



Books and Bytes *on the Bayou*

A Lafourche Parish Public Library Publication

September 2025

September is
**LIBRARY CARD
MEMBERSHIP MONTH**

One Card, Endless Possibilities!



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upcoming events
schedule!

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"Luticia and Jolene are
amazing and so helpful!
We know we can count
on them when we have
questions about
anything!"

- Anonymous
PATRON



**STAFF
STARS**



LEAH DARDAR

LOCKPORT BRANCH

"When I walk into the library with my
grandchildren, Ms. Leah greets them
and talks to them. She always wears a
smile no matter what kind of day
she is having! If you need anything,
you can feel comfortable going to her.
She is such a beautiful soul!"

- Dana Arabie
PATRON

**STAFF
STAR**



STAFF STARS: SEP 2025



Library Closures

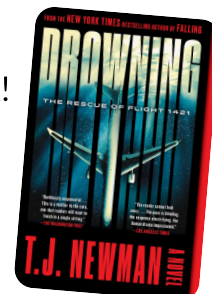
All Lafourche Parish Public Library
branches will be closed Mon, Sep 1
in honor of Labor Day.

Thank you to our stellar staff - enjoy your deserved day off!

LibLuv Book Club

Join us to discuss our September Club Pick!
This month, we are reading & talking about
TJ Newman's *Drowning: The Rescue of Flight
1421*.

Tuesday, September 9 @ 1 PM
Thibodaux Branch



LIBRARY CARD MEMBERSHIP MONTH

September '25: One Card, Endless Possibilities

HOW TO CELEBRATE:

MEMBERS ONLY PERKS

- Receive our 2025 LPPL Official Member Button & a meal coupon when you:
 - Get your first library card
 - Upgrade to our new card
 - Check out an item (current members who have already upgraded only)

EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES

- Discover what's possible @ your library this month with special programs spotlighting services, resources, & more that you may not know are available through your library.
- Scan the QR code to find a program near you!



FRIENDS + FAMILY

- Bring in a friend or family member who is not a current LPPLibrary member to show them what's possible!
- Your name will be entered into a Swag Prize Drawing for every library newbie you bring in to register for a library card or participate in a program.

SHOW WHAT'S POSSIBLE

- Show us what's possible @ the library with your pics!
- Scan the QR code to share your photos with us.
- We will post your pics on social media to share with our community the endless possibilities our libraries hold!





1000 BOOKS

Before Kindergarten
+ Books Before Challenges
Kick-Offs & Celebrations

Learn more about the program,
 celebrate recent graduates,
 and register your family!

Bayou Blue: Tue, 9/9 @ 1 PM (Homeschool)
Choctaw: Thu, 9/4 @ 1 PM (Kick-Off)
Gheens: Mon, 9/15 @ 4 PM (Story Time)
Larose: Thu, 9/4 @ 2 PM (Kick-Off)
Lockport: Thu, 9/4 @ 10:30 AM (Story Time)
Raceland: Tue, 9/2 @ 2 PM (Kick-Off)
Storefront: Tue, 9/2 @ 10:30 AM (Story Time)
Thibodaux: Thu, 9/11 @ 10:30 AM (Baby Time)



Visit our Books
 Before website
 at lafourche.org
 for more details!



SCRIM ON THE RUN!
Story Time
with author Madi Hannan

Scrim the dog became a nationwide sensation as he ran the streets of New Orleans after escaping from a home in 2024 before finally finding rescue in February 2025.

Hear Scrim's story as told by author & artist Madi Hannan, who wrote a beautifully illustrated children's book of Scrim's adventures titled, *Scrim On the Run!*

Sat, Sep 13 @ 10:30 AM Thibodaux

HOMESCHOOLING?
 Let's meet up at the
HOMESCHOOL hangout

HEY, LET'S HANG OUT AT OUR NEXT MEET-UPS!

