



The Intimacy Experiment

by Rosie Danan

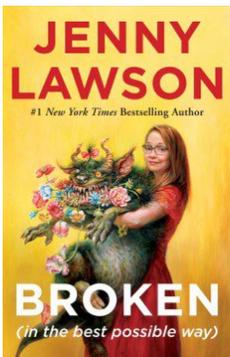
(Berkley Jove)

"Having built the Shameless platform to teach people how to find their own pleasure, Naomi wants to take that sex positivity to a lecture circuit, but no one will hire her. Enter Ethan, a young, handsome rabbi with a struggling synagogue. A seminar series on modern intimacy seems like a good way to build a sense of community and attract a younger congregation. What happens is their own lesson in intimacy, as two people passionate about their work and trying to make the world a better place sizzle with chemistry. Give to fans of *The Roommate*, *The Kiss Quotient*, and *Meet Cute*."

—Hebah Amin-Headley, Johnson County Public Library, Overland Park, KS
NovelList read-alike: *How to Fail at Flirting* by Denise Williams



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



Broken
(in the best possible way)
by Jenny Lawson

(Henry Holt & Co.)
"Lawson is a hot mess of depression and anxiety. She is also funny as hell. In this book she lays herself open. She celebrates all those awkward and difficult parts of herself and invites you to celebrate your own. She will make you laugh until you cry, and then she wraps up the episode with some profound truth that catches you unaware. For readers who like David Sedaris and Ali Wong."

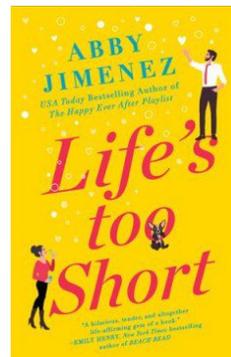
—Beth Morrill, Canton Public Library, Canton, CT
NovelList read-alike: *That's Mental: Painfully Funny Things That Drive Me Crazy About Being Mentally Ill* by Amanda Rosenberg



Dial A for Aunties
by Jesse Q. Sutanto
(Berkley)

"Meddy's blind date doesn't end as planned, and she now has a corpse to dispose of. Her mother's solution: call in the three aunts. What follows is a roller coaster ride of a weekend with the Chan family trying to get rid of the body while working at a high profile wedding. A fast-paced and darkly humorous debut with sweet romantic moments throughout. For fans of *My Sister, the Serial Killer* and *Get a Life, Chloe Brown*."

—Laura Eckert, Clermont County Public Library, Milford, OH
NovelList read-alike: *Vanessa Yu's Magical Paris Tea Shop* by Roselle Lim



Life's Too Short
by Abby Jimenez
(Forever)

"Jimenez hits it out of the park again. She combines real-world issues with the get-the-girl, lose-the-girl dynamics of a romance. In this case, Adrian has a good chance of losing Vanessa to ALS. They both have multiple family issues including a hoarding father, an abandoning parent, a sister with addiction issues, and a baby niece that needs attention. Give to fans of *Mia Sosa* and *Josie Silver*."

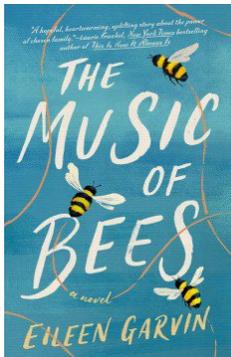
—Maggie Holmes, Richards Memorial Library, North Attleboro, MA
NovelList read-alike: *Love Walked In* by Marisa de los Santos



Malice
A Novel
by Heather Walter
(Del Rey)

"Alyce is the sole Dark Grace in Briar, a kingdom whose people love their Graces (the magical ladies who give them special elixirs). But Briar has a problem with their princesses: they die at 21 unless they kiss their one true love. Princess Aurora doesn't seem to be interested in any of the princes. This LGBTQ re-telling of *Sleeping Beauty* is creative and fun, with a perfect ending. For fans of *Spinning Silver* and *Gods of Jade and Shadow*."

