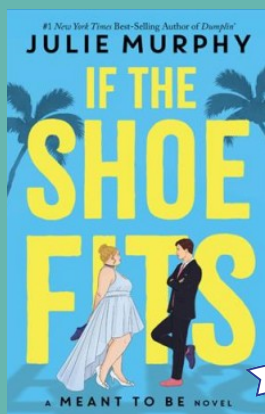


If the Shoe Fits

A Meant To Be Novel
by Julie Murphy
(Hyperion Avenue)

"Low on job prospects, fashion school grad Cindy moves in with her stepmom, a reality show producer. When a spot opens up in the Bachelor-style series, Cindy seizes the chance to get nationwide exposure for her designs. The last thing she expects is to find love. A Cinderella-inspired romance with a plus-sized heroine and a multicultural cast. For fans of *Red, White, & Royal Blue*, *The Hating Game*, and *Dumplin'*."

—Eva Thompson, Metropolitan Library System, Oklahoma City, OK
NovelList read-alike: *One to Watch* by Kate Stayman-London



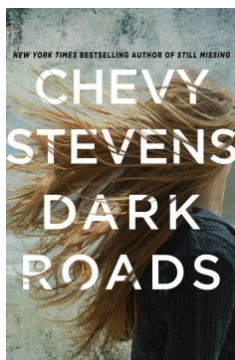
August 2021 - The top ten books published this month that library staff across the country love.



Battle Royal
A Novel
by Lucy Parker
(Avon)

"Sylvie and Dominic met during a baking competition when her unicorn cake kicked him in the face. Now they're both in the running to bake the royal wedding cake. A slow burn, enemies-to-lovers romance with witty banter and fantastic secondary characters. For fans of 99 Percent Mine and The Ex Talk."

—Laura Eckert, Clermont County Public Library, Milford, OH
NovelList read-alike: *Rosaline Palmer Takes the Cake* by Alexis Hall



Dark Roads
A Novel
by Chevy Stevens
(St. Martin's Press)

"Stevens often writes about the outdoors, but this one is really steeped in survival. Vanishing travelers and serial murders along a wilderness highway bring the sister of one victim to town for a memorial. There are the requisite fast-paced thrills, and a small town packed with secrets and fear. For fans of *The River* and *A Gathering of Secrets*."

—Cari Dubiel, Twinsburg Public Library, Twinsburg, OH
NovelList read-alike: *Survive the Night* by Riley Sager



The Last Chance Library
by Freya Sampson
(Berkley)

"June is stuck. After her mom dies, she continues to live quietly in her mother's house and work in the library where her mother worked. When the library is threatened, she finds a new purpose, saving it and finding so much more. This one is full of heart, humor, and love of literature. For fans of *The Authenticity Project* and *How To Find Love in a Bookshop*."

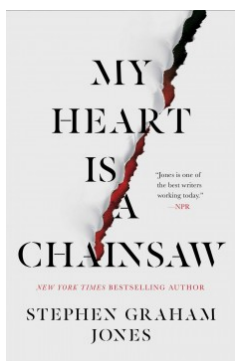
—Shari Suarez, Genesee District Library-Johnson Branch, Genesee, MI
NovelList read-alike: *The Library at the Edge of the World* by Felicity Hayes-McCoy



Mrs. March
A Novel
by Virginia Feito
(Liveright)

"Mrs. March has a lovely apartment, a famous author husband, and a life of luxury. Her husband's new novel features an unlikeable, sordid woman. Mrs. March is horrified when people assume the character is based on her. Her stability fractures, and the reader is caught between paranoia and reality. An excellent character study for fans of *Tangerine* and *The Other Typist*."

—Sandra Heitzman, Forest Park Public Library, Forest Park, IL
NovelList read-alike: *The Wife* by Alafair Burke



My Heart is a Chainsaw
by Stephen Graham Jones
(Gallery/Saga Press)

"Jade's convinced her passion for slasher films is not obsession, but preparation. When strange things start occurring in town, she's sure a massacre is imminent—and she's ready to play her role to perfection. A highly stylized delight for horror movie buffs and fans of *The Final Girl Support Group*."

—Sharon Layburn, South Huntington Public Library, Huntington Station, NY
NovelList read-alike: *Final Girls* by Riley Sager



The Reading List
A Novel
by Sara Nisha Adams
(William Morrow)

"A list of recommended classics helps a widower spark a friendship with a teen librarian dealing with overwhelming family issues. An uplifting tearjerker about libraries and the books that touch our soul. For fans of *Ellie and the Harpmaker* and *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine*."

—Kimberly McGee, Lake Travis Public Library, Austin, TX
NovelList read-alike: *The Missing Treasures of Amy Ashton* by Eleanor Ray



The Royals Next Door
by Karina Halle
(Berkley Jove)

"After a prince and princess move to her British Columbia town, a local teacher falls for their grumpy bodyguard. This charming romantic comedy is unexpectedly moving and features deep and layered characters. Perfect for fans of *The Royal We* and *Royal Holiday*."