Bayou Blue: Tue, 9/9 @ 1 PM (Books Before Challenges)
Choctaw: Tue, 9/9 @ 1 PM (Cloud Dough)
Gheens: Tue, 9/16 @ 4 PM (Code Maker Breaker)
Larose: Tue, 9/9 @ 9 AM (Board Game Fun)
Lockport: Wed, 9/3 @ 1 PM (Bingo); Wed, 9/17 @ 1 PM (Snakes & Ladders)
Raceland: Wed, 9/17 @ 10 AM (Life-Sized Library-opoly)
Storefront: Wed, 9/17 @ 2 PM (Giant Jenga Challenge)
Thibodaux: Mon, 9/15 @ 2 PM (STEAM); Fri, 9/26 @ 11 AM (Adventure Kits)

LEARN MORE: LAFOURCHE.ORG/HOMESCHOOL-HANGOUT

BREAKING NEWS

UNLIMITED READING



LAFOURCHE.ORG



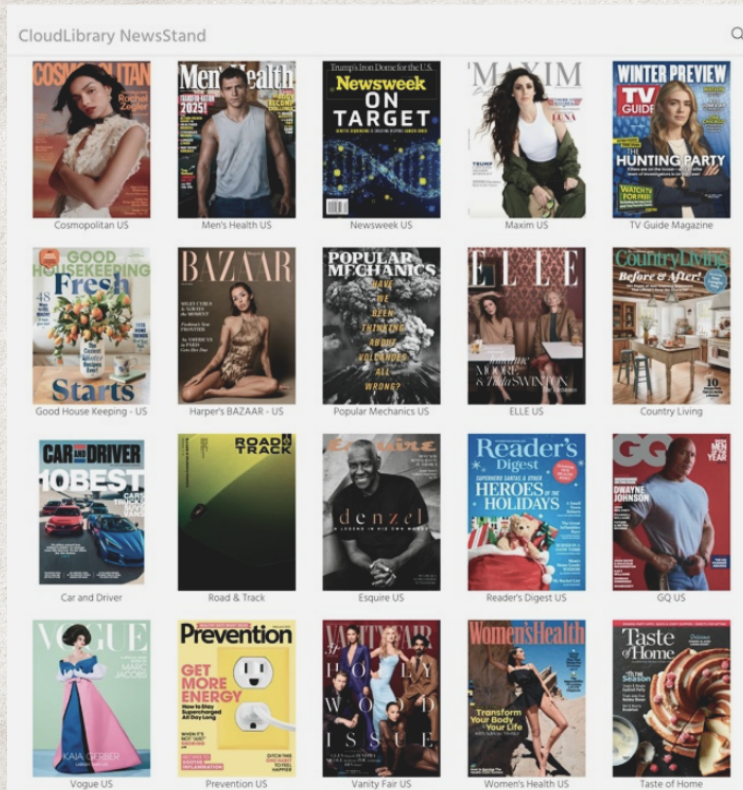
ALWAYS AVAILABLE

THOUSANDS OF MAGAZINES & NEWSPAPERS!

LIBRARY MEMBERS GET UNLIMITED FREE ACCESS TO CLOUDLIBRARY NEWSSTAND

Members of the Lafourche Parish Public Library are taking advantage of one of the many perks they receive by being a library cardholder - unlimited, free access to all-you-can-read magazines and newspapers through cloudLibrary NewsStand.

Lafourche library members can enjoy access to thousands of magazines and newspapers, including back issues, by downloading the cloudLibrary NewsStand app and logging in with their library card number and PIN. Contact the library for assistance.



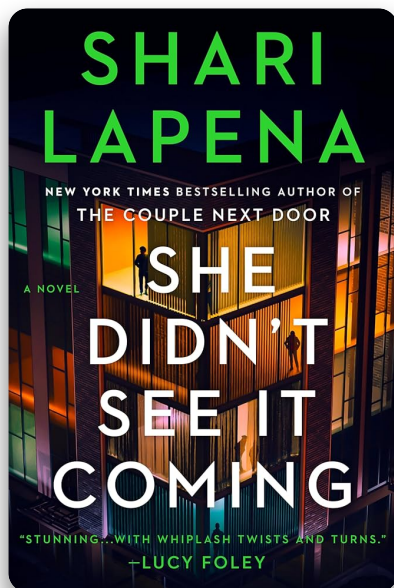
DOWNLOAD THE CLOUDLIBRARY NEWSSTAND APP OR VISIT CLOUDLIBRARY.MAGZTER.COM



Brooke



Read-Alike



She Didn't See It Coming By Shari Lapena

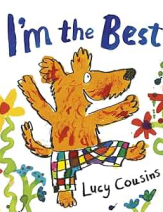
When a beloved wife and mother disappears, a luxurious condo building transforms into a potential crime scene, and the investigation begins: can the detectives find her before it's too late?

