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

**The Four Winds**
A Novel by Kristin Hannah

*St. Martin’s Press*

"Elsa, abandoned by her husband, leaves Texas with her two children to save her young son from dust pneumonia. Beautifully written historical fiction about a mother’s love and strength holding a family together as they leave the Dust Bowl and head West to fulfill dreams of green lands, only to find themselves unwelcome and with conditions worse than what they left. For readers who enjoy historical fiction with unforgettable characters, and fans of *The Giver of Stars* and *Cilka’s Journey*"

—Michele Coleman, Iredell County Public Library, Statesville, NC

Novelist read-alike: *I Will Send Rain* by Rae Meadows

**The Echo Wife**
by Sarah Gailey

*for Books*

"This book asks questions about identity, morality, and genetics, and resists giving easy answers. The man Evelyn and Martine claim as “husband” is lying dead. Gailey invites us to consider a world where clone technology is almost perfect, and its creations are regarded as little more than cattle. What happens when a clone rejects her programming? And what happens when a woman can’t resist the influence of her upbringing? For fans of Black Mirror and Orphan Black”

—Krista Feick, Columbus Metropolitan Library, Columbus, OH

Novelist read-alike: *He Mothers* by Jenn McKinlay

**Finlay Donovan Is Killing It**
by Elle Cosimano

*Minotaur Books*

"What a fun, enjoyable romp! Finlay Donovan is mistaken for a hit woman, a desperate wife hires her to kill her husband, and it gets crazy from there. An entertaining, hilarious distraction. Perfect for all the Stephanie Plum fans out there.”

—Rosemarie Borsody, Lee Library Association, Lee, MA

Novelist read-alike: *A Bad Day for Sunshine* by Darynda Jones

**The Kindest Lie**
A Novel by Nancy Johnson

*William Morrow*

"This novel begins on the eve of the 2008 election at a watch party hosted by Ruth and Xavier. Ruth must soon confess a secret: she had a child as a teenager, told and explore themes of race, friendship with a troubled hometown, she begins a life. When she returns to her party hosted by Ruth and Xavier, the 2008 election at a watch party hosted by Ruth and Xavier. Ruth must soon confess a secret: she had a child as a teenager, told and explore themes of race, friendship with a troubled hometown, she begins a life. When she returns to her hometown, she begins a friendship with a troubled 11-year-old white boy. Their connected paths are brilliantly told and explore themes of race, money, and finding your way back home. For fans of Tayari Jones and Jacqueline Woodson.”

—Ron Block, Cuyahoga Public Library, Cuyahoga, OH

Novelist read-alike: *He Mothers* by Jenn McKinlay

**The Kitchen Front**
A Novel by Jennifer Ryan

*Ballantine Books*

"WWII era, Great Britain, four women vie for the chance to co-present a BBC radio program helping housewives create tasty meals with their war rations. As these women compete against themselves and each other, the contest threatens to tear the community apart unless they can find common ground and work together for a common good. For readers who enjoyed *The All-Girl Filling Station’s Last Reunion* and *The Ship of Brides*”

—Jennifer Winberry, Hunterdon County Library, Flemington, NJ

Novelist read-alike: *Dear Mrs. Bird* by A.J. Pearce

**The Paris Library**
A Novel by Janet Skeslien Charles

*Atla Books*

"Parallel narratives, one set in WWII Paris and the other in the U.S. in the 1980s, both featuring librarians and bookstore owners. Your patrons will love it. For fans of *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* (Davis) and *Sarah’s Key* (de Rosnay).”

—Jennifer Schultz, Fauquier County Public Library, Warrenton, VA

Novelist read-alike: *Resistance Women* by Jennifer Chiaverini

**The Vineyard at Painted Moon**
by Susan Mallery

*HQN*

"Mackenzie is abruptly divorced, loses her job as winemaker at a prestigious family winery. She hasn’t had to be on her own in years. Now she has all kinds of decisions to make. Great relationship fiction with the bonus of learning the inner workings of the wine industry. For fans of Kristin Hannah”

—Gail Christensen, Kitsap Regional Library, Bremerton, WA

Novelist read-alike: *The Future She Left Behind* by Marin Thomas

**The Witch’s Heart**
by Genvieve Gornicche

*Ace*

"Weaves the rich story of the witch who taught the magic of prophecy to Odin and Freya, married Loki the trickster, and raised the “monsters” who would help bring down Asgard’s mightiest rulers. For fans of *Circe* and *The Mists of Avalon*”

—Stacy Lienemann, Waseca-Le Sueur Regional Library System, Waseca, MN

Novelist read-alike: *The Gods of Jade and Shadow* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia

**Honey Girl**
A Novel by Morgan Rogers

*Park Row*

"One of the best parts of this book is the friendships. These friends listen to, support, and love each other. Grace Porter has just finished her PhD in astronomy and goes to Las Vegas to celebrate. She meets a beautiful woman, Yuki, and by the end of the night, they are drunk and married. When Grace goes to New York to visit Yuki, they fall in love all over again. For fans of *Queenie* and *The Bride Test*”

—Patti Lang, Pima County Public Library, Tucson, AZ

Novelist read-alike: *Written in the Stars* by Alexandra Bellefleur

**Much Ado About You**
by Samantha Young

*Berkeley*

"Feeling overlooked in her career and her personal life, Shakespeare-loving Evie Starling takes a leap of faith and goes to Northern England to run the Much Ado About Books bookshop. There, she meets a very sexy farmer who makes her want to break her one and only rule for her trip: no men. For readers who loved *The Tourist: Attraction and Natalie Tan’s Book of Luck and Fortune*”

—Laura Collins, Lexington Main Library, Lexington, SC

Novelist read-alike: *Painted Moon* by Susan Mallery

**The Mists of Avalon**
by Marion Zimmer Bradley

*St. Martin’s Press*

"For fans of *Circe* and *The Mists of Avalon*”

—Stacy Lienemann, Waseca-Le Sueur Regional Library System, Waseca, MN

Novelist read-alike: *The Gods of Jade and Shadow* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia

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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.

First Comes Like
A Novel
by Alisha Rai
(Avon)

“Dev, actor and grandson of a Bollywood star, is making the move to U.S. cinema. He meets YouTube influencer Jai at a party and can’t get the encounter out of his mind. Wonderfully developed characters populate this sweet own-voices novel about falling in like, and then love.”

Read-alike: Get a Life, Chloe Brown by Talia Hibbert
Read-alike: Spoiler Alert by Olivia Dade
Read-alike: The Bromance Book Club by Lyssa Kay Adams

The Nature of Fragile Things
by Susan Meissner
(Berkley)

“Just before the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, Sophie, a poor Irish immigrant, answers an ad from a man looking for a wife and mother to his child. Sophie is complex, strong and a bit mysterious, and details of the earthquake and subsequent fires add to the story’s depth.”

Read-alike: The Two Mrs. Carlyles by Suzanne Rindell
Read-alike: A Reliable Wife by Robert Goolrick
Read-alike: The Dressmaker’s Dowry by Meredith Jaeger

The Survivors
by Jane Harper
(Flatiron Books)

“Harper’s latest gripping murder mystery is set in a seaside town on the coast of Tasmania, where suspicions surrounding three deaths following a shipwreck resurface when a young woman is murdered years later.”

Read-alike: A Madness of Sunshine by Nalini Singh
Read-alike: I Let You Go by Clare Mackintosh
Read-alike: And Now She’s Gone by Rachel Howzell Hall