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

**The American Roommate Experience**
A Novel  
by Elena Armas  
(Atria Books)

“The follow-up to The Spanish Love Deception has all the makings of a great rom-com: a good slow burn, forced proximity, a mix of steamy and funny scenes, and two leads that are easy to root for. Recommend to anyone in need of a delightful contemporary romance in the vein of The Bride Test and Get a Life, Chloe Brown.”

—Danielle Willett, Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, Midland, MI  
NovelList read-alike: Circling Back to You by Julie Tieu

**Bindle Punk Bruja**
A Novel  
by Desideria Mesa  
(Harper Voyager)

“Luna is both a daughter of Mexican immigrants trying to establish herself in the 1920s Kansas City underworld and a bruja, an earth witch who can read emotions and bends others to her will. Complex character relationships enhance this entertaining historical fantasy. For fans of The Chosen and The Beautiful and The Gods of Jade and Shadow.”

—Gwen Inman, Anne Arundel County Public Library, Annapolis, MD  
NovelList read-alike: The Paragon Hotel by Lyndsay Faye

**The Kiss Curse**
A Novel  
by Erin Sterling  
(Avon)

“Gwyn owns the Graves' witchcraft shop, and life is good until Wells Penhallow comes back to create havoc at the school and in town. Sterling is very good at the love/hate relationship with a great pinch of wit, and the spell is cast for a fun romcom.”

—Kimberly McGee, Lake Travis Library, Austin, TX  
NovelList read-alike: Witch Please by Ann Aguirre

**Ghost Eaters**
A Novel  
by Clay McLeod Chapman  
(Quirk Books)

“Chapman puts a new spin on ghost stories with a tale of a drug that allows people to be haunted by dead loved ones. Featuring a strong subplot about the roots of colonialization, all the excellent horror novel examines being addicted to grief and the lengths some go to hang onto those they love. Fans of Paul Tremblay and Grady Hendrix.”

—Rosemary Kladitis, Queens Public Library, Corona, NY  
NovelList read-alike: Summer Sons by Lee Mandel

**Spells for Forgetting**
A Novel  
by Adrienne Young  
(Delacorte Press)

“Another stunner by Young! When August Salt, the love of Emery Blackwood's life, returns to clear his name after being accused of killing Lily Morgan fourteen years ago, dark secrets arise in Saile's Island. The prose flows like the magical elements throughout.”

—Suzy Card, Grapevine Library, Grapevine, TX  
NovelList read-alike: The Orphan Witch by Paige Crutcher

**The American Roommate Experience**
A Novel  
by Elena Armas  
(Atria Books)

**People Person**
by Candice Carty-Williams  
(Gallery/Scout Press)

“Dimple Pennington might have accidentally killed her ex and reaches out to her four half-siblings — all raised by their mothers and sharing a neglectful father — in a panic. They learn the kind of family they can be as they deal with the fallout and their abandonment issues in this dark comedy.”

—Julie Graham, Yakima Valley Libraries, Yakima, WA  
NovelList read-alike: Malibu Rising by Taylor Jenkins Reid

**The Kiss Curse**
A Novel  
by Erin Sterling  
(Avon)

**A Merry Little Meet Cute**
A Novel  
by Julie Murphy and Sierra Simone  
(Avon)

“Christmas movie star Bee is forbidden to disclose she is also an adult film star. Co-star Nolan is trying to prove he can be a responsible actor. Sparks fly, they cannot keep their hands off each other. Murphy's diverse characterizations paired with Simone's off-the-charts sexy scenes makes for a romantic and steamy happily-ever-after, brimming with sex and body positivity.”

—Alicia Ahlvers, Henrico County Public Library, Henrico, VA  
NovelList read-alike: The Holiday Trap by Roan Parrish

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**SEPTEMBER 2022**

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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**Back to the Garden**  
A Novel  
by Laurie R. King  
(Bantam)

"King’s latest, featuring neuro-divergent police detective Raquel Laing, blends together evocative stories of the robber baron era of the American West, a counterculture commune in the 1970s, a present day mystery involving bones discovered beneath a massive statue, and the tale of a dying serial killer. An exciting departure from a consummate storyteller."

—Patricia Uttaro, Rochester Public Library, Rochester, NY

NoveList read-alike:  
Fierce Little Thing by Miranda Beverley-Whitmore

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**Drunk on Love**  
by Jasmine Guillory  
(Berkley)

"Margot is stressed out from running her family’s winery. Luke is burned out by his hi-tech job in Silicon Valley. So both are happy to enjoy what they believe to be a perfect one-night stand. However, the next day is awkward when Margot finds out Luke is the winery’s new hire. This sparkling romance will give readers a taste of the world of winemaking in Napa Valley."

—Ann-Maree Braithwaite, New York Public Library, New York, NY

NoveList read-alike:  
The Hookup Plan by Farrah Rochon

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**Killers of a Certain Age**  
by Deanna Raybourn  
(Berkley)

"Celebrating their retirement with a luxury cruise after four decades working for the same organization, four assassins discover they are now targets. This page turner offers the unique thrill of seeing women in their 60s as intelligent action heroes who can outmaneuver top assassins from an organization possessing limitless resources. For fans of What Rose Forgot and the Thursday Murder Club series."

—Di Herald, Mesa County Libraries, Grand Junction, CO

NoveList read-alike:  
The Old Woman with the Knife by Gu Byeong-mo, translated by Chi-Yong Kim

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**Lucy By The Sea**  
A Novel  
by Elizabeth Strout  
(Random House)

"In March 2020, the pandemic forces Lucy Barton to move from Manhattan to a small town in Maine with her ex-husband William. Once she gets over the shock of this unexpected uprooting, Lucy reconnects with William as they navigate this period of isolation and fear together. While those familiar with Lucy from previous books will enjoy seeing her mature, this story also stands alone for new readers."

—Nancy Eggert, Chicago Public Library, Chicago, IL

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

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Find out more at www.LibraryReads.org