

APL STAFF PICKS

SPRING/SUMMER 2019

As thanks for your contribution, Anchorage Public Library staff have selected their favorite books for you to read this summer, whether you're on a beach, in the mountains, or right in your own back yard. Enjoy!

Young Adult Fiction

The Cheerleaders, by Kara Thomas

A gripping and dark story about the murders and suicides of a bunch of high school cheerleaders.

Claire, Manager, Gerrish Library
Book

The Wild Lands, by Paul Greci

A new and exciting book follows a teen and his sister as they attempt to walk out of Alaska after the collapse of society. By an Alaskan author, great wilderness survival book!

Elizabeth, YS Coordinator, Loussac
Book

When I was the Greatest, by Jason Reynolds

Jason Reynolds has a gift: reading his books makes you see and hear his characters and setting. You're THERE with them.

Lisa, Library Assistant, Loussac
Book, eAudiobook

On a Sunbeam, by Tillie Walden

Riveting, engrossing, and beautifully illustrated, this graphic novel is a slow-burn, character-driven narrative that sucks you into its space fantasy world.

Kelsey, YS Librarian, Loussac
Book

Picture Book

Dreamers, by Yuyi Morales

A beautiful story of an immigrant mother and son, and how they find their way in the USA with the help of the library.

Claire, Manager, Gerrish

School Age Fiction

P.S. I Miss You, by Jen Petro-Roy

Evie is secretly writing letters to her sister who her strict parents sent away for getting pregnant. She is questioning her faith, her parents, and her own new-formed crush on a girl.

Elizabeth, Youth Services
Book, eBook, eAudiobook

New STEM Kits

STEM kits provide hands-on interaction and creative learning for youth ages 6 to 12. Kits are available for pick-up at the Loussac Youth Services desk or by placing a hold at any APL library. **Examples:**

Alaska Birds & Animals: Contains Binoculars, field guides to birds and animals, and an observation journal.

Coding 1: Contains a Robot mouse you program to solve a maze with card prompts, and coding picture books.

