January 2021 - The top ten books published this month that library staff across the country love.

**The Children’s Blizzard**  
A Novel by Melanie Benjamin  
(Delacorte Press)  
“A deadly snowstorm roared through the Great Plains on January 12, 1888, at a time when many children were in school with teachers older than themselves. Based on actual oral histories of survival, and told from perspectives of teachers, students, and the media, this book is perfect for readers who enjoy historical fiction by Ariel Lawhon and Marie Benedict.”

—Wendy Paige, Shelby County Public Library, Shelbyville, KY  
NoveList read-alike: *The Deep by Rivers Solomon*

**Outlawed**  
by Anna North  
(Blombsury)  
“Bank robberies and women’s health may not seem like natural companions, but North weaves them together seamlessly in this alternate history Western. Cast out of her hometown for failure to get pregnant after a year of marriage, Ada joins the notorious Hole in the Wall Gang and becomes an outlaw, all the while seeking real information about pregnancy and fertility. For fans of *Inland* and *The Power*.”

—Emily Calkins, King County Library System, Issaquah, WA  
NoveList read-alike: *The Winters by Sarah Smith*

**Remote Control**  
by Nnedi Okorafor  
(Tordotcom)  
“As a girl living in a future version of Ghana, Yatima was given an object from space that gave her the ability to emit a green light that brings death to all she touches. Now, as a young teen, she occasionally leaves death behind her as she searches for the alien object that was stolen from her. Africanfuturism, sci-fi, and magic. For readers who enjoyed *The Fifth Season* and *Monstress*.”

—Katie Kalil, Sterling Library, Sterling, VA  
NoveList read-alike: *The One that Got Away by Lisa Gabriele*

**The Ex Talk**  
by Rachel Lynn Solomon  
(Berkley Jove)  
“Shay’s lifelong dream has been to be in radio, and she’s been working at a Seattle NPR station since she was 19. Ten years later, she and new wunderkind Finn or (Finn) or (Stage.)”

—Jessica Werner, Seattle Public Library, Seattle, WA  
NoveList read-alike: *Loathe at First Sight by Kelly Sokol*

**The Perfect Guests**  
by Emma Rous  
(Berkley)  
“When down-on-her-luck Sadie is offered a lucrative weekend acting job at a sumptuous Raven Hall, as a guest in a period mystery event, she jumps at the chance. Before the weekend is over, Sadie and the other “perfect guests” will learn about Raven Hall’s tragic past.”

—Cynthia Hunt, Amarillo Public Library, Amarillo, TX  
NoveList read-alike: *The Unhoneymooners by Sarah Smith*

**Shipped**  
by Angie Hockman  
(Gallery Books)  
“Graeme and Henley are competing for the same job at their adventure cruise company. When their boss sends them on a familiarization trip of the company’s cruise in the Galapagos the enemies to lovers’ plot gets steamy. For readers who enjoyed *A Sweet Mess* (Lee) and *The Unhappily Ever After* (Lauren).”

—Laura Bonds, Harris County Public Library, Houston, TX  
NoveList read-alike: *Smitten Down by Sarah Smith*

**Siri, Who Am I?**  
A Novel by Sam Tschida  
(Quirk Books)  
“Mia awakes in a hospital in a gold cocktail dress, a cape covered in her blood, a head wound and her cell phone, and no memory of how she got there. She uses her Instagram account to begin to piece together her life. For readers who enjoyed *Surprise Me* (Kinsella) and *What Alice Forgot* (Morarty).”

—Douglas Beatty, Baltimore County Public Library, Baltimore, MD  
NoveList read-alike: *The One that Got Away by Leigh Himes*

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