

APL STAFF PICKS

SPRING/SUMMER 2022

As thanks for your contribution, Anchorage Public Library staff have selected their favorite items for you to read, watch, or listen to this spring and summer. So curl up outside in the sun, and check out these great selections!

Movies, TV, Music, and Magazines

Father Brown, Ceri Meyrick and Sam Hill (Producers)

This television remake of the G.K. Chesterton book series is a hilarious cozy mystery set in an English village in the 1950s. For such a quiet place, the murder rate is high. Mark Williams does a great job as the title character.

[Shanna, Administration](#)
[DVD, hoopla](#)

Wolf Hall, Mark Pybus (Producer)

This BBC series is written in consultation with author Hillary Mantel. It's a great binge watch and nice recap before reading the third book in her Cromwell trilogy!

[Rayette, Mountain View](#)
[DVD, hoopla](#)

Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World, Catherine Bainbridge (Producer)

Just listen. If that first riff doesn't get you, listening to Rhiannon Giddens will.

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

hoopla, BingePasses

With hoopla BingePasses you can have unlimited access to a ton of magazines, Great Courses, or Curiosity Stream, for 7 days, and it only costs you one hoopla borrow! So many different things to learn for adults and kids!

[Shanna, Administration](#)
[hoopla](#)

School Age Fiction

When we are Kind, by Monique Gray Smith

This beautiful picture book celebrates family and community and the way we are connected.

Elizabeth, Youth Services
Picture Book, hoopla

Eva's Big Sleepover, by Rebecca Elliott

This book explains why some kids are anxious about sleepovers and how to cope with those feelings. The story is a great beginner chapter book for my 2nd graders!

Shanna (and daughters, Quinn & Penny), Administration, School Age Fiction, Book

Katie the Catsitter, by Colleen Venable

This fun and exciting graphic novel was one of the breakout hits of 2021 for our family! It's a perfect time to read it as volume 2 is about to release.

Elizabeth, Youth Services, School Age Fiction, Book

Scary Stories for Young Foxes, by Christian McKay Heidi

A good introduction to horror for children, based (mostly) on real-life animal behavior.

Kelsey, Youth Services
School Age Fiction, Book



Fiction

Small Things Like These, by Claire Keegan

This beautifully written book transports you back to Ireland in the 1980s and the worries and joys of the "average" person.

[Martina, Gerrish \(Girdwood\)](#)

[Book](#), [eBook](#), [eAudiobook](#)

The Overstory, by Richard Powers

Richard Powers' writing is so beautiful. I love all the stories within the story, and everything I learned about trees. I can't stop thinking about it.

[Kathryn, Circulation](#)

[CD](#), [Book](#), [eBook](#), [eAudiobook](#)

Gilded, by Marissa Meyer

A different take on the story of a girl who was supposed to spin straw into gold...suspenseful, dark, and beautiful. I loved it!

[Kathryn, Circulation](#)

[Book](#), [eBook](#), [eAudiobook](#)

Nine Lives, by Peter Swanson

This mystery book grabbed me and I read it in one day. Reminiscent of Agatha Christie with some unexpected twists and turns.

[Martina, Gerrish \(Girdwood\)](#)

[Book](#)

Firekeeper's Daughter, by Angeline Boulley

An Anishinaabe teen goes undercover to root out the crime and corruption threatening her community. The audiobook made me laugh one moment and cry the next.

[Jamie, Gerrish \(Girdwood\)](#)

[Book](#), [eAudiobook](#)

Bubble, by Jordan Morris

Graphic novel, based on a hit podcast, is a funny take down of the gig economy, hipster pop culture and so much more; as a woman works for an app fighting monsters inside a bubble city.

[Elizabeth, Youth Services](#)

[Book](#)

Oryx and Crake, by Margaret Atwood

It is a startling dystopian story that edges close to our current realities.

[Rhianon, Mountain View](#)

[Book](#), [eBook](#), [eAudiobook](#)

Harlem Shuffle, by Colson Whitehead, narrated by Dion Graham

The narrator does a wonderful job engaging the reader for the audiobook! The protagonist is likeable and basically good; doing his best to navigate between his life as an upstanding businessman and criminal fence.

[Kristie, Adult Services](#)

[CD](#), [Book](#), [eBook](#), [eAudiobook](#)

The Great Mrs. Elias: A Novel, by Barbara Chase-Riboud

This book has history, mystery and glamour! Based on a true story.

[Ashley, Circulation](#)

[Book](#), [CD](#)

Non-Fiction

¡Hola Papi! : how to come out in a Walmart parking lot and other life lessons, by John Paul Brammer

Hilarious & incisive, Brammer transmutes the absurdity, pain, and complexity of his past experiences into an empathetic wisdom for facing the absurd, painful and complicated present.

[Elliot, Technical Services](#)

[Book](#), [eBook](#), [eAudiobook](#)

Half Baked Harvest Cookbook, by Tieghan Gerard

This cookbook has so many delicious and useful recipes, I make at least one dish a week from this book!

[Rhianon, Mountain View](#)

[Book](#), [eBook](#)

Come Fly the World: the jet-age story of the women of Pam-Am, by Julia Cook

Focused on Pam-Am from the mid 60s to mid 70s, the author does a great job of linking the evolution of Pam-Am's flight attendants with the Vietnam War and the Women's Movement.

[Stacia, Adult Services](#)

[Book](#)

The Greatest Beer Run Ever: A Memoir of Friendship, Loyalty, and War, by John "Chick" Donohue

John "Chick" Donohue volunteers to sneak into Vietnam, track down buddies in combat, and give each of them messages of support from back home, maybe some laughs - and beer.

[Teresa, Mountain View](#)

[Book](#)

Pandemia: How Coronavirus Hysteria Took Over our Government, Rights, and Lives, by Alex Berenson

This book shows how to do proper research and how hard it can be to look at the whole picture on any subject. Alex Berenson is a former New York Times reporter and author of 16 books.

[Teresa, Mountain View](#)

[Book](#)

Burnout: The Secret to Unlocking the Stress Cycle, by Emily and Amelia Nagoski

This book about how women deal with stress in their lives is part story, part how-to manual. I found the ideas compelling and different from other "self-care" books.

[Shanna, Administration](#)

[Book](#), [eBook](#), [eAudiobook](#)