



TOP PICK

How to Fail at Flirting by Denise Williams

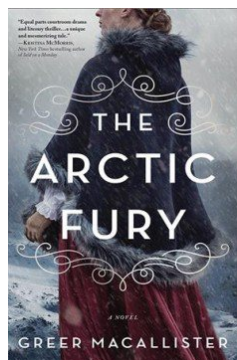
(Berkley Jove)

"Naya, a straight-laced professor, meets charismatic Jake at a bar. He might check off one item on Naya's boundary-pushing to-do list—if only he wasn't in charge of defunding her department at the university. How can they balance a relationship and a professional career? For fans of *The Kiss Quotient*, *The Wedding Date*, and *The Hating Game*."

—Kari Bingham-Gutierrez, Olathe Public Library, Olathe, KS
NovelList read-alike: *The Trouble with Hating You* by Sajni Patel



December 2020 - The top ten books published this month that library staff across the country love.



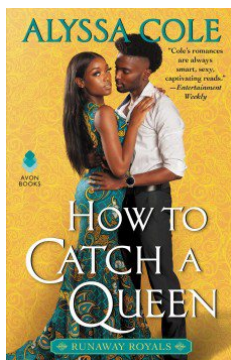
The Arctic Fury

A Novel
by Greer Macallister

(Sourcebooks Landmark)

"Virginia Reeve is a take-no-prisoners adventurer and trail guide when she's asked by a mysterious benefactor to lead a group of 12 women to find the lost captain of the shipwrecked vessel 'The Franklin.' Not for the squeamish or easily offended, this thrilling read is recommended for those who enjoyed *Into the Wild* and *In the Kingdom of Ice*."

—Joy Matteson, Downers Grove Public Library, Downers Grove, IL
NovelList read-alike: *The North Water* by Ian McGuire



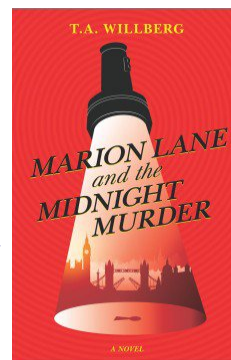
How to Catch a Queen

Runaway Royals
by Alyssa Cole

(Avon)

"Shanti and Sanyu are in an arranged marriage, thrown together as his father the King lays dying. As they begin to work together to better the kingdom, they grow closer. Cole weaves humor into the storyline in a way that does not undercut the themes of political action, equity, and adaptation. And as always, Cole's female characters are driven, smart, sexy, and savvy. For fans of Talia Hibbert and Alexa Martin."

—Sarah Skrobis, Staunton Public Library, Staunton, VA
NovelList read-alike: *The Betting Vow* by K.M. Jackson



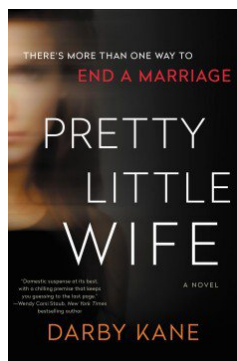
Marion Lane and the Midnight Murder

A Novel
by T. A. Willberg

(Park Row)

"Marion is a new recruit of a detective agency that works undercover and under the streets of London. When she gets involved in investigating the death of one of their own agents, she is not sure who she can trust, or what forces are working against her. This is a great start to a new series that is perfect for Agatha Christie and Harry Potter fans alike."

—Sharon Layburn, South Huntington Public Library, Huntington Station, NY
NovelList read-alike: *Girl Waits With Gun* by Amy Stewart



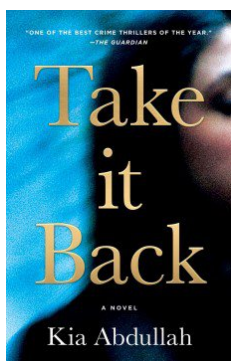
Pretty Little Wife

A Novel
by Darby Kane

(William Morrow Paperbacks)

"When Aaron doesn't show up for work and no one hears from him, an unofficial investigation begins. What secrets is Lila, his beautiful wife, keeping? The more the police discover, the more questions they have. A thriller for fans of *Gone Girl* and *The Last Mrs. Parrish*."

