



Books and Bytes

on the Bayou

A Lafourche Parish Public Library Publication

May 2023



Summer

Experience 2023
Preview!



ENJOY A PERFORMANCE



CREATE A MASTERPIECE

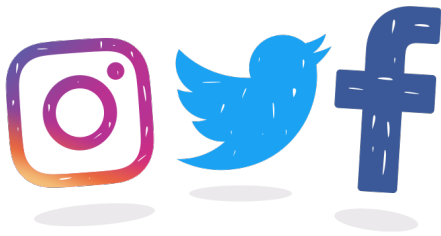


MEET PETE THE CAT



READ LOTS OF BOOKS!

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Follow us on social media (@lafourchelib) and at lafourche.org for current news, services, programs, photos, and more!

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Archie Chaisson

STAFF STARS!



Crystal Eskine

Congratulations to Crystal, Technical Services Librarian, for being recognized as a Staff Star this month!

"Crystal has been such an awesome resource for me in the last several months. She has helped me source books & DVD titles that were not in the library catalog several times. She is always professional & very efficient in her response, & goes far 'above & beyond' what passes for service these days."

- Malcolm Landry, Patron

Kim Chiasson



Congratulations to Kim, Thibodaux Branch Associate, for being recognized as a Staff Star this month!

"Kim is amazing at her job! She is great with kids & is so nice."

- Sophia Adams, Patron

**DO YOU KNOW A STAFF STAR?
ASK FOR A NOMINATION FORM AT ANY
BRANCH CUSTOMER SERVICE DESK!**

Library Closure

All Lafourche Parish Public Library branches will be closed on Monday, May 29 in honor of Memorial Day.

All branches will re-open on Tuesday, May 30 for regular hours & the start of Summer Experience 2023! Get a sneak peek of this summer's fun on page 2.



Summer Experience 2023 Preview!

Let your true colors shine this summer at your Lafourche Parish Public Library!

Our 2023 Summer Experience is headed to a library branch near you this June and July to the theme of "Reading Colors Your World."

Discover a rainbow of possibilities this summer at your library ... the fun begins May 30!

Website

Scan the code below to be brought to our Summer Experience 2023 website!



All the details!



Registration

Registration will take place in-person at all branches starting Mon, 5/15. Register for the reading challenge, pick up a participation log, & sign up for registration-required programming.

Bag Sales

This summer, we are selling exclusive Lafourche Parish Public Library logo bags to hold all of your checkouts. Purchase your bag for \$2 starting May 15!

Performances

Enjoy interactive shows for all ages this summer from:

Roger Day

Crescent Circus

The Dinosaur Experience

Animal Tales

No registration required!

Workshops

Join our guest artists for in-branch art workshops utilizing various artistic techniques & mediums, including a special workshop for each age group presented by local artist Shelby Toups!

Pete the Cat

Celebrate with Pete the Cat! Pete will groove through Lafourche Parish to help us close out an awesome Summer Experience at the end of July. Don't miss this special event with the coolest cat around!

But, that's not all!

There's so much more fun to be had at your Lafourche Parish Public Library this summer! Be sure to follow our social media & visit our website at lafourche.org/summer-experience-2023 for full details.



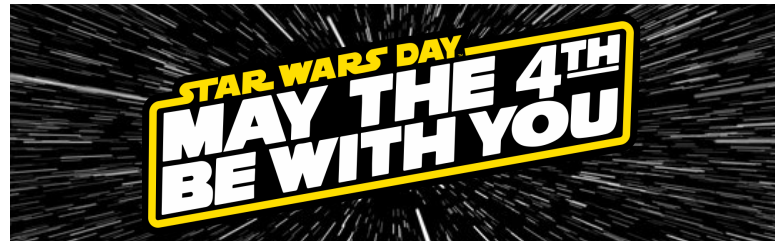
READY, SET, SCAVENGE!

On the Hunt @ Lafourche Parish Public Library
National Scavenger Hunt Day is May 24, 2023!

Pull together your search party and join us at all branches on Wednesday, May 24 as we celebrate National Scavenger Hunt Day!