"Bryden Frost has gone missing. There's no doubt about that. When she doesn't show up to pick up her daughter from daycare, everyone who knows her is put on high alert. It appears that Bryden, who was working from home that day, never left her luxury condominium ... so where exactly IS she? Just when I thought that I was over all of the *Gone Girl*-esque novels that have been published since Gillian Flynn turned the women's suspense genre on its head in 2012, Shari Lapena shows up on the scene with her new domestic thriller, *She Didn't See It Coming*. The 'woman goes missing' storyline is back & more suspenseful than ever thanks to Lapena's cleverly layered writing with tightly wrought twists that deliver sucker punch after sucker punch. However, I am sharing no secrets about this book! Lapena is fantastic at what she does, carefully & selectively doling out juicy morsels throughout a story, not only about her plot, but also about her characters, who are intriguing & multi-dimensional. Lapena hooked me right from the start of this curious mystery, & once the shocking twists & turns started happening, she had me rapidly turning the pages right to the unexpected end."

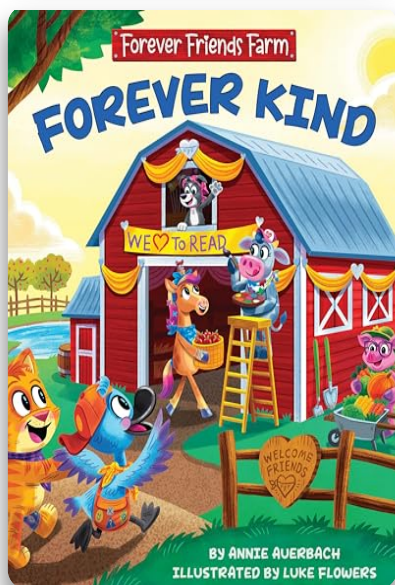
GENRE: Psychological Suspense **SUBJECTS:** Missing Women; Missing Persons Investigations; Secrets; Suspicion
APPEALS: LibraryReads Favorite: 2025; Too Good to be True; Intricately Plotted; Suspenseful



Heather



Read-Alike



Forever Kind By Annie Auerbach

When self-absorbed, unfriendly and unhelpful cat Jasper moves to Forever Friends Farm, he expects to be expelled for his bad behavior but instead finds himself surrounded by kindness and friendship in this engaging story that promotes social-emotional learning.

"Forever Kind, the first book in the *Forever Friends Farm* children's picture book series by Annie Auerbach, is sure to delight children & parents alike. The animals on Forever Friends Farm are getting ready to throw a party for PJ the goose to celebrate the fact that he finished a book all by himself. Before the party, PJ meets newcomer Jasper the cat who isn't sure if he wants to join the gang, so he chooses to cause chaos only to quickly realize that this environment is not something he is used to, but may want to be a part of. Annie has created a book with diverse characters (ex: the goose uses an inhaler) & a story that focuses on working together, sharing, friendship, compromise, forgiveness & more. This along with the inviting, colorful, & cartoon-like illustrations by Luke Flowers are sure to get readers interested in the Forever Friends Farm and waiting for the next book in the series to arrive."

