



# HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE 2019

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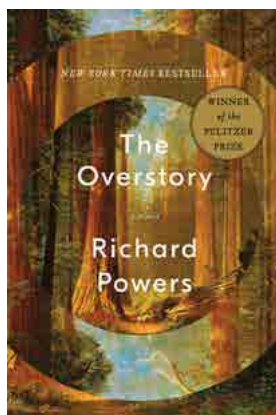
# 2019 Award Winners

## Looking for ...

- 3 Picture Books
- 5 K-Grade 1
- 6 Grades 2-3
- 7 Grades 4-6
- 8 Middle School
- 9 High School
- 10 Creative
- 11 Audiobooks
- 12 Novels
- 13 Cookbooks
- 14 Gardening
- 15 Civics
- 16 Travel
- 17 Music
- 18 Movies + TV
- 19 Board Games

*The Holiday Gift Guide 2019 is a list compiled by staff at Elmhurst Public Library.*

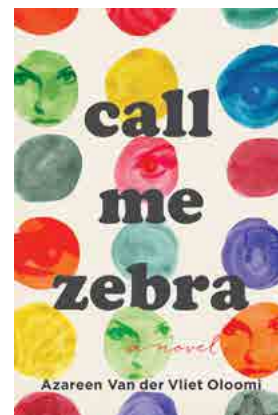
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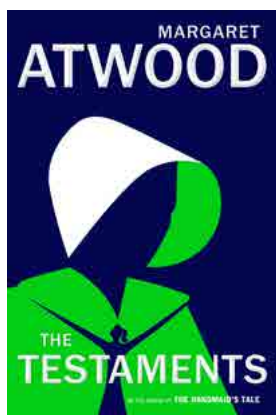
**PULITZER PRIZE  
FOR FICTION**