- BAYOU BLUE: Book-Themed Library Scavenger Hunt for Kids - Wed, 5/24 @ 2 PM
- CHOCTAW: Family Library Scavenger Hunt & Snacks for All Ages - Wed, 5/24 @ 1 PM
- GHEENS: End of School Scavenger Hunt for All Ages - Wed, 5/24 @ 4 PM
- LAROSE: Library Scavenger Hunt for All Ages - Wed, 5/24 @ 12 PM
- LOCKPORT: Library Scavenger Hunt for Ages 5-12 - Wed, 5/24 @ All Day
- RACELAND: Library Scavenger Hunt for All Ages - Wed, 5/24 @ 2 PM
- THIBODAUX: Library Scavenger Hunt for All Ages - Wed, 5/24 @ 2 PM



- BAYOU BLUE: Mother's Day Bingo for All Ages - Mon, 5/8 @ 2 PM
DIY Mother's Day Card for Teens - Tue, 5/9 @ 3 PM
I Love Mom Story Time - Wed, 5/10 @ 10:45 AM
- CHOCTAW: Mother's Day Egg Carton Flower for Ages 5-11 - Wed, 5/10 @ 3-5 PM
- GHEENS: Mother's Day Story Time for All Ages - Mon, 5/8 @ 4 PM
Mother's Day Cards for Ages 0-12 - Tue, 5/9 @ 4 PM
Mother's Day Flowers for All Ages - Wed, 5/10 @ 4 PM
- LAROSE: Mother's Day Card for Ages 5-12 - Wed, 5/10 @ 4:30 PM
Mother's Day Story Time for All Ages - Thu, 5/11 @ 1 PM
- LOCKPORT: Mother's Day Card for Ages 5-12 - Mon, 5/8 @ 4:30 PM
I Love Mommy Baby Time for Ages 0-3 - Tue, 5/9 @ 10:30 AM
Mommy & Me Story Time for All Ages - Thu, 5/11 @ 10:30 AM
Mother's Day Story Time for All Ages - Sat, 5/13 @ 10:30 AM
- RACELAND: Best Mother Ever Plate for All Ages - Wed, 5/10 @ 4 PM
Mother's Day Cactus Craft for Kids - Thu, 5/11 @ 4 PM
- THIBODAUX: *Tulips for Mom Craft for Ages 5-10 - Tue, 5/2 @ 5 PM
Magnificent Mom Baby Time for All Ages - Thu, 5/11 @ 10:30 AM

- BAYOU BLUE: Ooey Gooney Tuesday - Yoda Slime for All Ages - Tue, 5/2 @ 3 PM
- CHOCTAW: Baby Yoda in a Pod Craft for All Ages - Thu, 5/4 @ 3-5 PM
- GHEENS: Star Wars Watercolor Silhouette for Ages 10-17 - Tue, 5/2 @ 4 PM
- LAROSE: May the 4th Be With You Story Time for All Ages - Thu, 5/4 @ 1 PM
- LOCKPORT: Star Wars Bingo Battle for All Ages - Wed, 5/3 @ 4:30 PM
- RACELAND: TP Yoda Doll Craft for Early Learners - Thu, 5/18 @ 4 PM
- THIBODAUX: *Star Wars Stitch Art for Teens & Adults - Thu, 5/4 @ 3:30 PM



PLUS, SNAP AN EPIC PHOTO WITH STAR WARS CHARACTERS AT ALL BRANCHES ALL MONTH!

Programs with an *asterisk require registration.

Programs with an *asterisk require registration.

EMERGENCY LEGAL RESPONDERS

Were you impacted by one of the recent hurricanes or severe storms and need FREE civil legal help? Reserve your 20-minute slot by emailing admin@emergencylegalresponders.org. Walk-ins are also welcome! Please bring materials that you think would be helpful for our attorneys to address your needs.