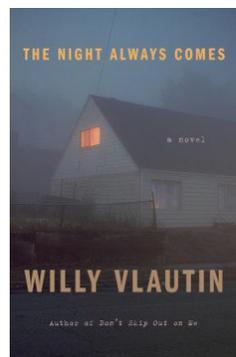
—Carrie Minthorne, Cedar Mill Library, Portland, OR
NovelList read-alike: *Tangleweed and Brine* by Deirdre Sullivan



The Music of Bees
A Novel
by Eileen Garvin
(Dutton)

"Beekeeper Alice is an older widow who is working to save her small town from big corporate greed. She forms an alliance with two young adults who both find unexpected joy in nature. For those who enjoyed *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine*."

—Paulette Brooks, Elm Grove Public Library, Elm Grove, WI
NovelList read-alike: *The Love Story of Missy Carmichael* by Beth Morrey



The Night Always Comes
A Novel
by Willy Vlautin
(Harper)

"Lynette is trying to buy the family home from her landlord as housing prices rise around her. At the last moment, her mother says she will not cosign for the loan and Lynette does not qualify on her own. In a last-ditch effort, Lynette sets off on an odyssey of collecting old debts and a miniature crime spree. For readers who like Raymond Chandler, John Banville, and Elmore Leonard."

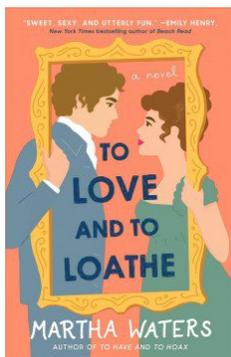
—Mary Robinson, Vernon Area Public Library, Lincolnshire, IL
NovelList read-alike: *Winter's Bone* by Daniel Woodrell



Second First Impressions
A Novel
by Sally Thorne

(William Morrow Paperbacks)
"Ruthie Midona, twenty-something, works in a retirement community and feels like she fits in more with the residents than with her peers. Enter an attractive tattooed man assistant hired by the eccentric 90-year-old Parlani Sisters. This romance is filled with heart and laughter. For readers of Helen Hoang and Jasmine Guillory."

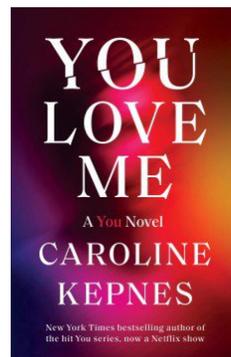
—Melissa Stumpe, Johnson County Public Library, Franklin, IN
NovelList read-alike: *Act Your Age, Eve Brown* by Talia Hibbert



To Love and To Loathe
A Novel
by Martha Waters
(Atria Books)

"This enemies-to-lovers Regency romance takes Diana, Lady Templeton, and Jeremy, Marquess of Willingham, from engaging in a no-strings-attached affair to their happily ever after. For readers who love Tessa Dare, Sarah MacLean, Jennifer Crusie (contemporary, but witty dialogue and hilarious hijinks)."

—Kathleen Fais, New York Public Library, New York, NY
NovelList read-alike: *One Good Earl Deserves A Lover* by Sarah MacLean



You Love Me
A You Novel
by Caroline Kepnes
(Random House)

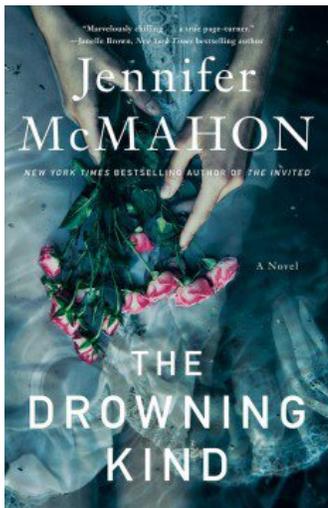
"In this, the third installment in the 'You' series, Joe Goldberg moves to the cozy island of Bainbridge in the outskirts of Seattle and sets his sights on the town librarian, who becomes his new obsession. For fans of *Behind Her Eyes* and *The Silent Patient*."

