

# APL STAFF PICKS

FALL 2021/WINTER 2022

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

## Movies, TV, Music, and Magazines

### **The Ghost Story, David Lowery (Editor)**

A Ghost Story deftly manages its ambitious themes throughout an inventive, artful, and ultimately poignant exploration of love and loss. A moving exploration of haunting.

[Rayette, Mountain View](#)

[DVD, hoopla](#)

### **HGTV Magazine, Hearst (Publisher)**

I love that I can use my library card to see all the latest issues of my favorite magazines. As we get closer to the holidays, I look at HGTV magazine for decoration and gift inspiration!

[Shanna, Administration](#)

[Libby/OverDrive](#)

### **The Mindy Project, Mindy Kaling (Creator)**

I just started watching this and it's quite fun! Great ensemble cast with a strong female lead. They find humor in medicine and navigating life.

[Misty Rose, Community Relations](#)

[DVD](#)

### **My Life is Murder, Ben Lucas and Jo O'Shaughnessy (Directors)**

I loved watching Lucy Lawless balance her post retirement life with crimefighting. You start watching for the mystery, but you stay for the baking!

[Stacia, Adult Services](#)

[hoopla](#)

## School Age Fiction

### **The Barren Grounds, by David Robertson**

Two indigenous Canadian children in the foster care system travel to a fantasy world populated by animals suffering from the effects of an endless winter.

**Linda, Youth Services**  
**Book, eBook, eAudiobook**

### **Juan has the Jitters, by Aneta Cruz**

This book features a boy with autism learning how he can still be a part of his school's activities without having to worry about his classmates laughing at his coping mechanism.

**Keelin, Mountain View**  
**Picture Book**

### **ICE! Poems about Polar Life, by Douglas Florian**

Beautifully written and illustrated poems about arctic life including Alaskan favorites like caribou and ptarmigan!

**Elizabeth, Youth Services**  
**Picture Book**

### **C is for Country, by Lil Nas X**

Visually appealing art leads to an alphabet book based on rapper Lil Nas X and his "Old Town Road" song. Emphasizes that country living is for everyone, but so is fashion and glam.

**Keelin, Mountain View**  
**Picture Book**



# Fiction

## **Everyone Knows Your Mother is a Witch, by Rivka Galchen**

The 30 Years War (1618-1648) reduced the Palatine to 1/3 of its population. Being from there, I was always interested in this period of German history.

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

Book

## **Parable of the Sower, by Octavia Butler**

This is a well-written story about our possible future...thought provoking and a but frightening.

[Kathryn, Patron Services](#)

Book, eBook

## **Little Secrets, by Jennifer Hiller**

Seattle power couple, Marin and Derek, have everything...until their four year old son is taken from Pike Place Market.

[Laura, Collection Management](#)

Book, Large Type, eBook

## **White is for Witching, by Helen Oyeyemi**

A delightfully unique take on a haunted house story in which the house itself is a character. Oyeyemi balances deep insight into her characters and a palpably spooky mood.

[Meneka, Community Engagement](#)

Book, eBook

## **To Sleep in a Sea of Stars, by Christopher Paolini**

Christopher Paolini spent nearly nine years writing this book and it shows. It's an incredible journey with Kira Navarez as she is suddenly thrust into a galaxy-wide war.

[Celia, Patron Services](#)

Book, Audiobook, eBook, eAudiobook

## **Sorcerer to the Crown, by Zen Cho**

This is a great mix of fantasy, regency, and steampunk!

[Lisa, Patron Services](#)

Audiobook

## **Tokyo Ever After, by Emiko Jean**

Princess Diaries meets Crazy Rich Asians with a dash of enemies to lovers. Very cute and a quick read. Perfect for a long weekend!

[Keelin, Mountain View](#)

Book

## **Cemetery Boys, by Aiden Thomas**

This story is full of magic, friendship, family, and ghosts. The narrator, Avi Roque, brings to life a trans LatinX teen's journey of proving that he is a real brujo.

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

eAudiobook

## **While I was Gone, by Sue Miller**

This book made me think about my life and my relationships: marriage, kids, friends, all of them. The protagonist isn't particularly likeable or honest, but that actually made the book more enjoyable for me.

[Shanna, Administration](#)

Book

# Non-Fiction

## **Answers in the Form of a Question, by Claire McNear**

As someone who grew up in a Jeopardy! house, I've always wondered what it would be like to be on the show. This book reminded me that 75% of the contestants lose, and I can just watch at home!

[Stacia, Adult Services](#)

Book

## **Is This Anything?, by Jerry Seinfeld**

Read by Seinfeld himself, this is an anthology of his standup comedy work since the 1970s. Some of the stories had me laughing with tears! A nice break from our current times.

[Clare, Administration](#)

eAudiobook

## **An Inconvenient Minority, by Kenny Wu**

This book on meritocracy is a reminder that the American dream is real, and that hard work, self-discipline, and strong families still pay large dividends.

[Teresa, Mountain View](#)

Book

## **If You Tell, by Gregg Olsen**

This was one of the most disturbing true crime books I've read in awhile. Definitely not for the young or faint of heart! A scary story about what parents can do to make sure they have all the power, and the effects those relationships have on their children later in life.

[Shanna, Administration](#)

Book, eBook, eAudiobook

## **The Art of Gathering, by Priya Parker**

This is a good read for our times. The author offers insight into how to host the most meaningful gatherings.

[Liz, Patron Services](#)

Book

## **You'll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey, by Amber Ruffin and Lacey Lamar**

This book provides really good insight as to what everyday racism looks like, and the toll that microaggressions can take on work and quality of life.

[Stacia, Adult Services](#)

Book