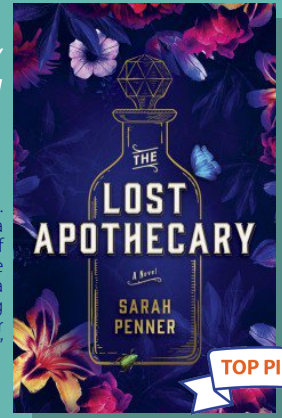




*The Lost Apothecary*  
A Novel  
by Sarah Penner  
(Park Row)

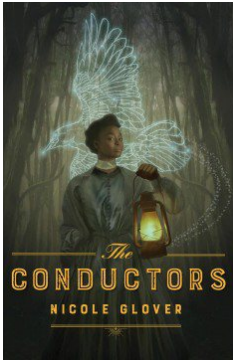
"Caroline travels alone to London after discovering her husband's betrayal. Looking for a distraction, she finds one while mudlarking along the Thames: a small glass vial. Inspired to research its origins, Caroline uncovers a dark tale of poison and murder in the 1700s, where an apothecary owner with a unique talent, a dark past, and a keen sense of revenge meets a young girl with a curiosity that might lead her astray. A stellar debut that balances two intriguing storylines and three wonderful characters to create one page-turning story. For fans of *The Clockmaker's Daughter*, *Once Upon a River*, and *The Essex Serpent*."

—Sharon Layburn, South Huntington Public Library, Huntington Station, NY  
Novelist read-alike: *The Weight of Ink* by Rachel Kadish



TOP PICK

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



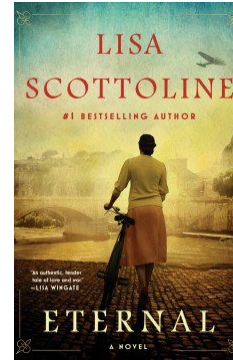
**The Conductors**  
by Nicole Glover  
(John Joseph Adams/  
Mariner Books)  
"Hetty and Benji meet as Underground Railroad conductors, settling in Pennsylvania where they're known for their celestial magic. Glover does an incredible job of world building in this supernatural mystery. Her cast is almost exclusively Black, and the characters are rich, with Hetty and Benji's relationship showcased as a lovely progression of romantic ideals. For readers of N. K. Jemisin and Victor LaValle."

—Rachel Reddick, Denver Public Library, Denver, CO  
Novelist read-alike: *Buffalo Soldier* by Maurice Broaddus



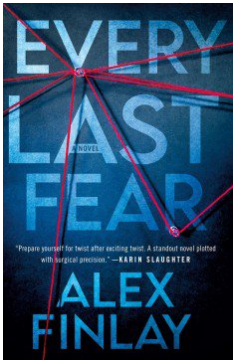
**The Dating Plan**  
by Sara Desai  
(Berkley Jove)  
"Daisy is shocked when she runs into Liam, who stood her up at her high school prom. To save her employer and Liam's family legacy, they must fake an engagement and marriage and not fall in love. A whirlwind of a romcom with South Asian American and Irish American families providing background drama and entertainment. Daisy and Liam are lovably imperfect in this quick escapist read. Give to readers who liked *Take a Hint*, *Dani Brown* and *The Right Swipe*."

—Laura Bonds, Harris County Public Library, Houston, TX  
Novelist read-alike: *Accidentally Engaged* by Farah Heron



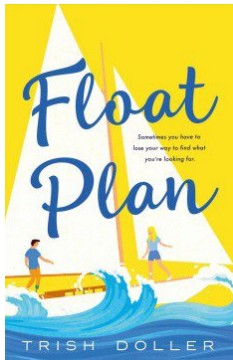
**Eternal**  
by Lisa Scottoline  
(G.P. Putnam's Sons)  
"Set in Italy during the Fascist regime and subsequent Nazi involvement, this historical fiction, a departure for the author, is a solid dose of history told through the lives and loves of characters, personally affected by the politics. The impact of decisions and the efforts of individuals to change the course of their country and their lives are vividly portrayed. Perfect for fans of *The Lilac Girls* and *The Nightingale*."