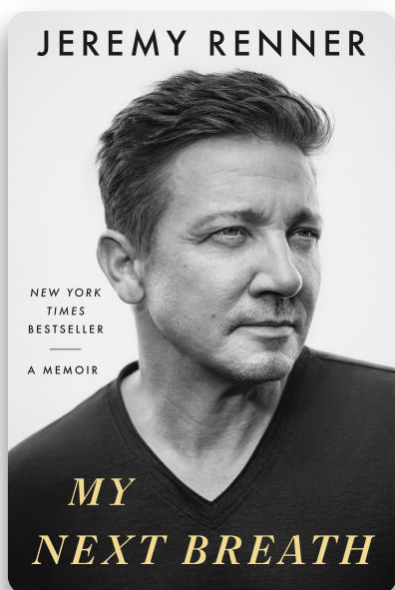
GENRE: Picture Books for Kids **SUBJECTS:** Cats; Farm Animals; Farms; Personal Conduct; Kindness; Friendship
APPEALS: Being a Friend; Sweet; Anthropomorphic Characters; Colorful & Cartoonish Illustrations



Lione



Read-Alike



My Next Breath By Jeremy Renner

The gripping and inspiring story of acclaimed actor Jeremy Renner's near-fatal accident, and what he learned about inner strength, endurance, and hope as he overcame insurmountable odds to recover, one breath at a time.

"It was an early morning on the first day of 2023 when his life changed. Jeremy Renner's tradition had been to celebrate the New Year at his home in Lake Tahoe with family and friends. On that fateful day, Jeremy Renner experienced what few have survived - a crush injury from a snowplow. He drew strength from his own life experiences to overcome the unimaginable. I very rarely pick up biographies or memoirs, but I'm so glad I read this book. I'm a fan of Renner's acting career and followed the story of his accident in 2023. It must have taken a tremendous amount of mental fortitude to relive that time and create this memoir. Renner's own thoughts were riveting to read. I cannot imagine going through such a terrible ordeal. Renner focuses a lot on family and how his life set him up for success when this tragedy occurred. Warning: this book is VERY graphic and describes his injuries and the aftermath in detail. I read this memoir in one afternoon and shed a few tears along the way. This was an inspiring read and focuses on overcoming life's obstacles one breath at a time. I highly recommend."

GENRE: Memoirs; Life Stories **APPEALS:** Disturbing; Inspiring; Candid **SUBJECTS:** Actors; Accidents; Rehabilitation

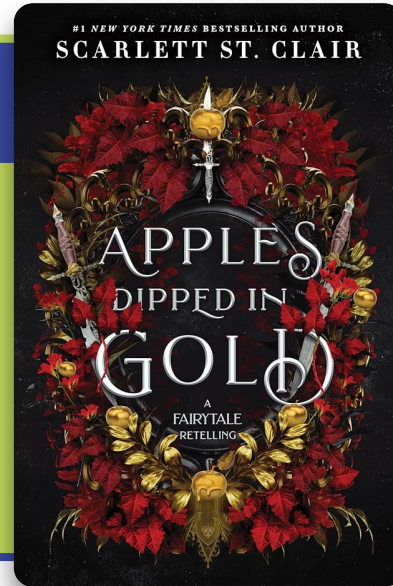


Apples Dipped in Gold By Scarlett St. Clair

Orphaned at a young age, Samara has been left under the care of her three horrible brothers for many long years. But just when she thinks she cannot take another day of their abuse, a handsome prince offers for her hand in marriage.

"After the death of her parents, a young woman named Samara has been left to play maid and servant to her three abusive brothers. Although she suffers both physical and mental torment daily, she still fears her brothers need someone to look after them, as they are the village's primary hunters. One day, Samara hits a breaking point. She walks to a cliff, determined to fling herself off of it, when suddenly a young prince appears. He offers to take her away to his kingdom to become his bride ... and that's just the start of this fairy tale retelling! *Apples Dipped in Gold* by Scarlett St. Clair is a steamy twisted fairy tale. The character development helps progress the story line. I especially enjoyed how Samara grows into herself, from a timid, mousy girl into a strong and brave woman. The only drawback to this novella is it just ends. There's several aspects of the story and its characters that could have been expanded upon. If you're into steamy romance stories and enemies to lover's tales, *Apples Dipped in Gold* by Scarlett St. Clair is worth checking out!"