—Janet Schneider, Peninsula Public Library, Lawrence, NY
NovelList read-alike: *Incense and Sensibility* by Sonali Dev



A Slow Fire Burning
A Novel
by Paula Hawkins
(Riverhead Books)

"A brutal crime is committed on a London houseboat, and numerous friends, family, neighbors, and lovers seem to have a motive for the fatal stabbing. As the number of suspects grows, the lies begin to unravel in what promises to be a hit summer read. For fans of Shari Lapena and Mary Kubica."

—KC Davis, Fairfield Woods Library, Fairfield, CT
NovelList read-alike: *Dark Tide* by Elizabeth Haynes



Yours Cheerfully
A Novel
by AJ Pearce
(Scribner)

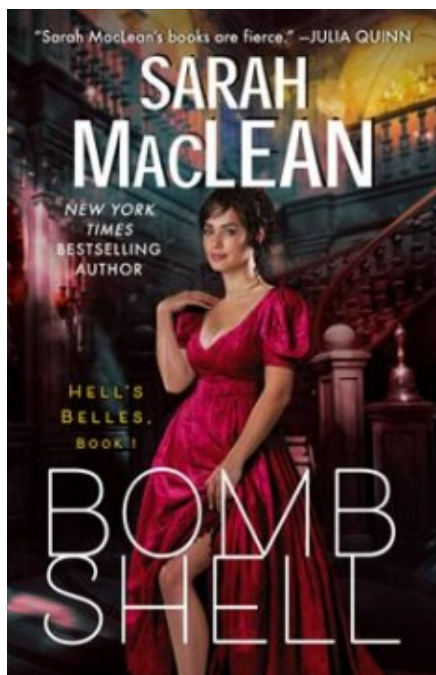
"Fans of *Dear Mrs. Bird* will cheer Emmy Lake's return as a young advice columnist in wartime London. A chance meeting leads to Emmy visiting a munitions factory where she learns about the struggles of the women working there. A wonderful, well-told story for fans of Lissa Evans and Jojo Moyes."

—Brenda O'Brien, Woodridge Public Library, Woodridge, IL
NovelList read-alike: *The Chilbury Ladies' Choir* by Jennifer L. Ryan



AUGUST 2021

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.



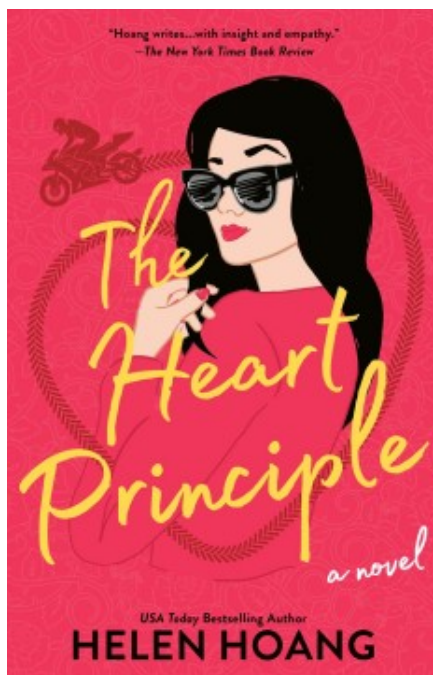
Bombshell

A Hell's Belles Novel
by Sarah MacLean
(Avon)

"Scandalous Sesily Talbot has always longed for her sister's friend, American Caleb Calhoun, but he has never shown her anything but disdain. But after one of her midnight trysts goes awry, he has to keep her out of trouble and they can no longer deny their mutual attraction. MacLean does dialogue with the best of them, and I love to see a group of women standing up for other women!"

—Diana Platt, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, MO

NovelList read-alike: *Someone Wontan His Way Comes*
by Christi Caldwell



The Heart Principle

by Helen Hoang
(Berkley)

"Anna is a violinist plagued by anxiety after one of her performances goes viral. When her boyfriend decides he wants to try an open relationship, she meets Quan, a handsome bad-boy type who seems perfect for a one-night stand. But Anna soon realizes that there's a lot more to Quan than tattoos and a leather jacket. Hoang's signature elements are here: thoughtful portrayals of neurodiversity and disability, lots of sexual tension (and scorching love scenes), and realistic characters. For fans of Talia Hibbert."

—Nanette Donohue, Champaign Public Library, Champaign, IL

NovelList read-alike: *Happy Endings* by Thien-Kim Lam



Velvet Was the Night

by Silvia Moreno-Garcia
(Del Rey)

"In 1970s Mexico City, secret police were used as 'the Hawks,' a group of young thugs who roughed up journalists who attended university student protests. Moreno-Garcia masterfully weaves this story with that of a young woman pushing thirty, unlucky in love, but always an incurable romantic. Beautifully written with an imaginative plot. For readers who enjoyed *Above the East China Sea* and *Someone Else's Love Story*."

—Donna Ballard, East Meadow Public Library,
East Meadow, NY

NovelList read-alike: *November Road* by Louis Berney