—Carol Tuttle, Willoughby-Eastlake Public Library, Willoughby, OH  
Novelist read-alike: *After the Party* by Cressida Connolly



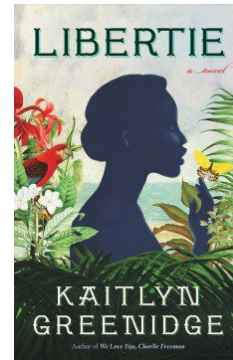
**Every Last Fear**  
A Novel  
by Alex Finlay  
(Minotaur Books)  
"This tightly plotted thriller changes perspective and travels through time to explore a family torn apart by tragedy. The arrest of the oldest Pine son for his girlfriend's murder rocked their small town, was the subject of a high profile true crime documentary, and is followed years later by an even greater tragedy. Could these events be connected? Who is really the murderer? A gripping novel for fans of Mary Kubica or Peter Swanson."

—Maggie Thomann, Northbrook Public Library, Northbrook, IL  
Novelist read-alike: *Dark Places* by Gillian Flynn



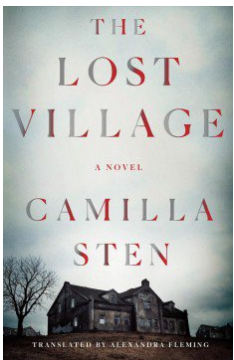
**Float Plan**  
by Trish Doller  
(St. Martin's Press)  
"After the death of her fiancé, Anna decides to complete the sailing voyage they had planned, alone. This is a heartfelt story of navigating through grief, and finding oneself and a new direction in life along the way. Good for fans of *Pretending and The Fifteen Wonders of Daniel Green*."

—Sandra Woodbury, Burlington Public Library, Burlington, MA  
Novelist read-alike: *Happy People Read and Drink Coffee* by Agnes Martin-Lugand



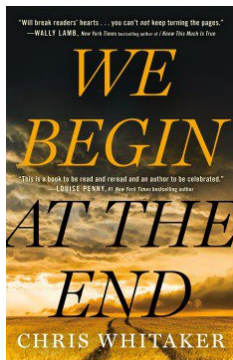
**Libertie**  
A Novel  
by Kaitlyn Greenidge  
(Algonquin Books)  
"Libertie is a Black girl living with her mother, a doctor who helps slaves in their run to freedom. Libertie thinks her mother is herself enslaved by her work, but after she marries and moves to the Caribbean, things seem less clear. For readers who enjoyed *Washington Black* and *Underground Railroad*."

—Marie Byars, Sno Isle Public Library, Oak Harbor, WA  
Novelist read-alike: *Jam on the Vine* by LaShonda K. Barnett



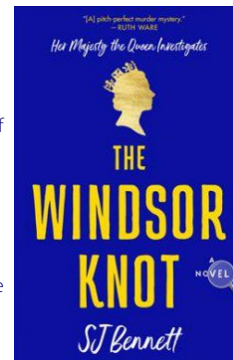
**The Lost Village**  
A Novel  
by Camilla Sten  
(Minotaur Books)  
"Set in a rural village in Sweden, where 800 inhabitants vanished in 1959, Alice and her crew set out to make a documentary about the mysterious event. The book weaves together the story of the current day documentarians with the story of the villagers of the past. For readers who enjoyed *Ghost Wall* and *Disappearing Earth*."

—Sandra Heitzman, Forest Park Public Library, Forest Park, IL  
Novelist read-alike: *The Burning Girls* by C. J. Tudor



**We Begin at the End**  
by Chris Whitaker  
(Henry Holt & Co.)  
"Compelling and heartbreaking, this story brings together two of the most compelling characters you may ever meet. Duchess Day Radley and Walk are bound together by uneasy threads, each compelled to dig in and survive, even as they try to move beyond their pasts and what seem to be their inevitable futures. For readers who enjoyed *The Good Daughter* and *The Roanoke Girls*."

