July 2023
The Top Ten Adult Fiction and Nonfiction
Chosen Monthly by America's Library Staff

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Dead of Winter
Darcy Coates
(Pamela Dorman Books)
Ten strangers are trapped in a cabin during a blizzard. None will be lucky enough to die of hypothermia, though, since a murderer is methodically dispatching all who are trapped in the house. Short chapters and constant cliffhangers keep the action moving propulsively in this gore-filled thriller.

—Sarah Walker, Indianapolis Public Library
NoveList read-alike: They All Fall Down
by Rachel Howzell Hall

The Block Party
Jamie Day
(St. Martin’s Press)
What would happen if the women of Desperate Housewives held a block party that resulted in a murder? The answer would be something like this thriller, a quick read with the gossipy twists and turns of a residential neighborhood full of its fair share of betrayals and suspects.

—Mary Robinson, Vernon Area Public Library Dist., IL
NoveList read-alike: Cul-De-Sac by Joy Fielding

The Librarianist
Patrick deWitt
(Ecco)
Retired librarian Bob lives alone—no friends, no family—and dwells on the time long ago when he was jilted by his bride on their wedding day at the local market, an encounter with an older woman in the frozen food aisle changes his melancholy existence. This is a quiet and compelling character-focused read.

—Crystal Fars, Kansas City Public Library, MO
NoveList read-alike: The Authenticity Project by Claire Pooley

A Rulebook for Restless Rogues
Jess Everlee
(Sourcebooks/LaRenequin)
In 1885 London, Noah is a confident, talented tailor. His best friend David runs The Curious Fox, an underground queer club. When the club’s future is threatened, the two team up to save it amid miscommunication, withheld secrets, and mutual pining. This delightful romp is swoony and sweet.

—Dabney Kinser, Middle Georgia Regional Library, GA
NoveList read-alike: The Queer Principles of Kit Webb
by Cat Sebastian

A Lady’s Guide to Scandal
Sophie Irving
(Penguin Books)
At 28, widow Eliza Balfour is the dowager Lady Somerset, and plans to enjoy her wealth and title. How Eliza relates to the people around her and how her changes are wonderfully nuanced and satisfying. Irving’s story forges its own path with liveliness and an attention to a wider scope of high society. Highly recommended to fans of historical romance.

—Allison Smith, Minuteman Library Network, MA
NoveList read-alike: To Swain and To Spar by Martha Waters

One Summer in Savannah
Terah Shelton Harris
(Sourcebooks/Landmark)
This story about forgiveness and family is told from the dual perspectives of Sara, who has not been back to Savannah since she discovered she was pregnant with her rapist’s child, and Jacob, the twin brother of Sara’s rapist who discovers his niece at the Science Center. As the story progresses, Sara and Jacob form a bond complicated by their connection.

—Allison Zaya, Pollard Memorial Library, MA
NoveList read-alike: You Made a Foul of Death with Your Beauty by Akwaeke Emezi

The Parrot and the Igloo: Climate and the Science of Denial
David Lipsky
(W.W. Norton)
A reimagined Cinderella tale with the political intrigue and violence of Game of Thrones. Lady Aislinn is a revolutionary hiding behind the cover of the meek beautiful girl the prince fell in love with at the ball. Her plan might work except for the bandit that is now on the loose, the captive prince who gets under her skin, and her conniving stepmother.

—Kimberly McGee, Lake Travis Community Library, TX
NoveList read-alike: Uprooted by Naomi Novik

Bonus pick:
Excavations: A Novel
Hannah Michell
(One World)

Notable Nonfiction:
The Librarianist: Climate and the Science of Denial
David Lipsky
(W.W. Norton)

See our social media for annotations of these bonus picks!

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The LibraryReads Hall of Fame designation honors authors who have had multiple titles appear on the monthly list since 2013.

**July 2023**

**HALL OF FAME TITLES**

**HALL OF FAME AUTHORS**

**Light Bringer: A Red Rising Novel**
Pierce Brown (Del Rey Books)

NoveList readalike: *Some Desperate Glory* by Emily Tesch

**Hello, Stranger**
Katherine Center (St. Martin’s Press)

NoveList readalike: *The Life Lucy Knew* by Karma Brown

**A Twisted Love Story**
Downing, Samantha (Berkley)

NoveList readalike: *The Woman Inside* by E.G. Scott

**The Summer Girl**
Elle Kennedy (St. Martin’s Griffin)

NoveList readalike: *Bellinger Sisters series* by Tessa Bailey

**Prom Mom: A Novel**
Laura Lippman (William Morrow)

NoveList readalike: *Darling Rose Gold* by Stephanie Wrobel

**Silver Nitrate**
Silvia Moreno-Garcia (Del Rey)

NoveList readalike: *The Remaking* by Clay McLeod Chapman

**Business or Pleasure**
Rachel Lynn Solomon (Berkley)

NoveList readalike: *Bet on It* by Jodie Slaughter

**Crook Manifesto: A Novel**
Colson Whitehead (Doubleday)

NoveList readalike: *Trouble the Saints* by Alaya Dawn Johnson

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