

# APL STAFF PICKS

FALL/WINTER 2018

*As thanks for your contribution, Anchorage Public Library staff have selected their favorite books for you to cozy up with on these long, dark winter nights. May you get a warm glow from a good book!*

## Young Adult Fiction

### **Spinning, by Tillie Walden**

A graphic memoir of a dedicated figure skater coming of age, being outed, and coping with growing out of her passion.

Ryan, Muldoon Library  
Book

### **Children of Blood and Bone, by Tomi Adeyemi**

It's an amazing and magical adventure.

Jon, Teen Librarian, Loussac  
Book, eBook, eAudiobook, Book on CD

### **Hold Me Closer, Necromancer, by Lish McBride**

It's a hilarious ride with zombie pandas, werewolves and waffle sacrifices.

Jon, Teen Librarian, Loussac  
Book, Book on CD

### **The Novice, by Taran Matharu**

Great start to an amazing fantasy series. It's basically Harry Potter meets Pokemon.

Jon, Teen Librarian, Loussac  
Book, eBook, eAudiobook, Book on CD



Photo by Nong Vang on Unsplash

## Picture Books for Native American Heritage Month

In celebration of Picture Book Month and Native American Heritage Month in November, we'd like to share our favorite Indigenous picture books.

### **How Raven Got His Crooked Nose,** by Barbara and Ethan Atwater

**Sweetest Kulu,** By Celina  
Kalluck

**When We Were Alone,** by  
David Alexander Robertson

**Wild Berries,** by Julie Flett

**Charlie and the Blanket  
Toss,** by Tricia Brown

**You Hold Me Up,** by  
Monique Gray Smith

*Sealaska Heritage's Baby Raven Reads series focuses on Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian cultures for children up to 5, including:*

**Shanyaak'utlaax = Salmon  
Boy,** by Johnny Marks;  
illustrated by Michaela  
Goade

**Raven and the Box of  
Daylight,** by Pauline Duncan;  
illustrated by Lindsay Carron

**How Devil's Club Came to  
Be,** by Miranda Rose  
Kaagwéil Worl; illustrated by  
Michaela Goade

# Fiction

## **The Calculating Stars, by Mary Robinette Kowal**

If Hidden Figures and The Astronaut Wives Club had a book child. This alternative space race addresses climate change, equal rights and humanity's need to work together.

[Misty Rose, Community Relations Mgr.](#)  
[Book](#)

## **A Dangerous Crossing, by Ausma Zehanat Khan**

The latest Rachel Getty and Esa Khattak mystery - the Canadian detectives follow a case into the heart of the Syrian refugee crisis in Greece.

[Clare, Library Planning & Development](#)  
[Book](#)

## **Looking for Alaska, by John Green**

The award-winning debut from the bestselling author of The Fault in Our Stars. One of the 100 most-loved novels in PBS's Great American Read.

[Lina, Interlibrary Loans](#)  
[Book, ebook, Book on CD, Playaway](#)

## **All Systems Red, by Martha Wells**

Hugo award winner for best novella. A self aware security robot works to save the lives of a science expedition when all it really wants to do is watch a soap opera set in space.

[Dean, Librarian, Chugiak- Eagle River](#)  
[Book, eBook, Book on CD](#)

## **The Serpent's Secret, by Sayantani DasGupta**

It's up to 12-year-old Kiranmala to rescue her parents from a demon. Packed with action, humor and Bengali folklore, this book is a delight!

[Kelsey, Youth Services Librarian](#)  
[Juvenile Book, Book on CD](#)

## **Something Wicked This Way Comes, by Ray Bradbury**

Kids versus the scary unknown. This novel combines elements of fantasy and horror, analyzing the conflicting natures of good and evil.

[Dean, Librarian, Chugiak- Eagle River](#)  
[Book, eBook, DVD, eAudiobook](#)

## **Check Please! Book One #Hockey, by Ngozi Ukazu**

Eric Bittle is a former figure skater, baking enthusiast, and the newest member of his college hockey team. It is literally the cutest love story ever.

[Stacia, Adult Services Coordinator](#)  
[Book \(Graphic Novel\)](#)

## **The Hate U Give, by Angie Thomas**

The best book I've read in years - a teenager is caught in a media storm after she witnesses the fatal shooting of a friend by a police officer.

[Clare, Library Planning & Development](#)  
[Young Adult Book, eBook, eAudiobook](#)

## **The Song of Achilles, by Madeline Miller**

A beautiful and heart-breaking retelling of the legend of Achilles and his partner Patroclus.

[Claire, Gerrish Library Manager](#)  
[Book, eBook, eAudiobook](#)

# Non-Fiction

## **Lab Girl, by Hope Jahren**

The author is a scientist and also a beautiful writer who brings alive the world of soil and trees, and life in a science lab. I was enchanted by this beautifully written memoir.

[Mary Jo, Library Director](#)  
[Book, eBook, eAudiobook](#)

## **Kedi (Documentary), by Termite Films, directed by Ceyda Torun**

A beautiful, gentle, and quiet Turkish movie about Istanbul's street cats. It's a lovely documentary about the kindness of people who care for the animals moving through their lives.

[Lisa, Patron Services, Loussac](#)  
[DVD](#)

## **Palaces for the People, by Eric Klinenberg**

A look at the importance of public connection, this introduction to social infrastructure will make you appreciate your parks, libraries, and civic architecture in a new way.

[Sarah, Librarian, Loussac](#)  
[Book,](#)

## **The Opposite of Hate: a field guide to repairing our humanity, by Sally Kohn**

If you're wondering how to talk to that relative with whom you disagree, Kohn offers insights on how we can come together if not in agreement, at least with respect for one another.

[Sarah, Librarian, Loussac](#)  
[Book](#)

## **How Do I Tax Thee, by Kristin Tate**

It shows hidden taxes everywhere in our society.

[Teresa, Assoc. Librarian, Mountain View](#)  
[Book](#)

## **Bad Blood : Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup, by John Carreyrou**

A fascinating look inside a corrupt Silicon Valley start up.

[Claire, Gerrish Library Manager](#)  
[Book](#)

## **Kitchen Confidential: Adventures in the Culinary Underbelly, by Anthony Bourdain**

An inside look at upscale restaurants and what it takes to survive in them. Bourdain is the Hunter S. Thompson of the culinary world.

[Dean, Librarian, Chugiak- Eagle River](#)  
[Book, eBook, eAudiobook](#)