—Joann Im, Los Angeles Public Library, Los Angeles, CA
NovelList read-alike: *Creep* by Jennifer Hillier



APRIL 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.



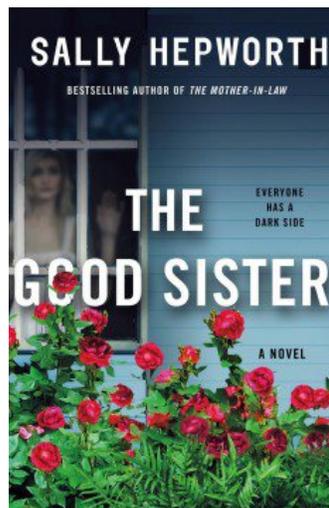
The Drowning Kind
by Jennifer McMahon
(Gallery/Scout Press)

"The waters of Bradenburg Springs are said to have miraculous curative properties, but rumor has it that the healing always comes with a price. When Jax's sister drowns in a pool filled with the spring's water, she must discover the truth behind the legends. This is a great, creepy supernatural thriller."

—Mara Bandy Fass, Champaign Public Library, Champaign, IL

Read-alike: *The Broken Girls* by Simone St. James

Read-alike: *The Good House* by Tananarive Due

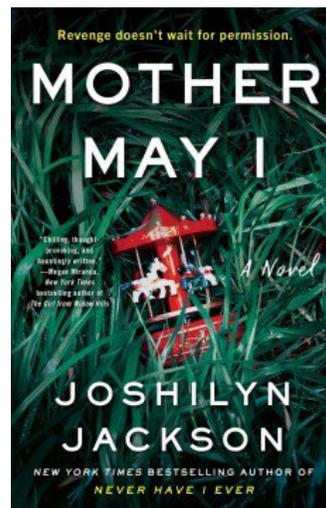


The Good Sister
A Novel
by Sally Hepworth
(St. Martin's Press)

"Rose and Fern have a strong sisterly bond, but their dark secrets may bind them more strongly than they think. How far would you go to protect your sister? Dark and compelling, this psychological suspense story has a taut pace and plenty of twists to keep readers guessing."

—Jen Ohzourk, St. Louis Public Library, St. Louis, MO

Read-alike: *The Girl in the Mirror* by Rose Carlyle
Read-alike: *The End of Her* by Shari Lapena

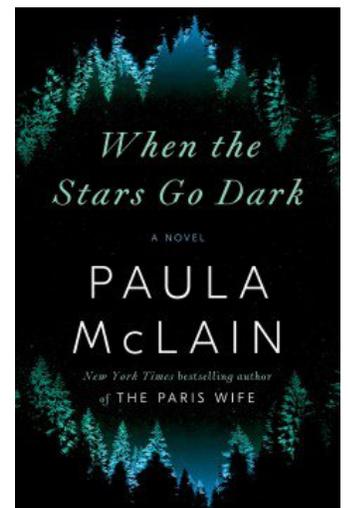


Mother May I
A Novel
by Joshilyn Jackson
(William Morrow)

"Bree is a suburban mom with a lot on her plate. Her life changes when her baby is kidnapped and she has to complete a series of tasks to get her child back. This is the perfect kind of psychological thriller, a scorching page-turner featuring a rocking plot and intense character development."

—Cari Dubiel, Twinsburg Public Library, Twinsburg, OH

Read-alike: *And Now She's Gone* by Rachel Howzell Hall
Read-alike: *The Wife Upstairs* by Rachel Hawkins



When the Stars Go Dark
A Novel
by Paula McLain
(Ballantine Books)

"In 1993, troubled detective Anna returns to her hometown, where a girl has gone missing. As Anna helps search for the girl, both their pasts are revealed. A beautifully written, haunting thriller offering a fascinating look at how missing cases were handled pre-Internet."

—Alissa Williams, Morton Public Library, Morton, IL

Read-alike: *I'll Be Gone in the Dark* by Michelle McNamara
Read-alike: *The Sleepwalker* by Chris Bohjalian