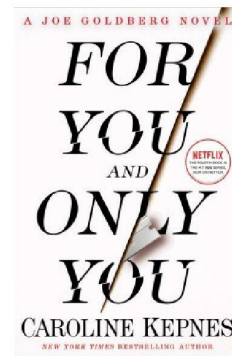
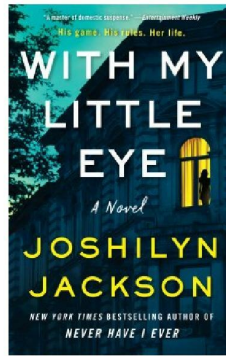
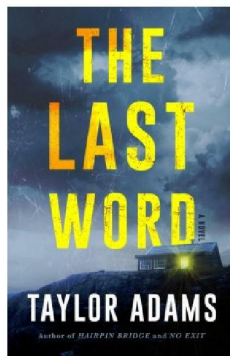
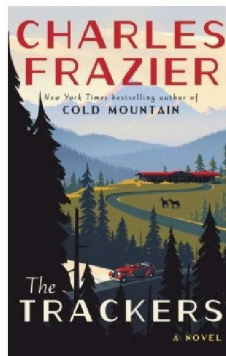
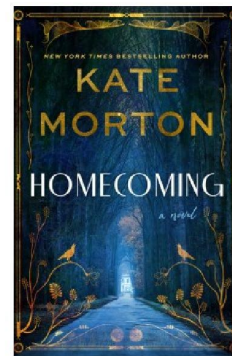
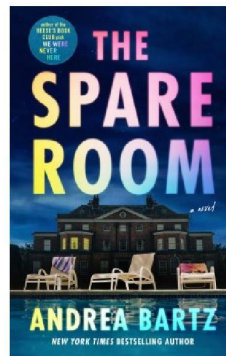
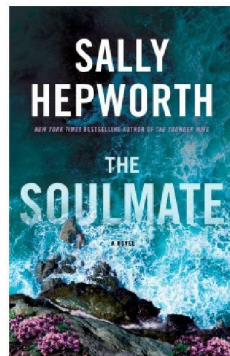
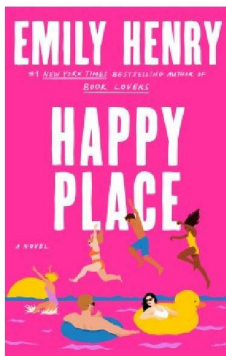
FREE LEGAL CLINIC @ THIBODAUX
Monday, May 8 @ 10 AM - 2 PM

Check out the most anticipated
e-books
of Spring 2023!



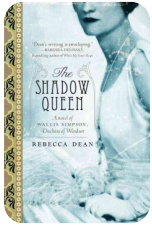
Never overdue and free
with your library card.

Available now or coming soon in cloudLibrary!

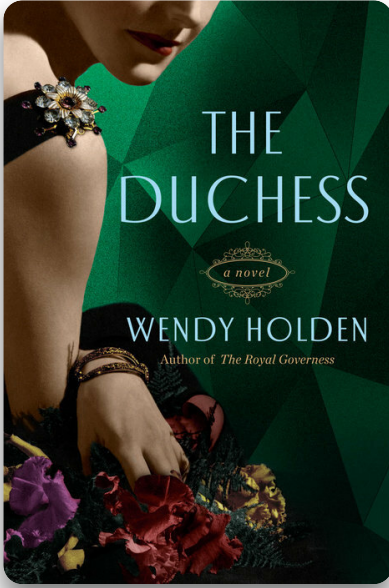




Brooke



Read-Alike



The Duchess
By Wendy Holden

Becoming the lover of David, Prince of Wales, in 1928, a lively American woman is plunged into a world of unimaginable luxury and privilege until David becomes King and she becomes the face of the most dramatic and extraordinary royal scandal of the 20th century.

"If your only impression of Wallis Simpson, the twice-divorced American for whom King Edward VIII abdicated the throne of England, is that of a gold-digging schemer, prepare to have your world turned upside down after reading Wendy Holden's *The Duchess*. Holden, who researched the life of Wallis during COVID lockdown, glimpsed hints of a different woman during her studies ... one who, perhaps, actually did NOT want to sit upon the throne. I fully appreciate Holden prompting us to examine the woman who was Wallis Simpson through a completely new lens. Holden's portrayal of Wallis is entirely sympathetic, painting Wallis as a victim of chance and circumstance rather than a woman who actively pursued queendom. Considering primary source documents written by & about Wallis at the time, who is to say that she wasn't swept up in the tide, forced to bend to the will of one of the most powerful men in the world? Holden casts doubt in *The Duchess*, and it is a wholly enthralling ride. I loved every minute of this book, & so enjoyed seeing a different side of the notorious Wallis Simpson."