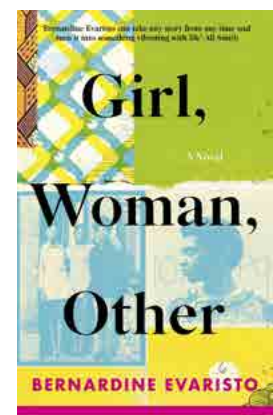
**NATIONAL BOOK  
AWARD FOR FICTION**



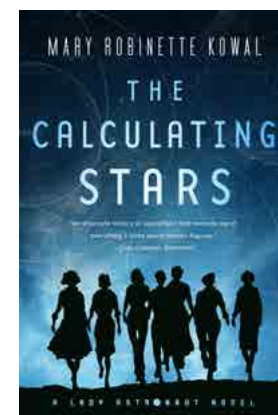
**PEN/FAULKNER  
AWARD**



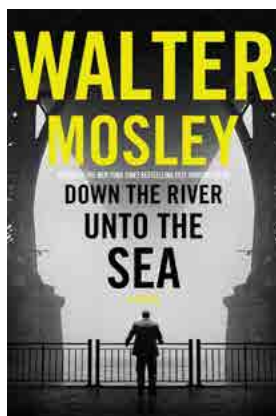
**MAN BOOKER PRIZE  
(TIE)**



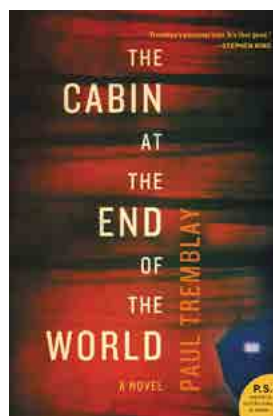
**MAN BOOKER PRIZE  
(TIE)**



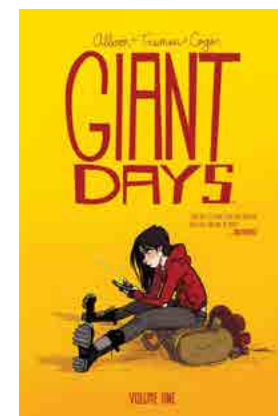
**HUGO AWARD  
FOR BEST NOVEL**



**EDGAR AWARD  
FOR BEST NOVEL**

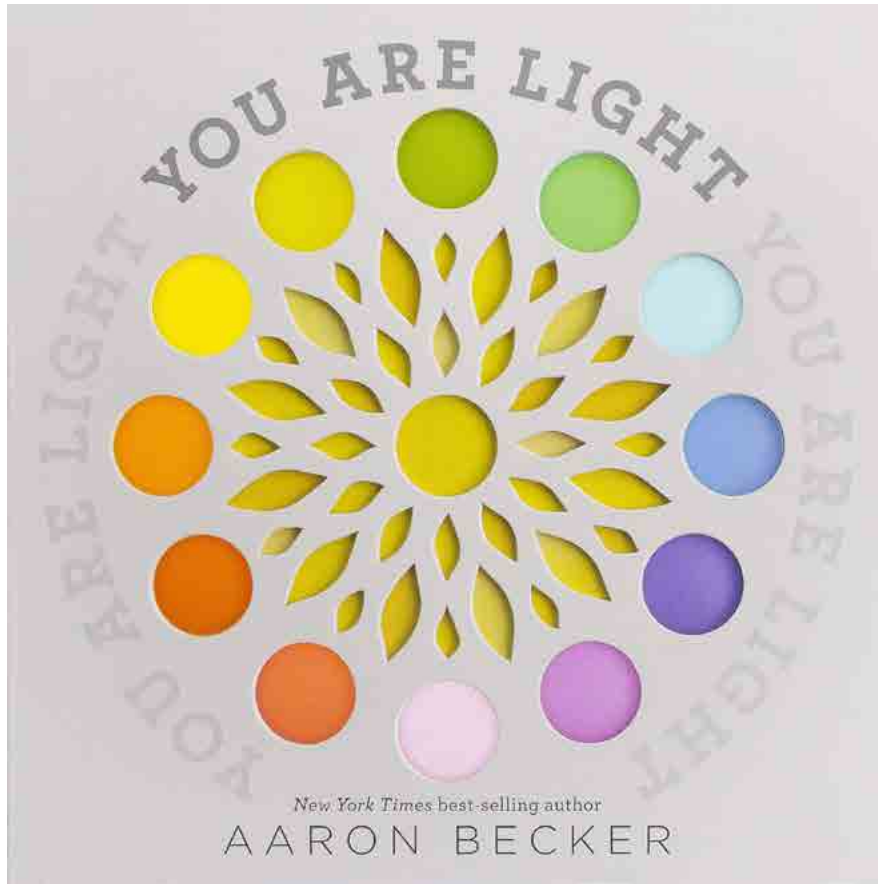


**BRAM STOKER AWARD  
FOR SUPERIOR  
ACHIEVEMENT  
IN A NOVEL**



**EISNER AWARD  
FOR BEST  
CONTINUING SERIES**

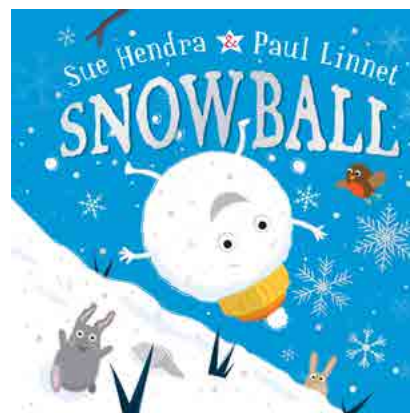
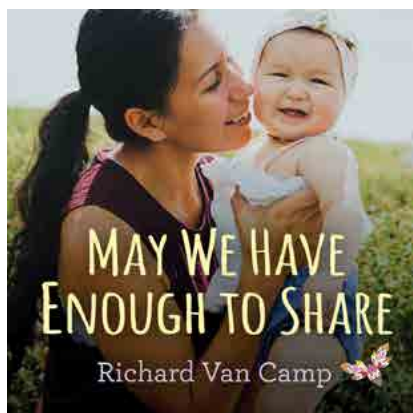
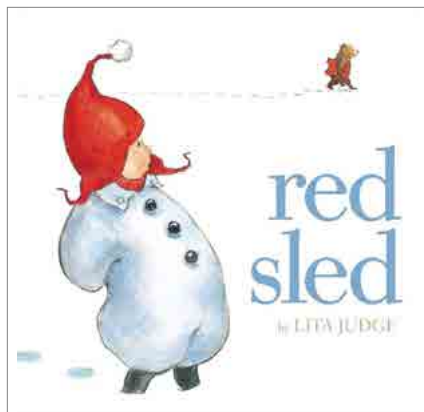
# for Kids: Board Books

