

APL STAFF PICKS

FALL 2020/WINTER 2021

As thanks for your contribution, Anchorage Public Library staff have selected their favorite books for you to read or listen to this fall and winter. So curl up with a cup of tea and check out these great selections!

Movies, TV and Music

The Babushkas of Chernobyl, Holly Morris (Author)

These ladies are fantastic! Any grandma who can chase off soldiers with her gardening shovel is my hero.

Lisa, Patron Services, Loussac
DVD

Frozen II Original Movie Soundtrack, Kristen Anderson-Lopez (Producer)

Who doesn't love to sing along to Frozen songs?!

Shanna (and twin daughters, Quinn and Penelope, age 6), Administration
hoopla

APL featured Boy Band Playlist

From classic NKOTB and 5ive to BTS-- this list is full of boy band pop fun for all tastes.

Misty Rose, Community Relations
Freegal - music playlist

Agatha and the Truth of Murder, Terry Loane (Director)

Another movie version of where and what Agatha Christie was doing the 11 days she was missing.

Carolyn, Adult Services, Loussac
hoopla



School Age Fiction

Harbor Me, by Jacqueline Woodson

In this "breakfast club" type setting, you will feel the angst of loneliness and the joy of finding true friends to whom you can really pour your heart out.

Linda, Youth Services
Book, eBook, eAudiobook

Paloma wants to be Lady Freedom, by Rachel Campos-Duffy; illustrated by Richard Johnson

Based on a real person. A story about an immigrant families trip to Washington D.C.

Teresa, Mountain View Library
Book

Pet, by Akwaeke Emezi

A beautiful story of friendship, healing, and monsters that explores the lengths to which we will go to protect the people we love.

Meneka, Community Engagement Librarian
Book, eBook, eAudiobook

Danbi Leads the School Parade, by Anna Kim

A sweet story of a non-English speaking child introduced into her new American classroom. I found the colorful spreads of Danbi and her school mates completely engrossing.

Sue, Chugiak-Eagle River Library
Book

Fiction

**Kim Jiyoung, Born 1982,
by Cho Nam-Joo**

An honest portrayal of all the sexism a modern Korean woman experiences in her lifetime. Women readers will surely connect and relate with Kim Jiyoung.

[Claire, Gerrish Branch Library](#)

Book

**My Sister, the Serial Killer: A Novel,
by Oyinkan Braithwaite**

I enjoyed the dark humor and ethical quandaries in this exploration of the relationship between sisters when one happens to be a serial murderer.

[Meneka, Community Engagement](#)

Book, eBook, eAudiobook

A Boy and His Dog at the End of the World, by Charlie Fletcher

Griz is one of the few survivors in a world where the mysterious Gelding dramatically reduced the world's population.

[Laura, Collection Management](#)

Book

**The Only Good Indian,
by Stephen Graham Jones**

The book follows four American Indian men after a disturbing event from their youth puts them in a desperate struggle for their lives.

[Laura, Collection Management](#)

Book, eBook, eAudiobook

**One of Us is Lying,
by Karen McManus**

Something like a blend between Gossip Girl and Breakfast Club...and a murder. A High School 'Who Dun-It' with a lot of character development.

[Celia, Tech and Patron Services](#)

Book, eBook, eAudiobook

**LaGuardia,
by Nnedi Okorafor**

An inventive and sweet story about immigration and the worth of sentient creatures of all kinds.

[Rachel, Collection Management](#)

Book, eBook

**Maisie Dobbs,
by Jacqueline Winspear**

Deliciously written and does not fade through the series. Strong female lead that grows as a person and does not stay stagnant. Very, very well written.

[Ashley, Shelver](#)

Book, eBook, eAudiobook

**We Are Not From Here,
by Jenny Torres Sanchez**

Heart-breaking, suspenseful and timely story of 3 teens who have no choice but to leave Guatemala and try to make their way to the U.S.

[Sue, Chugiak-Eagle River Library](#)

Book

**A Study in Scarlet Women,
by Sherry Thomas**

A fun take on Sherlock Holmes.

[Jamie, Patron Services, Loussac](#)

Book, eBook, eAudiobook

Non-Fiction

**I Will Never See the World Again,
by Ahmet Altan**

A Turkish dissident writer, taken at dawn and charged with...well, they couldn't really decide...sentenced to life without parole. This is his prison experience.

[Lisa, Patron Services, Loussac](#)

Book, eBook

**Caste: the origins of our discontent,
by Isabel Wilkerson**

Wilkerson uses research and personal stories to craft an easy-to-understand narrative that explores how we do indeed live in a caste system in the U.S. and what that means for us all.

[Sarah, Alaska Collection Librarian](#)

Book, eBook, eAudiobook

**That Can be Arranged,
by Huda Fahmy**

Huda shares real life stories of what it is like to be a Muslim woman through illustrations.

[Jamie, Patron Services, Loussac](#)

Book

**When They Call You a Terrorist:
A Black Lives Matter Memoir,
by Patrice Khan-Cullors**

Read by the author, this current and gut-wrenching story of one of the Black Lives Matter founders is vivid and necessary.

[Lisa, Patron Services, Loussac](#)

Book, eBook, eAudiobook

**The Body Keeps Score,
by Bessel van der Kolk, MD**

One of the most important and revealing books about why and how traumatic events and hard times impact our whole bodies and change our choices.

[Rebecca, Community Resource Coord.](#)

Book, eBook, eAudiobook

**White trash: the 400-year untold history of class in America,
by Nancy Isenberg**

Shows a hidden marginalized part of American society. I had family who were indentured servants and my husband's family is Irish.

[Teresa, Mountain View Library](#)

Book, eBook, eAudiobook