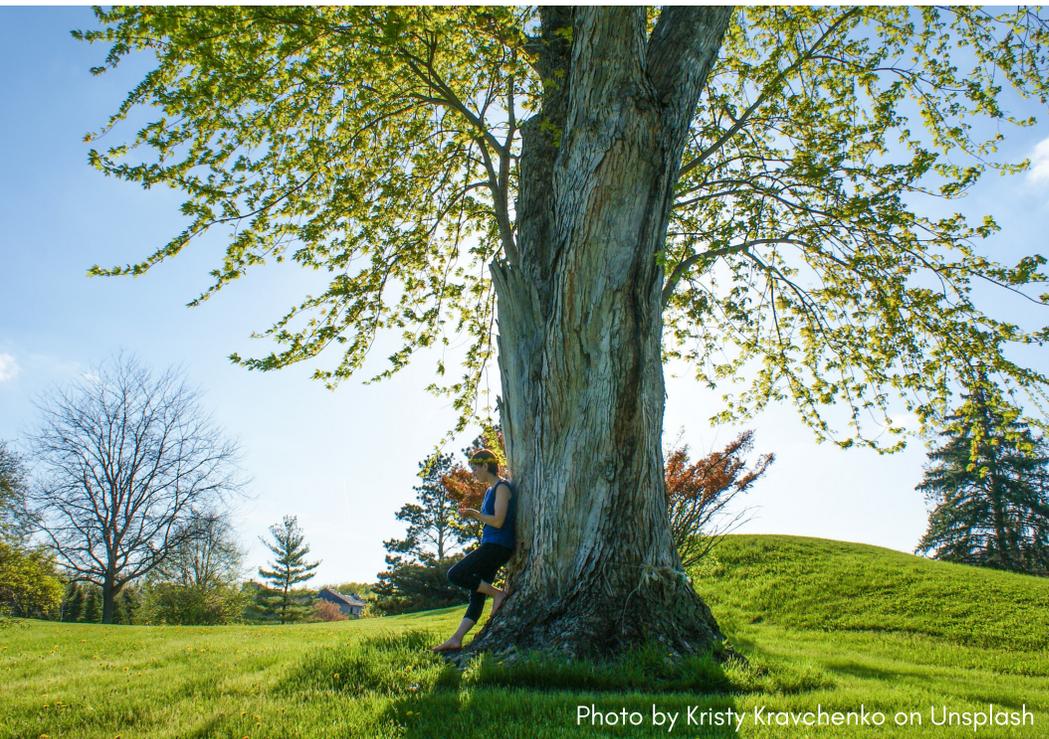


Photo by Kristy Kravchenko on Unsplash



Fiction

Machine Learning, by Hugh Howey

Absolutely brilliant bite-sized science fiction that will rock you back on your heels.

[Lisa, Library Assistant, Loussac](#)
Book, eBook

Artemis, by Andy Weir

It's a heist book IN SPACE! Great female protagonist and enough science to keep it real.

[Misty Rose, Community Relations](#)
Book, eBook, eAudiobook

Restless, by William Boyd

It is a very intriguing story about a woman who was a spy in WWII. It is now the 70s and she fears someone is after her from her spy days. The movie has all excellent British actors.

[Carolyn, Library Assistant, Loussac](#)
Book, eBook, eAudiobook, DVD

Fluke: Or, I Know Why the Winged Whale Sings, by Christopher Moore

A bizarre, ridiculous, appealing, funny story about marine biology and alternate realities.

[Lisa, Library Assistant, Loussac](#)
Book, eBook, eAudiobook, Book on CD

The Friend, by Sigrid Nunez

When a woman unexpectedly loses her lifelong best friend and mentor, she finds herself burdened with the unwanted dog he has left behind.

[Laura, Collection Management](#)
Book, eBook, Large Print Book

How Long Till Black Future Month, by NK Jemisin

Gloriously inventive Sci Fi. Jemisin sharply examines modern society, infusing magic into the mundane, and drawing deft parallels in the fantasy realms of her imagination.

[Rachel, Collection Management](#)
Book, eBook, eAudiobook

Under a Pole Star, by Stef Penney

A compelling story about a woman explorer during the golden age of Arctic exploration.

[Laura, Collection Management](#)
Book, Book on CD

A Gentleman in Moscow, by Amor Towles

An intriguing story about a nobleman forced to live in, and not leave, a hotel in 1920s Russia. I got a fascinating picture of the history of that time.

[Kathryn, Shelver, Loussac](#)
Book, eBook, eAudiobook, Book on CD

The Riders of Ordebec, by Fred Vargas

Vargas' Adamsberg series has a wonderful set of characters and locales. Besides being superb mystery stories, they also dive into historical events that are very well researched.

[Martina, Librarian Assistant, Gerrish](#)
Book, Audiobook

Non-Fiction

Paddling North, by Audrey Sutherland

A compelling story about a solo adventure by canoe in Alaska's Inside Passage. The author encourages us all to go solo, go light and to go now.

[Liz, Library Assistant, Loussac](#)
Book

The Year of Less, by Cait Flanders

More memoir than how-to, the author chronicles the year that she challenged herself not to shop in an effort to break her consumerism habit and found how what really matters.

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

Silence: In the Age of Noise, by Erling Kagge

A thoughtful and considered approach to why silence is important, even necessary.

[Lisa, Library Assistant, Loussac](#)
Book

The Library Book, by Susan Orlean

Fascinating history of the Los Angeles Library, intertwined with a true mystery regarding arson at the library.

[Margo, Library Clerk, Loussac](#)
Book, eBook, eAudiobook, Book on CD

The View from a Monastery, by Benet Tvedten

Not a comprehensive 360 degree view, but rather glimpses into the window of the kitchen, the laundry room, etc. at just the right moments.

[Lisa, Library Assistant, Loussac](#)
Book

In the Land of Invisible Women: A Female Doctor's Journey in the Saudi Kingdom, by Qanta Ahmed

A British citizen of Pakistani origin, Dr. Ahmed chronicles her experience in Saudi Arabia. Raised as a Muslim, she learns about herself, religion and another country.

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