GENRE: Romantasy; Novellas **APPEALS:** Once Upon a Time **SUBJECTS:** Romantic Love; Poison; Elves; Princes



Katie



Read-Alike



Elphie: A Wicked Childhood By Gregory Maguire

Describes the coming of age story of Elphaba, the Wicked Witch of the West, as she is molded by her promiscuous mother and her pious father, becomes jealous of her siblings and encounters mistreatment of the animal populations of Oz.

"Like the other novels in the *Wicked* series, this book is pretty dark & is definitely for adults. Maguire writes in shorter sentences & chapters in this book. We go in depth with meeting Elphie's parents Melena & her father Frex, a missionary. We meet her siblings at a young age - Nessarose & her brother Shell. The author also goes in depth with the character of Dulcibear, Elphaba's bear nanny who has a bit part in the film. This book will please fans of the original series because it has the same dark undertones, but not fans of the film & musical. The political commentary is once again very much there. We get to see some of the events that shaped Elphie into the strong willed, political rights advocate we know she will become. There is enough action to keep the reader absorbed, & Elphie's colorful family is unique & interesting. Maguire loves wordy, detailed reading passages, & it is definitely evident here. Fans of the original *Wicked* book series will find much to enjoy, plus this book is a quick read, although it does drag occasionally."

GENRE: Fantasy Fiction; Coming of Age **SUBJECTS:** Wicked Witch of the West; Growing Up; Good & Evil; Family **APPEALS:** Whimsical; Richly Detailed; World-Building



Van



Read-Alike

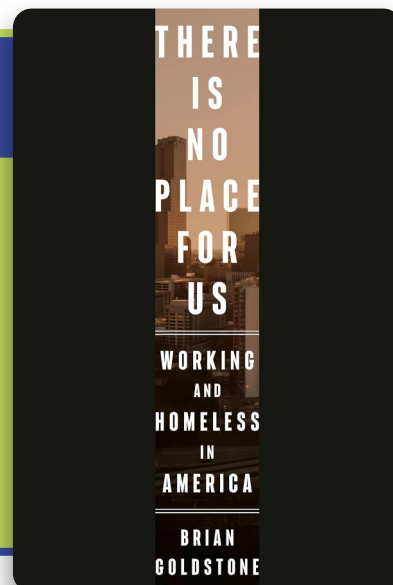


There is No Place for Us By Brian Goldstone

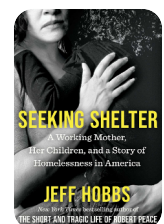
The working homeless, trapped by skyrocketing rents and stagnant wages in gentrifying cities, are examined through the lens of five families in Atlanta, showing the human cost of homelessness for working people, revealing the extent and causes of a crisis where housing is treated as a privilege.

"Urban revitalization seems like a good thing. Businesses invest in an area developing bright new residential complexes, which attracts other businesses bringing in trendy new restaurants & shops, seemingly a win for all involved. But there is another side to urban gentrification into which journalist Brian Goldstone delves very deeply in *There Is No Place for Us: Working and Homeless in America*. This redevelopment of urban areas often comes at a cost particularly for lower-income people. These aren't people without jobs. They are people who work, but who can't keep up with skyrocketing housing costs in gentrified areas. Goldstone looks to Atlanta as a case in point, following five families as their housing situations move from relatively stable to precarious as Atlanta's makeover progresses, their situations at times becoming increasingly desperate. This is a thoroughly researched work of nonfiction that brings to light some uncomfortable truths about homelessness in America, while treating both the subjects & their stories with compassion & respect."

GENRE: Society & Culture **SUBJECTS:** Homeless People; Working Class; Social Mobility; Income Inequality **APPEALS:** Issue-Oriented; Bleak; Disturbing; Serious; Suspenseful; Richly Detailed



Katina



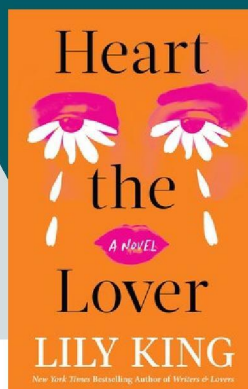
Read-Alike



September 2025

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

Find out more at www.LibraryReads.org

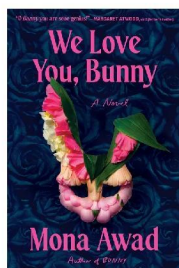


Heart the Lover
Lily King
(Grove Press)

TOP PICK

A young woman meets two friends, Sam and Yash, in her senior year college literature class. Impressed with their intellect, she gets pulled into their circle and starts dating Sam. This coming-of-age story begins as they are all completing college, then finishes as they reconnect as adults. With beautiful writing and a character-driven story, this novel is perfect for fans of Sally Rooney.

