May 2019 - The top ten books published this month that librarians across the country love.

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek A Novel
by Kim Michele Richardson

“Blue-skinned Cussie brings books via horseback to rural, racially intolerant Kentucky in the 1930s. Her efforts demonstrate that people crave intellectual stimulation even when they are poverty stricken in a food desert. For fans of Sandra Dallas and Lee Smith.”

—Courtenay Reece, Millville Public Library, Millville, NJ
NoveList read-alike: Over the Plain Houses by Julia Franks

The Farm A Novel
by Joanne Ramos

“What sounds like an easy way to make money while indulging in a spa-like oasis propels young pregnancy summates into ethically complex decisions, racial inequities, and new friendships. For those who loved The Handmaid’s Tale and Future Home of the Living God.”

—Jesica Sweedler DeHart, Neill Public Library, Port Angeles, WA
NoveList read-alike: The Bronte Bride Test by Helen Hoang

How Not to Die Alone
by Richard Roper

“Andrew’s Council job is finding people to pay for funerals for the recently deceased, and he seems bound to a similar lonely destiny. When lively Peggy joins the staff, he begins to wonder if there’s more to life than model trains. Give to fans of Jojo Moyes, Nick Hornby, and Gail Honeyman.”

—Jennifer Knight, North Olympic Public Library System, Port Angeles, WA
NoveList read-alike: Terms & Conditions by Robert Glancy

Pride, Prejudice, and Other Flavors A Novel
by Sonali Dev

“Trisha Raje is a talented neurosurgeon, from an immigrant Indian family, descended from royalty. When she meets a patient’s brother, we embark on a classic tale of enemies to lovers. With likable characters and an appealing story line, I highly recommend this book. For readers who enjoyed Pride and Prejudice and The Wedding Party.”

—Ellen Firer, Merrick Library, Merrick, NY
NoveList read-alike: The Royal We by Julia Franks

The Seven or Eight Deaths of Stella Fortuna A Novel
by Juliet Grames

“The life story of Italian-American Stella Fortuna is told through an interesting conceit, the times she nearly died. We follow her through an impoverished childhood in rural Italy, coming to America as a teenager, and finally with mother, and widow in suburban Connecticut. For fans of The Stars Are Fire and Daughter of Fortune.”

—Celia Morse, Berkley Public Library, Berkley, MA
NoveList read-alike: The Boston Girl by Anita Diamant

Storm Cursed by Patricia Briggs

“Mercy Thompson has opened her garage again and is trying to get back to normal. Now that the Tri-Cities is neutral ground, all kinds of supernatural beings are heading her way. If you’re a Briggs fan, you’re going to love this book and look forward to the next. For fans of the Walker Papers and Weather Warden series.”

—Helen Imire, Franklin Township Public Library, Somerset, NJ
NoveList read-alike: The Jane Yellowrock novels by Faith Hunter

Red, White & Royal Blue A Novel
by Casey McQuiston

“First Son Alex Claremont-Diaz is in his last semester of university and has an antagonistic relationship with Prince Henry of Wales. But friendship and then love blossoms when they are forced to pretend to be buddies after an embarrassing altercation. For fans of a good rom-com.”

—Nita Gill, Brookings Public Library, Brookings, SD
NoveList read-alike: The Royal We by Heather Cocks & Jessica Morgan

Sunset Beach A Novel
by Mary Kay Andrews

“After her mother’s death, Drue Campbell inherits her grandparents’ beach cottage in Sunset Beach, Florida where she takes a job with her estranged father who is married to her high school frenemy. For readers who enjoyed The Identicals and Life’s a Beach.”

—Evelyn Janoch, Rocky River Public Library, Rocky River, OH
NoveList read-alike: The Perfect Couple by Elin Hilderbrand

Find out more at www.libraryreads.org
McGuire’s standalone contemporary fantasy is a story of alchemy, mathematics, language, and two unforgettable twins. The complex story takes some time to get moving, but once it does this great, philosophically deep read becomes very difficult to put down.

—Angela Gaule Ector County Public Library, Odessa, TX

“McGuire’s standalone contemporary fantasy is a story of alchemy, mathematics, language, and two unforgettable twins. The complex story takes some time to get moving, but once it does this great, philosophically deep read becomes very difficult to put down.”

—Angela Gaule Ector County Public Library, Odessa, TX

Read-alike: The Devourers by Indra Das
Read-alike: A Darker Shade of Magic by V.E. Schwab
Read-alike: Lexicon by Max Barry

Middlegame
by Seanan McGuire
(Tor.com)

“Forensic archeologist Dr Ruth Galloway is back puzzling out mysteries old and new in the English coastal region of Norfolk. Much appeal lies in revisiting Ruth’s delightful supporting cast of colleagues and friends. Because the book ties in with earlier installments, this is a series best read in order.”

—Melissa Davidson, Staunton Public Library, Staunton, VA

Read-alike: Haunted Ground by Enn Hart
Read-alike: The Dark Place by Aaron Elkins
Read-alike: Death Wore White by Jim Kelly

The Stone Circle
by Elly Griffiths
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

“The Stone Circle is a gripping and complex mystery set in a remote Scottish village. The village is haunted by a dark past and the arrival of a new family, including twin sisters. The story is told through alternating perspectives of an old woman, a local farmer, and a young girl, creating a multi-layered narrative that will keep you guessing until the end.”

—Shari Suarez, Genesee District Library, Goodrich, MI

Read-alike: 99 Percent Mine by Sally Thorne
Read-alike: Hold Me by Courtney Milan
Read-alike: Fight or Flight by Samantha Young

“Olive and Ethan are enemies brought together in classic rom-com style when the honeymoon plans of their siblings (who’ve just married) take a wrong turn. The dialogue is fantastic--no one mixes sweetness, snark, and hilarity so well.”

—Shari Suarez, Genesee District Library, Goodrich, MI

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The Unhoneyooners
by Christina Lauren
(Gallery Books)

The LibraryReads Hall of Fame designation honors authors who have had multiple titles appear on the monthly LibraryReads list since 2013. When their third title places on the list via library staff votes, the author moves into the Hall of Fame.

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Find out more at www.LibraryReads.org