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

The Donut Trap
by Julie Tieu
(Avon)

"As is lost and working in her family's donut shop. When she accidentally follows her crush on Instagram, things start to change. An all-around good book that touches on family dynamics, friendships, and issues faced by recent college grads. For fans of Get A Life, Chloe Brown and The Friend Zone."

—Suzy Card, Grapevine Library, Grapevine, TX
NoveList read-alike: Summer Down by Sarah Smith

The Fastest Way to Fall
by Denise Williams
(Berkley Jove)

"Absolutely loved the body-positive message of this romance between a lifestyle web reviewer and the fitness coach she's supposed to be evaluating. Wonderfully, well-written characters make this a winner. For fans of Olivia Dade and Kate Clayborn."

—Rebecca Moe, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, Buffalo, NY
NoveList read-alike: Big Girl Panties by Stephanie Evanovich

The Sentence
by Louise Erdrich
(Harper)

"A weird novel that is occasionally very funny, this is set in Birchbark Books, Erdrich's own Minneapolis bookstore, which is haunted by the ghost of its most annoying customer. The story moves through the pandemic and the explosion of protests after George Floyd's murder, but Erdrich's warmth is always there. For readers of Isabel Allende and Tommy Orange."

—Diana Armstrong, Multnomah County Library, Portland, OR
NoveList read-alike: Our Country Friends by Gary Shteyngart

The Singles Table
by Sara Desai
(Berkley Jove)

"Desai provides so much warmth, humor and heat as Zara, free-spirited, successful lifestyle web reviewer,偶尔 very funny, this is set in Birchbark Books, Erdrich's own Minneapolis bookstore, which is haunted by the ghost of its most annoying customer. The story moves through the pandemic and the explosion of protests after George Floyd's murder, but Erdrich's warmth is always there. For readers of Isabel Allende and Tommy Orange."

—Laura Eckert, Clermont Library, Cincinnati, OH
NoveList read-alike: The Man Basin by Nicola Marsh

A Marvellous Light
by Freya Marske
(Tordotcom)

"An Edwardian baronet mistakenly becomes the bureaucratic liaison to a hidden magical society in this trilogy starter. Features great character development and a strong story line weaving fantasy, mystery, and a study in manners, all with a twist of humor. For fans of Zen Cho and V.E. Schwab."

—Courtenay Reece, Millville Public Library, Millville, NJ
NoveList read-alike: Kate Clayborn.

Never Fall For Your Fiancée
by Virginia Heath
(St. Martin’s Griffin)

"Hugh's the handsome nobleman and Minerva is his fake fiancée—a fully realized hero and heroine sure to win over many fans in this delightful Regency romantic comedy, brimming with appealing characters. For fans of Bridgerton and League of Extraordinary Women."

—Janet Schneider, Peninsula Public Library, Lawrence, NY
NoveList read-alike: Any Duchess will Do by Tessa Dare

All Her Little Secrets
A Novel
by Wanda M. Morris
(William Morrow Paperback)

"All is not as it first seems in this thriller set in present-day Atlanta. In-house attorney Ellice is suddenly elevated to corporate general counsel after her boss's death, but things don't add up. A beautifully written, entertaining mystery with on-target social commentary about workplace politics and racial and sexual discrimination. For fans of Hank Phillippi Ryan, Attica Locke, and S. A. Cosby."

—Nina Radakovich, Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System, Atlanta, GA
NoveList read-alike: The Man Ban by Nicola Marsh

Noor
by Nnedi Okorafor
(DAW)

“What's the price of harnessing the wind? Who really benefits from 'clean' energy? Okorafor explores these themes and more in her tale of a woman who discovers she's much more than her cybernetic implants. Masterfully written, this is a thoughtful, accessible page turner for fans of Octavia Butler and Martha Wells."

—Jennifer Ohazuruk, West Des Moines Public Library, Des Moines, IA
NoveList read-alike: The Prey of Gods by Nicky Drayden

Guardian
by Jayne Castle
(Berkley)

"In this wonderful return to the Harmony paranormal romance series, Gabriel finds a kidnapped Lucy sitting on a crystal throne with a dust bunny feeding her pizza. Adventure and sexual tension ensue. For readers who enjoy Christine Feehan and Gena Showalter."

—Angely Libaja, Queens Library, Rockaway Park, NY
NoveList read-alike: Illona Andrews

Just Haven't Met You Yet
by Sophie Cousens
(GP Putnam's Sons)

"When her boss wants more like her 'How did you meet?' video interviews, Laura travels to the island of Jersey to explore her parents' story. She learns the truth about her family, makes friends, learns how to follow her passion in work, and has her own meet-cute: A well-rounded romance novel for fans of One Day in December and Good Luck with That."

—Heather McIntosh, Botetourt County Libraries, Roanoke, VA
NoveList read-alike: Would Like to Meet by Rachel Winters

As the Wicked Watch
by Tamron Hall
(William Morrow Paperbacks)

"Absolutely loved the body-positive message of this romance between a lifestyle web reviewer and the fitness coach she's supposed to be evaluating. Wonderfully, well-written characters make this a winner. For fans of Olivia Dade and Kate Clayborn."

—Nina Radakovich, Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System, Atlanta, GA
NoveList read-alike: The Man Ban by Nicola Marsh

Find out more at www.LibraryReads.org
Patchett’s soothing, matter of fact writing style puts you at ease and makes you feel better about your own shortcomings as a human. I cried and was jealous of the selflessness and kind heart that she and her husband had for Sooki, an email friend who became family.

These Precious Days
Essays
by Ann Patchett
(Harper)

“Patchett’s soothing, matter of fact writing style puts you at ease and makes you feel better about your own shortcomings as a human. I cried and was jealous of the selflessness and kind heart that she and her husband had for Sooki, an email friend who became family.”

—Kimberly McGee, Lake Travis Library, Austin, TX

NoveList read-alike: Kitchen Yarns by Ann Hood

Wish You Were Here
A Novel
by Jodi Picoult
(Ballantine Books)

“Picoult has written an intriguing tale of Diana and a few weeks when COVID changes her life. Diana’s relationships make this story interesting. The author’s description of the Galapagos, NYC, COVID, and life during this period are on target. For fans of Liane Moriarty and Sue Monk Kidd.”

—Gail Christensen, Kitsap Regional Library, Bremerton, WA

NoveList read-alike: The Summer of Lost and Found by Mary Alice Monroe

Find out more at www.LibraryReads.org