March 2023: The top ten books published this month that library staff across the country love.

All That Is Mine I Carry With Me: A Novel by William Landay

“​​The Larkin siblings face years of sadness and questions after their mother disappears. Many speculate their father killed her, but he’s always maintained his innocence. What is the truth? The story spans several decades and features multiple narrators, including the mother. The characters are deftly explored and are very raw and real. For readers of suspenseful fiction and family dramas.”

—Cyndi Larsen, Avon Free Public Library, Avon, CT
NoveList read-alike: It’s One of Us by J.T. Ellison

Hang the Moon: A Novel by Jeannette Walls

“Walls’ latest coming-of-age novel about love, loss, and the grey areas of the law is set in Prohibition-era small-town Virginia. This is a must-read for anyone who craves fiction that has unforgettable characters, a relatively quick pace, and well-researched background. For fans of Sue Monk Kidd and Kaye Gibbons.”

—Jennifer Schultz, Fauquier Public Library, Warrenton, VA
NoveList read-alike: Over the Fence by Mary B. Monrooe

The London Séance Society: A Novel by Sarah Penner

“Lenna Wickes came to Paris in 1873 to apprentice for Vaudeline D’Alaire, a renowned spiritualist. Vaudeline is called back to the London Seance Society. Lenna joins her to find out who murdered her sister Evie. Can they figure out what happened before they wind up dead too? Penner clearly researched the spiritualism movement of the Victorian era and spars a suspenseful tale.”

—Shari Suarez, GDL-Johnson Memorial, Geneseo, MI
NoveList read-alike: A Dreadful Splendor by B.R. Myers

Clytemnestra: A Novel by Costanza Casati

“This triumphant retelling of Greek legend traces Clytemnestra’s life through her childhood in warring Sparta to her marriage and the end of the Trojan War. Casati fully fleshes out the mythical queen’s character—fierce and unyielding but also soft and mournful. For readers of Miller’s historical fiction.”

—Megen Hill, Braswell Memorial Library, Rocky Mount, NC
NoveList read-alike: Elektra by Jennifer Saint

Hello Beautiful: A Novel by Ann Napolitano

“A man’s tragic past and the intersection of his relationship with the sisters of the Padavano family is at the heart of this story. Napolitano skillfully creates a believable narrative to show the effects of trauma, depression, and broken relationships on those around us. The novel has a hopeful message that is full of love.”

—Michelle Williams, Carlsbad City Library, Carlsbad, CA
NoveList read-alike: Ask Again, Yes by Mary Beth Keane

The Secret Lives of Country Gentlemen by KJ Charles

“This poignant romance is an absolute joy! The story incorporates Joss’s identity as a bisexual man, which doesn’t make it a hurdle that the romance has to surmount. Gareth’s understanding of himself, and his honesty, was really refreshing to read in a Regency. And it has been far too long since there was a layered gay/smuggler romance.”

—Donatalla McPherson-Joseph, Oak Park Public Library, Oak Park, IL
NoveList read-alike: Soldier’s Scoundrel by Cat Sebastian

The Gospel of Orla by Eoghan Walls

“Orla manages the best she can with a little sister and an alcoholic dad, but she misses her mother, who died too soon. When she meets a man who seems to have the power of resurrection, she plans to bring him to her mother’s grave, beginning a heartbreaking journey into adulthood and acceptance. Readers of this lyrical debut will wish spunky Orla all the best.”

—Katharine Phenix, Boulder Public Library, Boulder, CO
NoveList read-alike: Washington Black by Esi Edugyan

A House With Good Bones by T. Kingfisher

“Readers should eagerly await this phenomenal book. It’s deliciously creepy with a shocking twist, but also has incredibly sweet family dynamics (not including the haunting grandmother), an excellent level of humor to balance the tension, and, as a former archaeologist, I can say it has one of the best fictional portrayals of an archaeologist that I’ve come across.”

—Matthew Galloway, Anythink Libraries, Thornton, CO
NoveList read-alike: How to Sell a Haunted House by Grady Hendrix

Weyward: A Novel by Emilia Hart

“Men are always trying to dominate the Weyward women, but they always fail, because the Weyward women can call birds to their aid. This matriarchal clan of witches is almost broken until Kate, who stars in the most frightening and creepy stories in this collection, steps up. Margaret Atwood meets Margaret Atwood in an unflinching feminist fantasy that is boiling over with rage and loaded with empowerment.”

—Jill Minor, Washington County Library, Abingdon, VA
NoveList read-alike: Hester by Laurie Lico Albanese

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Loyalty: A Novel
by Lisa Scottoline
(G.P. Putnam's Sons)

"Franco Fiorvanti dreams of owning his own lemon grove. Determined to secure a better future, he will do anything to prove his loyalty to the baron. When asked to kidnap a little boy, Franco makes a decision that changes his life and alters Sicily forever. It takes a bit for the main characters to come together but this quickly becomes an emotional, action-packed epic of love and justice, set during the rise of the Mafia."

—Karen Troutman, Peru Public Library, Peru, IN
NovelList read-alike: The Florios of Sicily by Stefania Auci

The Kind Worth Saving
by Peter Swanson
(William Morrow)

"Henry Kimball is back—dismissed from his police job and working as a private investigator. Client Joan hires Henry to investigate her cheating husband, but as he pieces together past events, he starts to realize something else may be going on. The ending provides new insight and depth into Henry's life and relationships with lots of twists and turns for mystery readers to enjoy."

—Cari Dubiel, Twinsburg Public Library, Twinsburg, OH
NovelList read-alike: The Golden Couple by Greer Hendricks

The Mostly True Story of Tanner & Louise
by Colleen Oakley
(Berkley)

"After a freak accident derails Tanner’s college soccer career, she moves in with Louise, an older woman whose family thinks she needs a caregiver. But there’s more to Louise than Tanner expects—and when Louise’s past comes to light, the two go on the lam. Great for fans of lively intergenerational fiction and A Thousand Miles to Graceland."

—Nanette Donohue, Champaign Public Library, Champaign, IL
NovelList read-alike: The Summer Seekers by Sarah Morgan

Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers
by Jesse Q Sutanto
(Berkley)

"Written with wickedly sharp humor and a tightly woven plot, the book is also about the hurt that families can give and the unexpected joys of found-family. Vera is a delight as she bosses everyone around, investigating her main suspects even as she weaves bonds of friendship with and between them. Also the descriptions of the tea and food were mouthwateringly delicious!"

—Laura Eckert, Clermont County Public Library, Milford, OH
NovelList read-alike: Aunty Lee's Delights by Ovidia Yu

What Have We Done: A Novel
by Alex Finlay
(Minotaur Books)

"One night, five teenagers who grew up together in a group home commit a murder and take off into the rest of their lives. Twenty years later, they each face an assassin sent to kill them. Now the race is on to figure out who is behind the killers. This was a fantastic roller-coaster of a thriller with lots of twists and turns."

—Linda Quinn, Fairfield Public Library, Fairfield, CT
NovelList read-alike: The Lying Game by Ruth Ware

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