—Jennifer Ohzourk, St. Louis Public Library, St. Louis, MO  
Novelist read-alike: *Valentine* by Elizabeth Wetmore



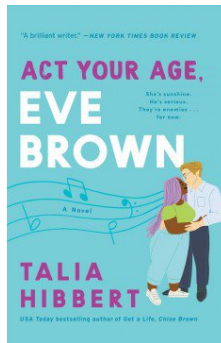
**The Windsor Knot**  
A Novel  
by SJ Bennett  
(William Morrow)  
"When a mysterious death occurs at Windsor Castle, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and Private Secretary Rozie must solve the case when MI5 and the police head in the wrong direction. A great cast of characters and a wonderful sense of setting make a fun and entertaining read. For readers who loved *Hope Never Dies* and *Tuesday Mooney Talks to Ghosts*."

—Jennifer Williams, Normal Public Library, Normal, IL  
Novelist read-alike: *Mrs. Queen Takes the Train* by William M. Kuhn



## MARCH 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.

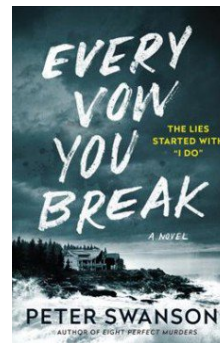


*Act Your Age, Eve Brown*  
A Novel  
by Talia Hibbert  
(Avon)

"Eve Brown thinks she's a failure, constantly flitting from one job to another. When her parents ask her to commit to something, she runs—and ends up in a charming B&B, where the uptight owner desperately needs her help. This is a sweet, funny love story about learning to appreciate yourself."

—Beth DeGeer, Bartlesville Public Library, Bartlesville, OK

Read-alike: *The Trouble Hating You* by Sajni Patel  
Read-alike: *The Worst Best Man* by Mia Sosa

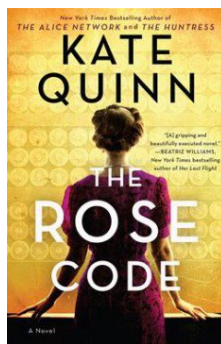


*Every Vow You Break*  
A Novel  
by Peter Swanson  
(William Morrow)

"Abigail deeply regrets succumbing to an illicit night with a stranger on the eve of her wedding. When her husband takes her to a mysterious island for a lavish honeymoon, she's shocked to see the man who seduced her. What follows is a horror story that will keep readers glued to the page."

—Paul Lane, Palm Beach County Public Library, Boca Raton, FL

Read-alike: *Something in the Water* by Catherine Steadman  
Read-alike: *Diary of a Stalker* by Electa Rome Parks

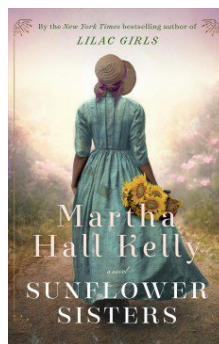


*The Rose Code*  
A Novel  
by Kate Quinn  
(William Morrow Paperbacks)

"Sophisticated Osla, ambitious Mab, and timid Beth become friends while working as codebreakers at Bletchley Park during World War II. The secrecy of their work has lasting effects on their lives. Years later, they are forced to forgive one another to unmask a traitor."

—Nanette Donohue, Champaign Public Library, Champaign, IL

Read-alike: *The Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly  
Read-alike: *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr



*Sunflower Sisters*  
A Novel  
by Martha Hall Kelly  
(Ballantine Books)

"Kelly ends her trilogy tracing *The Lilac Girls* protagonist Caroline Ferriday's family with a story centered in the Civil War era. Kelly weaves her careful research into a compelling novel with fascinating depth and a nod toward the impactful role of women throughout history."

—MarySue Waterman, Westport Library, Westport, CT

Read-alike: *Wench* by Dolen Perkins-Valdez  
Read-alike: *My Name is Mary Sutter* by Robin Oliveira



*Wild Sign*  
by Patricia Briggs  
(Ace)

"Mated werewolves Charles and Anna investigate a malevolent presence that has inexplicably made an entire community vanish in northern California. In this latest Alpha & Omega installment, Briggs again creates a vivid world where the commonplace and the supernatural reside together."

—Linda Tilden, Mount Laurel Public Library, Mount Laurel, NJ

Read-alike: *The Last Wolf* by Maria Vale  
Read-alike: *The Iron Hunt* by Marjorie M. Liu