**Librarian favorite:**

*You are Light* by Aaron Becker

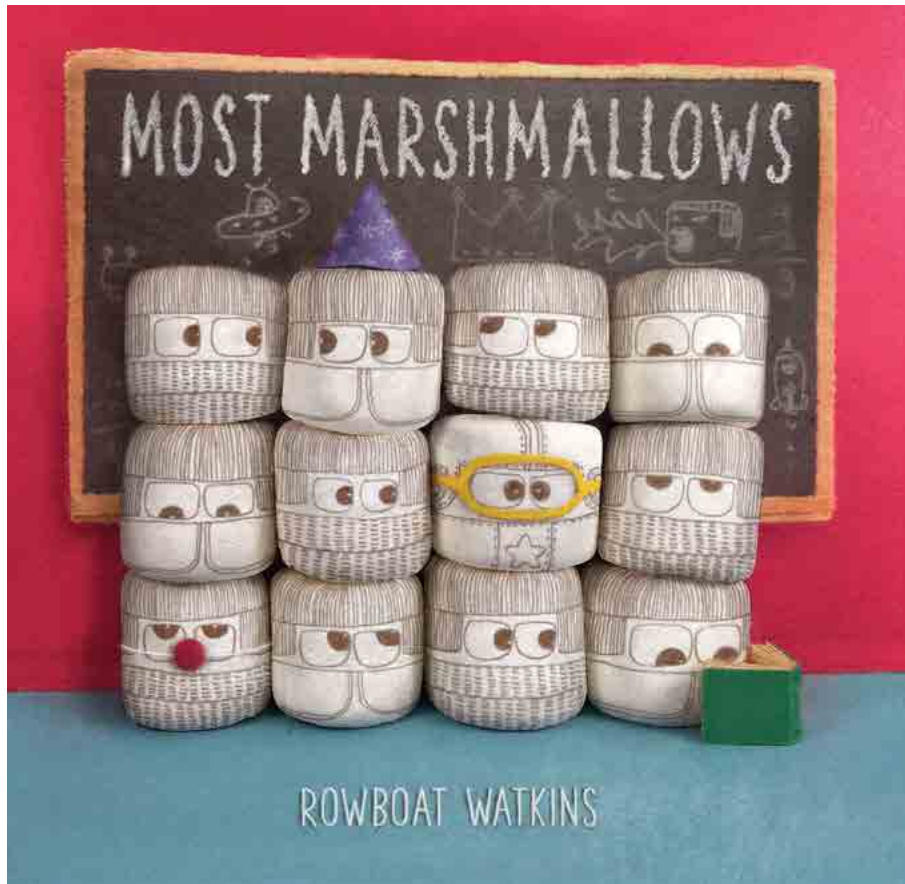
**Why we love it:**

Simple, artful and mesmerizing, this engaging book about light and color will appeal to the whole family.