—Chris Markley, Kingsport Public Library, Kingsport, TN
NovelList read-alike: *No One Knows* by J.T. Ellison



Take It Back

A Novel
by Kia Abdullah

(St. Martin's Press)

"Jodie, a teen with facial deformities, accuses four Muslim boys of raping her after a party. Jodie's mom, her best friend, and her classmates don't believe her. The only one who believes her is Zara Kaleel, a former high powered attorney who now works as a sexual assault advocate. For fans of *The Holdout* and *Night Swim*."

—Yvonne Selander, Somerset County Public Library, Bridgewater, NJ
NovelList read-alike: *Miracle Creek* by Angie Kim



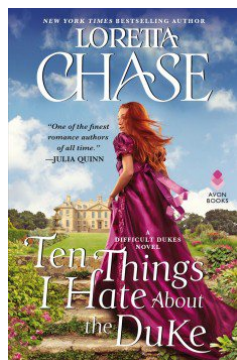
Ten Rules for Faking It

by Sophie Sullivan

(St. Martin's Griffin)

"Anxious Evelyn becomes a sudden podcast star and the romance she was sure was a one-way street, maybe isn't anymore. She can't let her nerves get in the way of happiness. Did I mention that the leading man is completely swoony? For readers who enjoyed *The Roommate*."

—Emily Flynn, Berkeley County Library System, Summerville, SC
NovelList read-alike: *Girl Gone Viral* by Alisha Rai



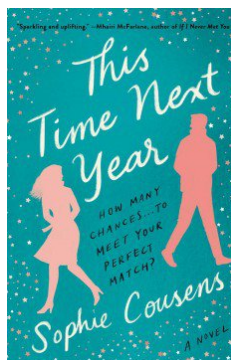
Ten Things I Hate About the Duke

A Difficult Dukes Novel
by Loretta Chase

(Avon)

"In the second book of the Difficult Dukes series, Cassandra Pomfret has a reputation for having strong opinions and not keeping them to herself. Lucius, the Duke of Ashmont, is a devastatingly handsome trouble maker. Let the battle of wills begin. For readers who enjoyed *The Rules of Scoundrels* series or the *Bow Street Bachelors* series."

—Jessica McGee, Red Wing Public Library, Red Wing, MN
NovelList read-alike: *The Untamed Earl* by Valerie Bowman



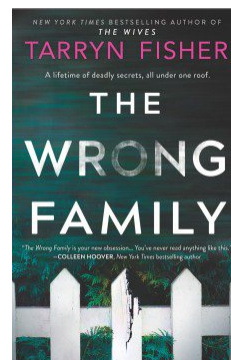
This Time Next Year

by Sophie Cousens

(Putnam)

"Minnie Cooper and Quinn Hamilton were born in the same hospital on January 1, 1990. After a series of missed connections, they are about to meet again on New Year's Day 2020. *This Time Next Year* hits the perfect note for readers who enjoyed *Bridget Jones' Diary* and the original *Shopaholic*."

—Janet Schneider, Peninsula Public Library, Lawrence, NY
NovelList read-alike: *One Day in December* by Josie Silver



The Wrong Family

A Thriller
by Tarryn Fisher

(Graydon House)

"The Crouches—Winnie, Nigel, and their teenage son Samuel—are perfect on the outside. In reality, Winnie is controlling, Nigel is tuned out, and confused Samuel is trying to forge his own identity. Juno, a former therapist who has become attracted to the Crouches, gets caught up in their family drama and takes the story in a surprising direction. For fans of Ruth Ware and B. A. Paris."

—Connie Laing, Great River Regional Library, St. Cloud, MN
NovelList read-alike: *Goodnight Beautiful* by Aimee Molloy

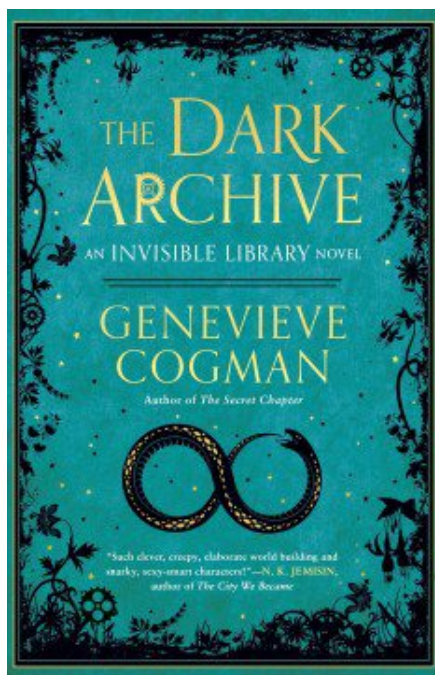
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DECEMBER 2020

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.

