen Eskens**

(Seventh Street Books)

"In this well-crafted debut novel, Joe Talbert has finally left home, but not without guilt over leaving his autistic brother in the care of his unreliable mother. A college assignment gets the young man entangled in a cold case, racing to clear the name of a Vietnam veteran.

Characters with layers of suppressed memories and emotions only add to the suspenseful plot. Looking forward to more from this Minnesotan author!"

—Paulette Brooks, Elm Grove Public Library, Elm Grove, WI



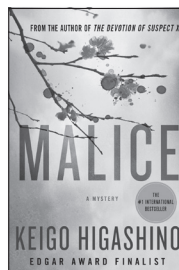
**REUNION:** A Novel  
by **Hannah Pittard**

(Grand Central)

"When Kate learns that her estranged father has committed suicide, she and her siblings travel to Atlanta to bury him and work out years of resentment. Life seems overwhelming to Kate as she battles with infidelity, divorce, and a massive debt.

It's only when she takes a good look at herself that she begins to heal the rift in her family. Unfolding like a saga, this short book packs a punch."

—Elizabeth Kanouse, Denville Public Library, Denville, NJ



**MALICE:** A Mystery

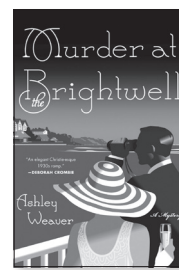
by **Keigo Higashino**  
Translated by **Alexander O. Smith**

(Minotaur Books)

"Detective Kaga is investigating the murder of best-selling author Kunihiko Hidaka. Hidaka's wife and best friend both have rock-solid alibis, but Kaga discovers that the friendship might not have been

what it seemed. A classic cat-and-mouse game with twists that keep the pages turning."

—Vicki Nesting, St. Charles Parish Library, Destrehan, LA



**MURDER AT THE BRIGHTWELL:**

A Mystery

by **Ashley Weaver**  
(Minotaur Books)

"Lovers of Agatha Christie and Jacqueline Winspear will enjoy this elegant murder mystery set on holiday at the English seaside. What starts out as a lark, intended to make Amory

Ames's misbehaving-but-oh-so-delicious husband jealous, turns into a dangerous and deadly game of whodunit for Amory and her friends. Love, jealousy, and revenge are tangled together in this smart and sophisticated British mystery reminiscent of the genre's golden age."

—Vanessa Walstra, Kent District Library, East Grand Rapids, MI