# for Kids: Picture Books

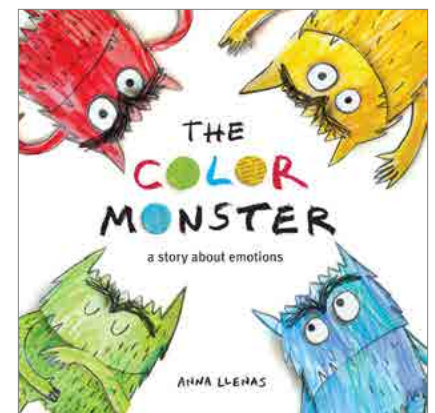
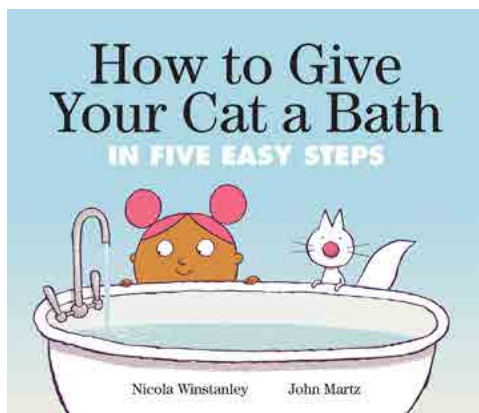
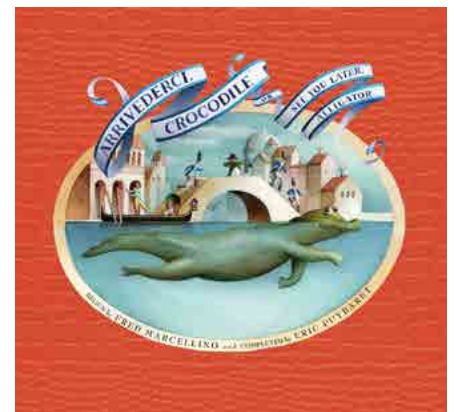
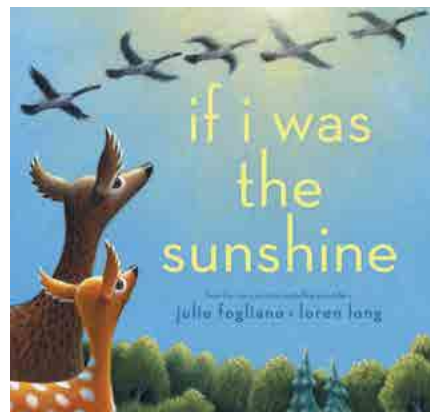
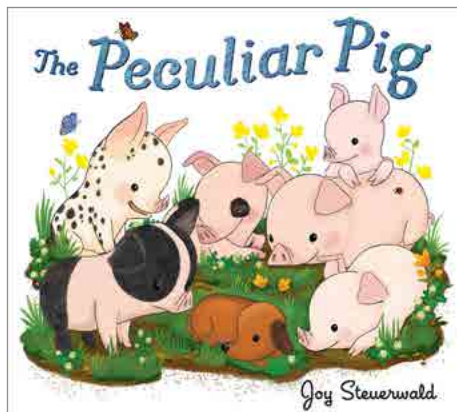