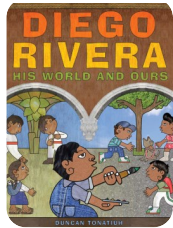
GENRE: Biographical Fiction

TONE: Atmospheric

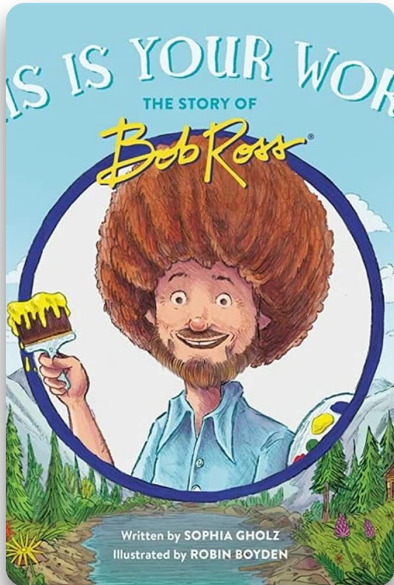
WRITING STYLE: Richly Detailed; Witty



Heather



Read-Alike



This is Your World
By Sophia Gholz

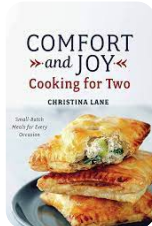
This official picture book biography of the iconic American painter and TV host shows how he fell in love with painting and wanted to inspire others to find joy in their happy accidents.

"When I was younger, I spent a lot of time at my grandmother's house while my mom worked. Since she didn't have cable, PBS was one of the only interesting channels to watch. On Saturdays, I would watch *The Joy of Painting* with Bob Ross along with the rest of the world. His intricate landscapes & 'happy little trees' fascinated me. My love for the show & Bob Ross drew me to this book. This picture biography explores Bob's early life as a child growing up with a love of nature, his enlistment in the US Air Force, his found love for painting, & ends with his iconic television show. This lovely book brings the world of Bob Ross to a younger generation with its beautifully colored images & easy-to-read text. Aside from these elements, & probably my favorite element of this book, are the Bob Ross quotes included on its pages. Having watched his shows so often, I could hear the quotes in his calm & whisper-like voice while reading them. The pages at the end of the book also include more info about Bob, his paintings, the paint colors he used, & some definitions of art terms used in the book. This book is a wonderful tribute to Bob Ross, his legacy, his fans, & his ability to make us believe in those 'happy little accidents.'"

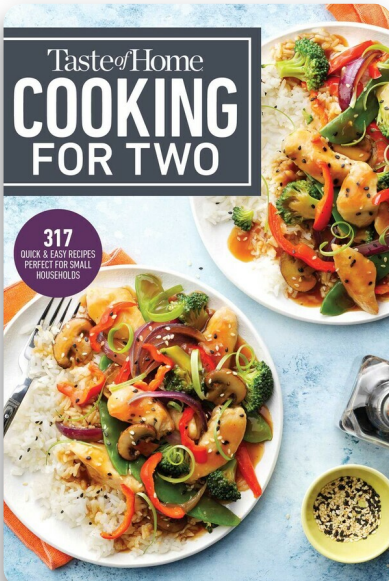
GENRE: Biographies; Picture Books for Children



Lione



Read-Alike



Taste of Home: Cooking for Two
By Taste of Home

Hundreds of quick and easy recipes sized right for your home.

"I love creating in the kitchen on the weekends. When I cook, I like to cook a big pot of something & have leftovers to bring for my lunches at work. It's really hard for me to cook small portions. I'm always looking for new recipes & found *Taste of Home: Cooking for Two* at the library. This cookbook has 317 recipes ranging from snacks to desserts. It even has recipes using my kitchen gadgets like pressure cookers & air fryers. Although this book did not have a picture for every recipe, it had enough for me. It also included many tips in the form of health tips, test kitchen tips, did you know tips, & other tidbits scattered throughout this book. Something I really look for in recipes - the nutritional breakdown - was included, which I really appreciated. This cookbook sparked some intriguing ideas for new dishes & twists to my old favorites. I tried the Baked Potato Soup, Lemon Mushroom-Orzo Soup, Spicy Honey Mustard Green Beans, Easy Almond Joy Chia Pudding, & Bananas Foster Sundaes. If you're looking for some real meal inspiration for one or two, pick up this book at your local library."