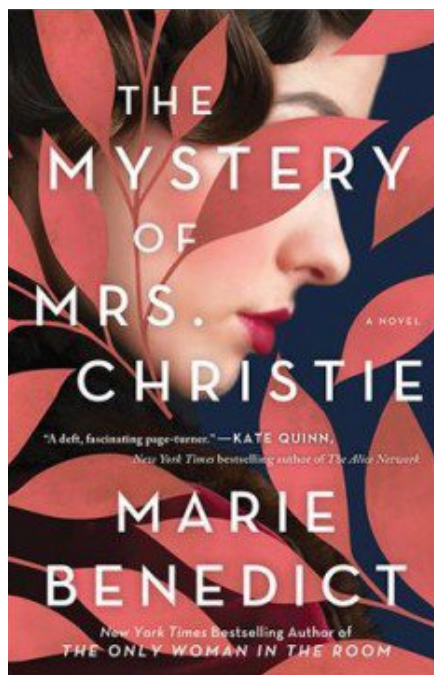


The Dark Archive
by Genevieve Cogman
(Ace)

"Time-traveling librarian/spy Irene Winters is having a week: dodging assassins, training a Fae intern, and contending with her dragon lover's meddling brother. Colorful characters, a lightning pace, and a surprising revelation will please fans of Cogman's *Invisible Library* series."

—Lucy Lockley, St. Charles City County Library, St. Peters, MO

Read-alike: *A Darker Shade of Magic* by V.E. Schwab
Read-alike: *The Library of the Unwritten* by A.J. Hackwith
Read-alike: *Ex Libris: Stories of Librarians, Libraries, and Lore* edited by Paula Guran

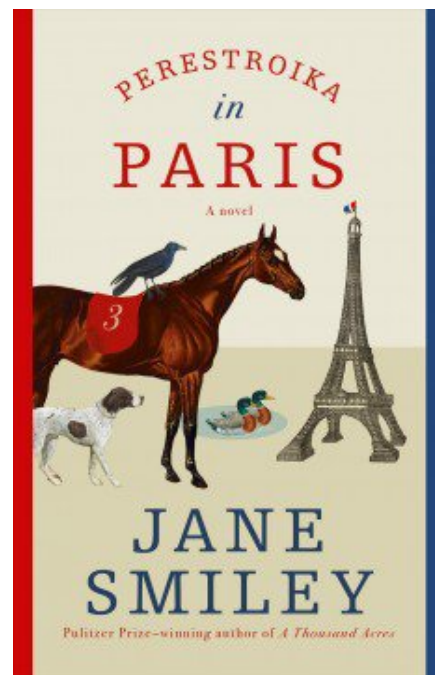


The Mystery of Mrs. Christie
A Novel
Marie Benedict
(Sourcebooks Landmark)

"Taking the 11 days that Agatha Christie went missing in the 1920s and adding a fictional twist, Benedict produces this gem of a historical novel with psychological thriller overtones. This novel appeals on so many levels; there is much to love and discuss here."

—Douglas Beatty, Baltimore County Public Library, Baltimore, MD

Read-alike: *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* by Fiona Davis
Read-alike: *The Satapur Moonstone* by Sujata Massey
Read-alike: *And Now She's Gone* by Rachel Howzell Hall



Perestroika in Paris
A Novel
by Jane Smiley
(Knopf)

"Smiley writes the perfect book to help you escape: Like *Charlotte's Web* for grown-ups (but no spiders die!). Lovable, charming animals—an adventurous racehorse, a lonely dog, a know-it-all raven, a pair of ducks—interact with one another and with the compassionate humans they encounter in the City of Lights."

—Nancy Wiseman, Carmel Clay Public Library, Carmel, IN

Read-alike: *The Life of Pi* by Yann Martel
Read-alike: *Sirius* by Jonathan Crown
Read-alike: *A Dog's Life* by Peter Mayle