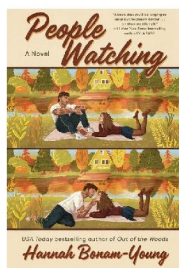
—Sophia Geron, Chesterfield Public Libraries, VA
NovelList read-alike: *We All Want Impossible Things* by Catherine Newman



We Love You, Bunny
Mona Awad
(S&S/Marysue Rucci Books)

This atmospheric, wickedly funny prequel to *Bunny* is a treat. Readers get to know the bunnies and their first creation intimately. Arieus experiences many firsts: love, heartache, frat parties, being made a muse. Awad fans will rejoice and new fans will be made with this riotous little novel.

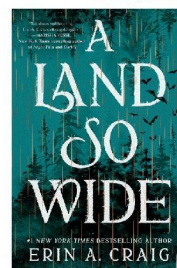
—Brooke G., DeKalb County Public Library, IL
NovelList read-alike: *I'm Not Done with You Yet* by Jesse Q. Sutano



People Watching: A Novel
Hannah Bonam-Young
(Dell)

Milo, an eternal wanderer, and Prue, happily settled in her hometown, seem to have nothing in common. Through some tangled family challenges, they find that they have a lot to learn from each other. This wonderful romance features messy, moving, and complex characters who fight hard for their happily ever after.

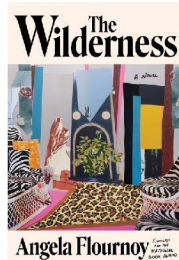
—Sharon Layburn, South Huntington Public Library, NY
NovelList read-alike: *Single Dads Club* by Therese Beharrie



A Land So Wide
Erin A. Craig
(Pantheon)

Greer, a mapmaker in the town of Mistaken who fantasizes about leaving, notices strange things happening. Then her lover mysteriously leaves town. In her attempts to save him, she learns about herself, her cursed town, and the lore surrounding both. This suspenseful and emotional romantasy is well plotted with great world building.

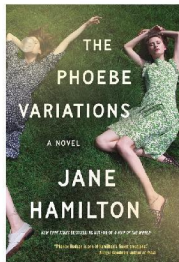
—Margaret Balwierz, Villa Park Public Library, IL
NovelList read-alike: *A Spell for Change* by Nicole Jarvis



The Wilderness
Angela Flournoy
(Mariner)

Over the course of 20 years in New York and Los Angeles, Desiree, Danielle, January, Monique, and Nakia face both the universal hardships of growing up and the specific challenges of doing so in 21st-century America. These intertwining stories of five Black women finding their way into adulthood create a deeply moving portrait of friendship.

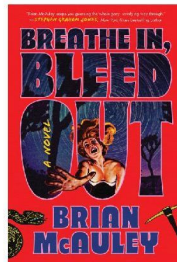
—Jennifer Alexander, St. Louis County Library, MO
NovelList read-alike: *Wahala* by Nikki May



The Phoebe Variations
Jane Hamilton
(Zibby Publishing)

Told in flashback, Phoebe, about to graduate high school, is forced by her adoptive mother to meet her birth family, jumpstarting a search for identity and belonging that reveals layers of uncertainty and mistrust surrounding her best friend and the family of 14 who take her in. Illuminating and lush, this literary jewel will spark numerous discussions.