GENRE: Cookbooks

What We're Reading



Kingdom of the Wicked By Kerri Maniscalco

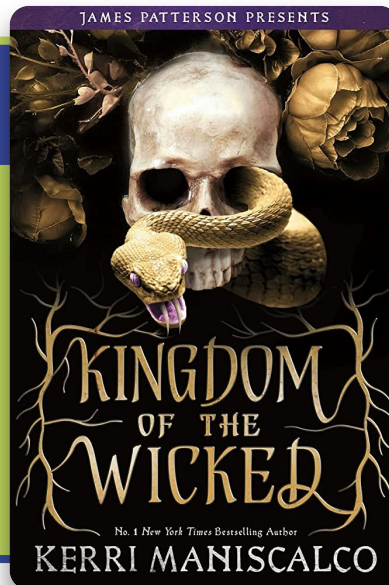
Emilia & her twin sister Vittoria are streghe - witches who live secretly among humans. When Vittoria finds the body of her beloved twin desecrated, she seeks vengeance against her sister's killer.

"Kerri Maniscalco's *Kingdom of the Wicked* is the first book in a new series, & is a well-written enemies-to-lovers novel. Emilia is at first reserved, obedient, & a bit boring. Once she decides to hunt down the serial killer, she transforms into a fiery, relentless young woman who will stop at nothing to bring down the monster hunting young witches. Maniscalco does an excellent job at showing how grief & pain can be honed into a weapon for justice. I especially enjoyed the world building in this novel. The deadly sins represent different households of hell, & the princes of each house are the embodiment of that sin. Maniscalco's version of hell isn't that traditional fire & brimstone - it's more like a different realm. There were many twists & turns that I did not expect, & the cliffhanger at the end of the novel is tantalizing. I look forward to continuing this series, & solving the mysteries alongside Emilia. If you enjoy slow burn enemies-to-lovers books, *Kingdom of the Wicked* is worth checking out."

GENRE: Historical Fantasy
THEME: Hidden Among Us

TOPE: Atmospheric
CHARACTER: Well-Developed

WRITING STYLE: Compelling; Lyrical
STORYLINE: Intricately Plotted; World Building



Katie



Read-Alike



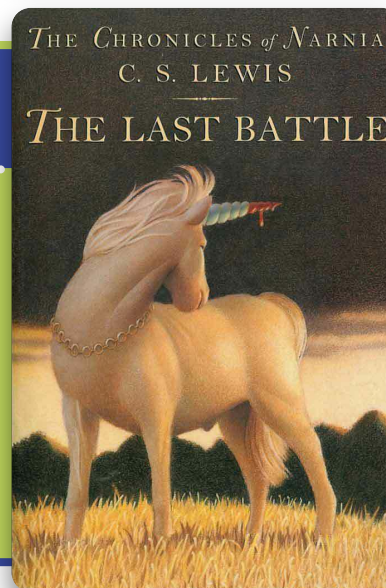
The Last Battle By C.S. Lewis

When evil comes to Narnia, Jill and Eustace help fight the great last battle, and Aslan leads his people to a glorious new paradise.

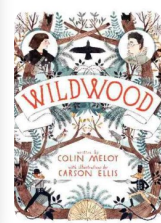
"It has just been announced that one of my favorite childhood book series *The Chronicles of Narnia* will be made into a number of films for Netflix. The final book in the *Narnia* series is *The Last Battle*. Where my previous review, *The Magician's Nephew*, discussed the creation of Narnia, *The Last Battle*, which won the Carnegie Medal, describes its destruction. Included in this book is a grand battle, which ends in the destruction of Narnia, but has everyone traveling back to the original Narnia; the world they were living in being just a copy of the true world, 'which goes on forever, & in which every chapter is better than the one before.' The plot of this novel does get a little complicated, especially when characters from other novels are introduced in addition to a whole slew of new characters. This book has much more action than some of the previous novels in the series. The ending is spectacular, though a little sad & a tad bit morbid. This novel will have you engrossed until the spectacular breathtaking end."

GENRE: Classics; Gateway Fantasy
STORYLINE: World-Building

TOPE: Suspenseful
WRITING STYLE: Attention-Grabbing



Van



Read-Alike



When the Moon Turns Blue By Pamela Terry

When an act of vandalism divides her small-town Georgia community, Marietta, recently widowed, is left to question many of her preconceived notions about her friends and family as she tries to salvage these connections in a world where these divides can no longer be ignored.