## Librarian favorite:

*Most Marshmallows*  
by Rowboat Watkins

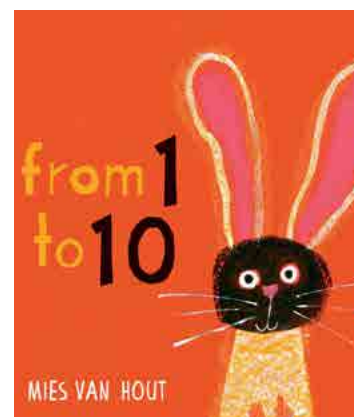
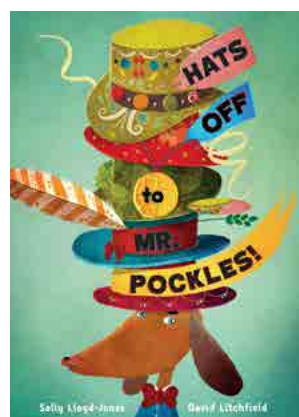
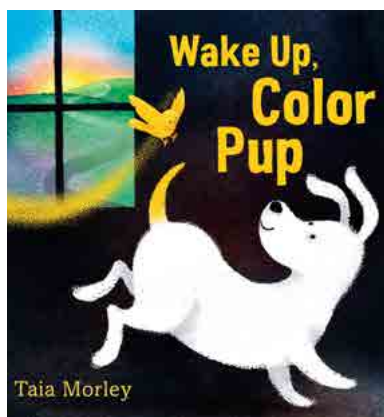
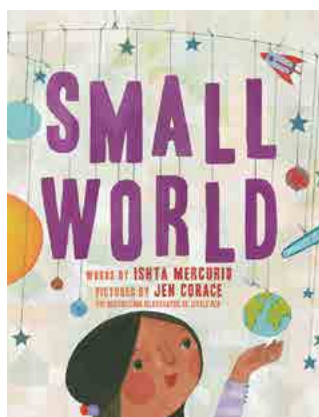
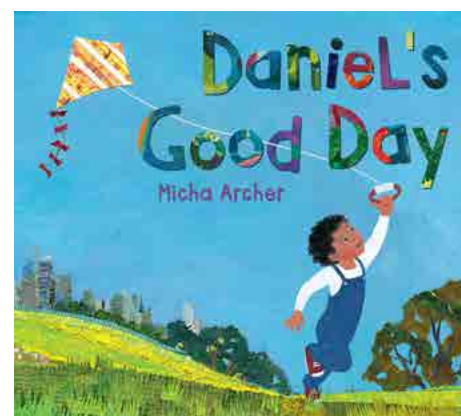
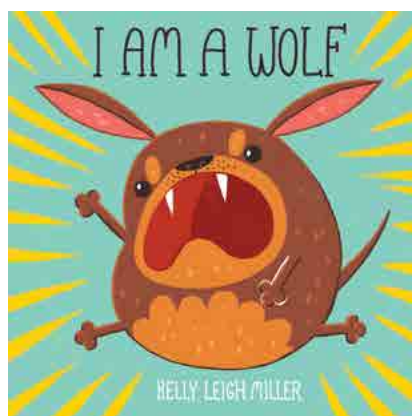
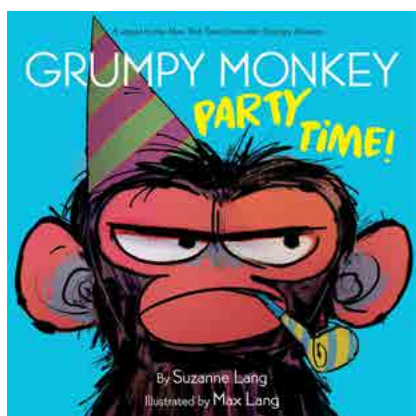
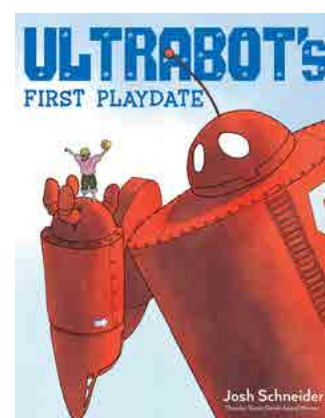
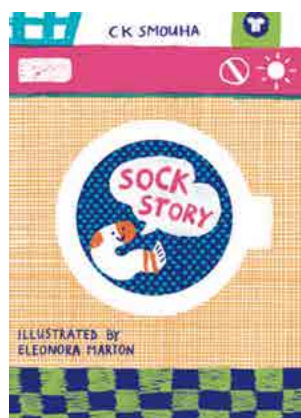
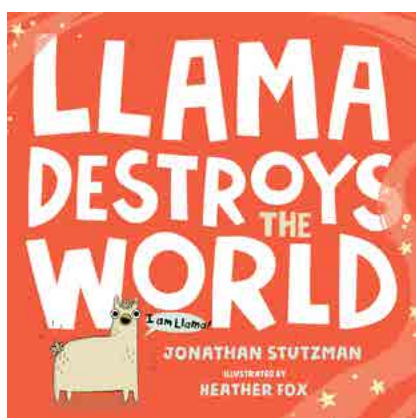
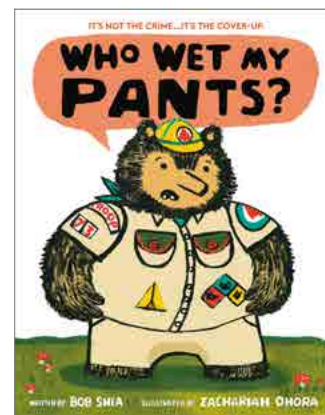
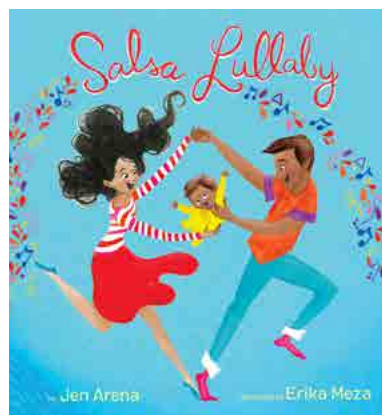
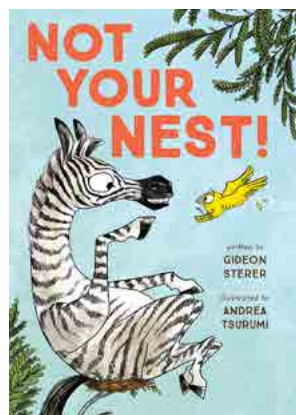
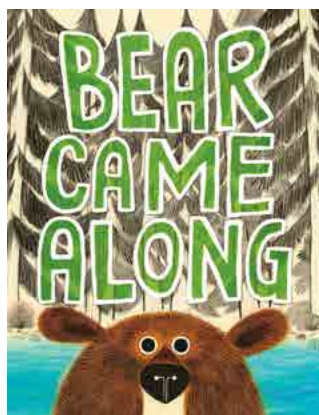
## Why we love it:

While this book is great for reading 'round the campfire, it's also an ideal pick-me-up on days when self confidence is low. Quirky and surprising, it's a reminder to everyone that by being true to oneself, everyone has the power to be extraordinary. Perfect for all ages.