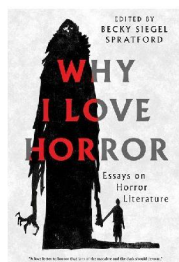
—Ron Block, Cuyahoga County Public Library, OH
NovelList read-alike: *Sam* by Allegra Goodman



Breathe In, Bleed Out
Brian McAuley
(Poisoned Pen Press)

Hannah and four friends join a private retreat to relax and regroup after experiencing big life incidents and time apart. One by one, they start disappearing, and it's up to Hannah to figure out where her friends are and why. Readers will enjoy this blend of horror and suspense with twists they won't see coming.

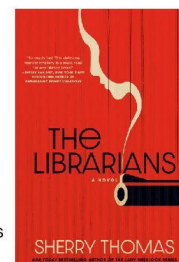
—Kristi Shepherd, Springfield-Greene County Library, MO
NovelList read-alike: *My Heart Is a Chainsaw* by Stephen Graham Jones



Why I Love Horror: Essays on Horror Literature
Becky Siegel Spratford
(Saga Press)

With introductions and readalikes by renowned horror expert Spratford and essays from contemporary writers, this collection will be a great resource for library staff. The essays get to the heart of why horror is such an important genre and why it speaks to such a diverse audience, with personal and entertaining passages. Horror fans and anyone who recommends books will find this invaluable.

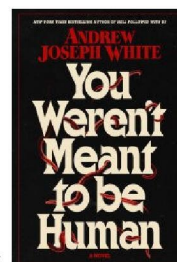
—Kristin Skinner, Flat River Community Library, MI
NovelList read-alike: *101 Horror Books to Read Before You're Murdered* by Sadie Hartmann



The Librarians
Sherry Thomas
(Berkley)

This intriguing mystery is also an in-depth character study of a group of people working for a small public library in Austin, TX. No one is quite who they seem, but when two suspicious deaths happen in the area, with both victims having recently been in the library, the staff must band together to try to decipher what happened. Books about librarians are always a win/win, and this one is particularly well done.

—Douglas Beatty, Baltimore County Public Library, MD
NovelList read-alike: *The Woman in the Library* by Sulari Gentill



You Weren't Meant to be Human
Andrew Joseph White
(Saga Press)

Heed the trigger warnings. This book is about a self-harming, autistic trans man who finds himself unwillingly pregnant and forced to carry to term. The story is compelling and explicit enough as is, but then there's the Hive...which brings in a gross, sci-fi element. Very political, important, and memorable.

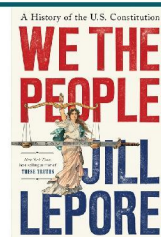
—Sarah Hamil, Twin Lakes Library System, GA
NovelList read-alike: *Brainwyrm* by Alison Rumfitt

Bonus pick:



It's Me They Follow
Jeannine A. Cook
(Amistad)

Notable Nonfiction:



We the People: A History of the U.S. Constitution
Jill Lepore
(Liveright)

Photo Highlights

8



Multiple
Locations
to Serve
You!

BAYOU BLUE

Mon - Thu: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM
Fri - Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-580-0634
Fax: 985-580-9640

CHOCTAW

Mon - Thu: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM
Fri - Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-633-6453
Fax: 985-633-8873

GHEENS

Mon - Thu: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM
Fri - Sun: Closed
Phone & Fax: 985-532-2288

GOLDEN MEADOW Currently Closed Due to Hurricane Ida

LAROSE

Mon - Thu: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM
Fri - Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-693-3336
Fax: 985-693-3978

LOCKPORT

Mon - Thu: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri & Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM
Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-532-3158
Fax: 985-532-0270

RACELAND

Mon - Thu: 9 AM - 6 PM
Fri - Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-537-6875
Fax: 985-537-2292

SOUTH LAFOURCHE Currently Closed Due to Hurricane Ida

S.L. STOREFRONT

Mon - Thu: 10 AM - 6 PM
Fri & Sat: 9 AM - 1 PM
Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-632-7140
Fax: 985-632-4963

THIBODAUX

Mon - Thu: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri & Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM
Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-447-4119
Fax: 985-449-4128

HEADQUARTERS

Mon - Fri: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Sat - Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-446-1163
Fax: 985-446-3848



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... and the list
goes on!

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