"When the Moon Turns Blue is a moving & beautifully written look at the conflicts among a group of Southerners whose Georgia town is grappling with the legacy of a Confederate general whose presence still casts a wide shadow. The statue of General Benning sits on the private property of Old Man Griffin, but is highly visible & divisive, having split Wesleyan into those who want it destroyed & die-hards resolute on championing the past. Wesleyan is frozen as a rare ice storm sweeps the area. Then someone discovers the statue destroyed (a result of man, not nature), & tensions threaten to boil over. *When the Moon Turns Blue* is a novel with depth featuring a host of flawed, but likable characters. The statue of a Confederate general is at the center of this novel, but one can make the case that at the novel's heart is friendship. If you're looking for a good read that makes you feel as well as think, *When the Moon Turns Blue* would be a good candidate to put on your upcoming reading list."

GENRE: Literary Fiction
THEME: Novels of Place; Thrown Together

TOPE: Thought-Provoking
CHARACTER: Relatable

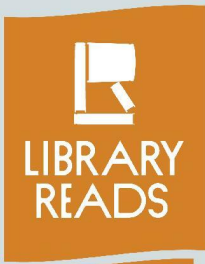
STORYLINE: Character-Driven;
Issue-Oriented



Katina



Read-Alike

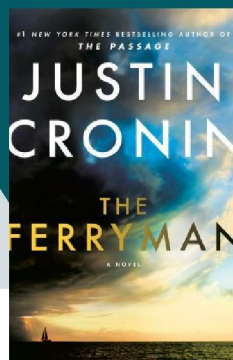


May 2023

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

Find out more at www.LibraryReads.org

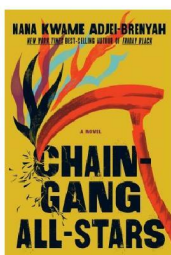
TOP PICK



The Ferryman: A Novel
Justin Cronin
(Ballantine Books)

In a world where people don't die but are ferried away to be regenerated into a 16-year-old with no memories, Proctor is responsible for making sure the "retirees" go without a fuss. But he is quickly drawn into a mystery at the heart of their society. The multi-layered quality moves this from a poignant story into thriller, into world-exploring science fiction.

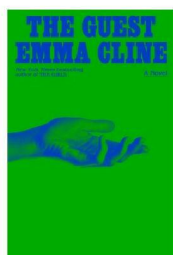
— John Sloan, Chicago Public Library
NovelList read-alike: *Saha* /Nam-Ju Cho



Chain-Gang All-Stars: A Novel
Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah
(Pantheon)

In a near-future America, prisoners can opt into a gruesome program of death matches against other prisoners. Their lives are broadcast to a bloodthirsty public, and they can win their freedom if they kill enough opponents. The novel employs an effective series of rotating narrators to tell all sides of this story, forcing us to look at how we dehumanize prisoners.

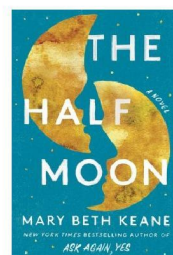
— Laura Bovee, Chicopee Public Library
NovelList read-alike: *Bitch Planet*/Kelly Sue DeConnick



The Guest: A Novel
Emma Cline
(Random House)

Alex is coasting through life on the grace and credit card of her older boyfriend for the summer. She can't return to the city now that her roommates want nothing to do with her, and her friends have all disappeared. There is nothing she won't do, and no one she won't manipulate, to get what she needs: a bit more time. Perfect for fans of *The Talented Mr. Ripley*.

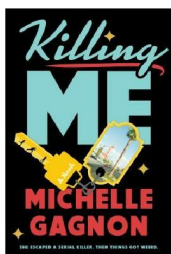
— Kimberly McGee, Lake Travis Community Library
NovelList read-alike: *Luster*/Raven Leilani



The Half Moon: A Novel
Mary Beth Keane
(Scribner)

What happens when your current life doesn't match your expectations? That's what's happening with Malcom and Jess. The married couple thought things would be easier, but life keeps throwing curveballs at them. Over the course of a blizzard, they are forced to reckon with their decisions and determine if they can move forward on a different path.

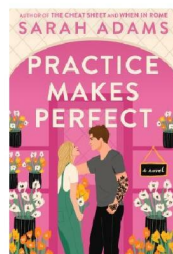
— Melissa Tunstall, Charleston County Public Library
NovelList read-alike: *Early Morning Riser*/Katherine Heiny



Killing Me
Michelle Gagnon
(G.P. Putnam's Sons)

Amber has very strong opinions about people who fall prey to serial killers and is sure that being savvy and street smart will keep her safe. Until she is taken by a serial killer, and her life becomes a hot mess. This quirky, snarky book reads like Janet Evanovich teamed up with Stephen King.

