



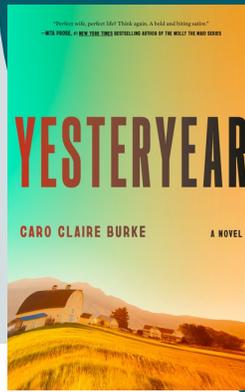
April 2026

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

Find out more at [www.LibraryReads.org](http://www.LibraryReads.org)

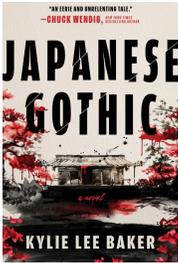


**Yesteryear: A Novel**  
Caro Claire Burke (Knopf)



Natalie is an influencer with a seemingly perfect life: perfect children, perfect husband, and a perfectly beautiful Idaho farm. Never mind the workers who actually run the farm, the nannies who care for the children. And never mind the women online who are jealous that Natalie can afford to be a trad wife who serves her family and, most importantly, her God. Natalie wakes one morning in her house...except it's not. Electricity has been replaced by a fire, her children are dirty, and her husband is old and gruff. Where are the hidden cameras? Where is her real family? Creative, mind-bending, and incredibly well-written, this one is sure to be a blockbuster.

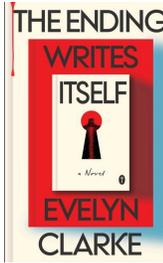
—Jenny Davies, Oak Creek Public Library, WI  
Novelist read-alike: *The Influencers* by Anna-Marie McLemore



**Japanese Gothic**  
Kylie Lee Baker (Hanover Square)

A troubled young man in 2026 begins communicating with the ghost of a female samurai from 1877 when he visits his father's new home in Japan. Both hold bloody secrets. A gory and suspenseful horror read that combines lyrical, dream-like writing with a compelling story of past meeting present.

—Mara Bandy Fass, Champaign Public Library, IL  
Novelist read-alike: *The Fervor* by Alma Katsu



**The Ending Writes Itself**  
Evelyn Clarke (Harper)

An oft-used trope—people lured to a remote island, then cut off from the outside world—gets a new life. Six writers, following the death of their famous host, must compete to finish his final manuscript for a massive payday. While hesitant at first, the competition soon becomes intense, no one is quite who they seem to be, and death stalks the halls. A wonderfully twisty mystery and a wickedly satirical look at the world of publishing.

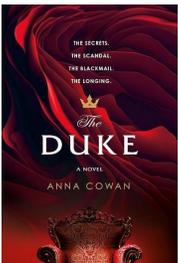
—Beth Mills, New Rochelle Public Library, NY  
Novelist read-alike: *You Are Fatally Invited* by Ande Pliege



**Thistlemarsh**  
Moorea Corrigan (Berkley)

WWI nurse Mouse receives notice that she is next in line to inherit the Faerie-blessed Thistlemarsh Hall in the English countryside. But she must do the impossible: fix the crumbling manor in just one month with the surprise aid of a handsome Faerie who can help defeat the magic protecting the manor. Fantastic atmospheric style, world-building elements, and sympathetic characters.

—Kristin Skinner, Flat River Community Library, MI  
Novelist read-alike: *The Cottaging Secret* by Hazel Gaynor



**The Duke**  
Anna Cowan (St. Martin's Griffin)

The romance between Celine and Kate is fraught with obstacles (mostly themselves) and the secret they are keeping from the ton: that Celine is a courtesan who is blackmailing Kate, a member of the House of Lords. A traditional historical full of yearning and intrigue, this is what every Sapphic Regency reader has been waiting for.

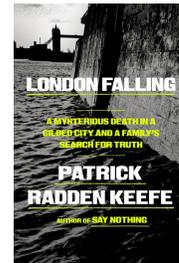
—Dontaná M., Oak Park Public Library, IL  
Novelist read-alike: *A Lady for All Seasons* by T.J. Alexander



**Start at the End**  
Emma Grey (Zibby Publishing)

A thoughtful, emotionally resonant novel that will appeal to readers who enjoy stories about love, loss, and new beginnings. This "sliding-doors" story balances tenderness and hope, offering a meaningful reading experience that lingers after the final page. An excellent choice for patrons who enjoy contemporary literary fiction and book club-worthy reads.

—Janie Hermann, Princeton Public Library, NJ  
Novelist read-alike: *What Might Have Been* by Holly Miller



**London Falling: A Mysterious Death in a Gilded City and a Family's Search for Truth**  
Patrick Radden Keefe (Doubleday)

In 2019, the lifeless body of teenager Zac Brettler was discovered in the Thames River. Police conclude that Zac was suicidal, but his parents believe that something more nefarious led to his death, and discover he was caught up with gangsters and criminals. Compelling narrative non-fiction that's deeply intimate and unnerving.