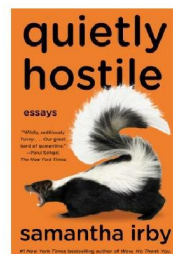
— Linda Quinn, Fairfield Public Library
NovelList read-alike: *Everyone in My Family Has Killed Someone*/Benjamin Stevenson



Practice Makes Perfect: A Novel
Sarah Adams
(Dell)

A sweet Kentucky florist looking for love asks her sister-in-law's bodyguard to help her sass up after a date accuses her of being too boring. With wonderful characters, this cute romance is a great second installment in the When in Rome series.

— Sonya Skibicki, Bartlett Public Library District
NovelList read-alike: *The American Roommate Experiment*/Elena Armas



Quietly Hostile: Essays
Samantha Irby
(Vintage)

If you haven't already read Irby: 1) Who are you and how do you live? 2) This is a perfect time to start. Reading her relatable essays feels like hanging out with an older sister who doesn't sugarcoat the awkward parts of life and helps you recognize you're not the only one faking your way through adulthood.

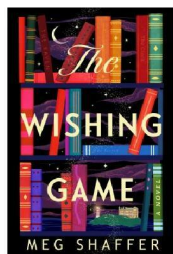
— Rebecca Hayes, Highland Park Public Library
NovelList read-alike: *She's Nice Though*/Mia Mercado



The Secret Book of Flora Lea
Patti Callahan Henry
(Atria)

A poetic tribute to the power of story. Exploring the lifelong effects of the horrors of war, the richly developed characters endure loss that haunts them into adulthood. When a mysterious book appears, it sets in motion a search for answers, making sense of the past, and healing of broken hearts.

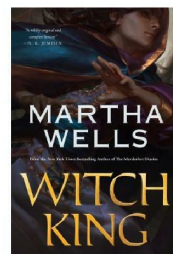
— Ron Block, Cuyahoga County Public Library
NovelList read-alike: *The Distant Hours*/Kate Morton



The Wishing Game: A Novel
Meg Shaffer
(Ballantine Books)

In this magical tale, a beloved children's author announces a tantalizing game: four fans can compete to win the only copy of his new book. All the contestants are intriguing, but readers will root for Lucy, a teacher's aide desperate to find the money needed to adopt an orphaned boy.

— Beth Mills, New Rochelle Public Library
NovelList read-alike: *Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore*/Robin Sloan



Witch King
Martha Wells
(Tordotcom)

Kai, the eponymous (and erroneously named) Witch King, traverses two timelines as he helps overthrow an empire and then has to deal with the descendants of heroes who live long enough to become villains. A very fun, tightly plotted epic fantasy with spectacular worldbuilding and pacing.

— Veronica Koven-Matasy, Boston Public Library
NovelList read-alike: *The Goblin Emperor*/Katherine Addison

Bonus pick:



Hula: A Novel
Jasmin 'Iolani Hakes
(HarperVia)

See our social media for annotation!

Photo Highlights



*Ten
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

Phone: 985-475-5660
Fax: 985-475-4517

LAROSE

Mon - Thu: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri & Sat: 9 AM - 1 PM
Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-693-3336
Fax: 985-693-3978

LOCKPORT

Mon - Thu: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri & Sat: 9 AM - 1 PM
Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-532-3158
Fax: 985-532-0270

RACELAND

Mon - Thu: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM
Fri - Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-537-6875
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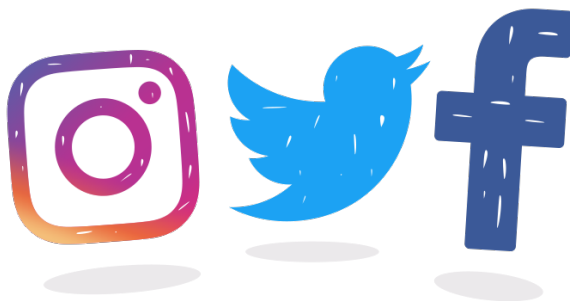
Phone: 985-632-7140
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THIBODAUX

Mon - Thu: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri & Sat: 9 AM - 1 PM
Sun: Closed
Phone: 985-447-4119
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HEADQUARTERS

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