—KC Davis, LibraryReads Ambassador, CT  
Novelist read-alike: *Butler to the World* by Oliver Bullough



**Molka**  
Monika Kim (Erewhon Books)

Dahye finds herself in a relationship with a rich, handsome man. But when a video scandal involving the two erupts, he flees Korea, leaving Dahye alone. When she realizes the extent of the betrayal, she seeks a terrible bloody revenge. An unapologetic dive into female rage, exploitation, misogyny, and powerlessness.

—Lila Denning, St. Petersburg Library System, FL  
Novelist read-alike: *My Sister, The Serial Killer* by Oyinkan Braithwaite



**The Caretaker**  
Marcus Kliewer (Atria/12:01 Books)

Macy thinks she's finally caught a break when she answers an ad for a weekend house-sitting gig that pays a ridiculous amount of money, even if it comes with some...unsettling instructions. Unsettling turns eerie, which turns to horrifying as Macy realizes—too late—this is one job that she should have never accepted. The chills ramp up fast and never stop in this page-turner horror novel.

—Sharon Layburn, South Huntington Public Library, NY  
Novelist read-alike: *The Spite House* by Johnny Compton

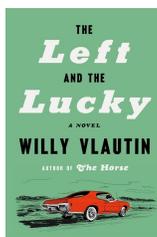


**Go Gentle: A Novel**  
Maria Semple (Putnam)

Adora is an Upper West Side philosopher who seems to have her life together. She practices stoicism, and it keeps her grounded and happy—until it doesn't. Who is the mysterious man who wants her to deliver a letter? What are her employers up to? How did she become a stoic? Readers follow along with Adora as she tries to find answers.

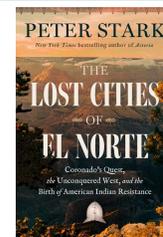
—Joan Hipp, LibraryReads Ambassador, NJ  
Novelist read-alike: *Crush* by Ada Calhoun

**Bonus pick:**



**The Left and the Lucky**  
Willy Vlautin (Harper)

**Notable Nonfiction:**



**The Lost Cities of El Norte: Coronado's Quest, the Unconquered West, and the Birth of American Indian Resistance**  
Peter Stark, (Mariner Books)

Be sure to check out our social media for the Bonus Pick annotations!



# April 2026 HALL OF FAME TITLES

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

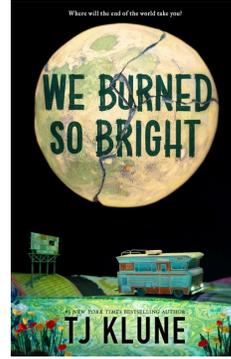
Find out more at [www.LibraryReads.org/HOF](http://www.LibraryReads.org/HOF)



*The Paris Match*  
Kate Clayborn  
(Berkley)



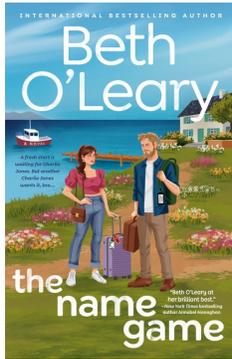
*Mad Mabel*  
Sally Hepworth  
(St. Martin's Press)



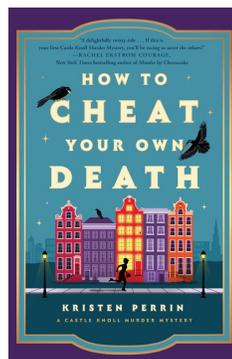
*We Burned So Bright*  
TJ Klune  
(Tor Books)



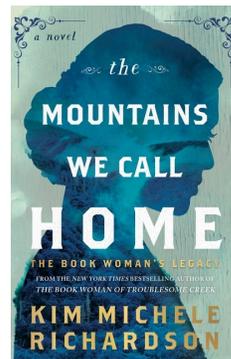
*Happy Ending*  
Chloe Liese  
(Gallery Books)



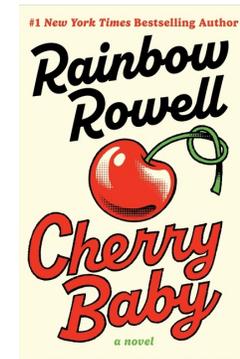
*The Name Game*  
Beth O'Leary  
(Berkley)



*How to Cheat Your Own Death: A Novel*  
Kristin Perrin  
(Dutton)



*The Mountains We Call Home: The Book Woman's Legacy*  
Kim Michele Richardson  
(Sourcebooks Landmark)



*Cherry Baby*  
Rainbow Rowell  
(William Morrow)



*The Book Witch*  
Meg Shaffer  
(Ballantine Books)



*American Fantasy*  
Emma Straub  
(Riverhead Books)