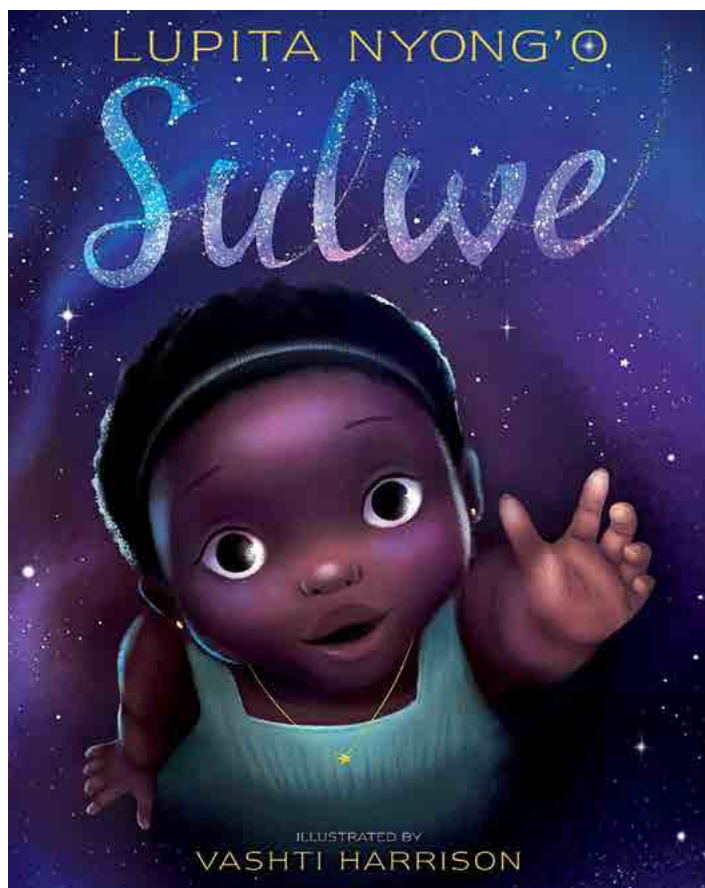


# for Kids: Picture Books





# for Kindergarten–Grade 1

**Librarian favorite:**

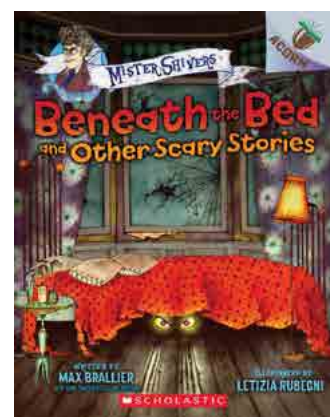
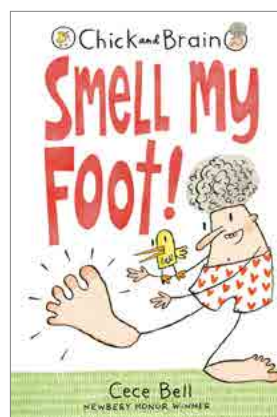
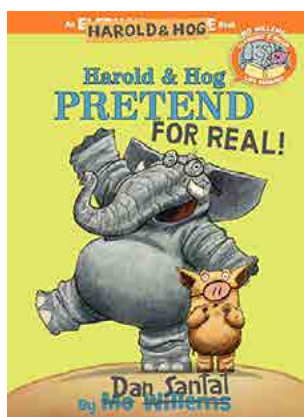
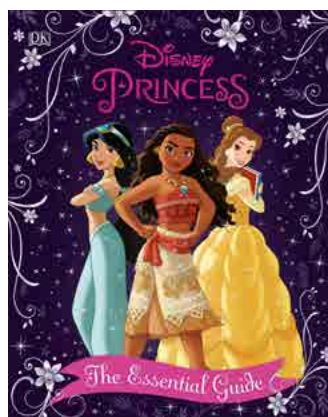
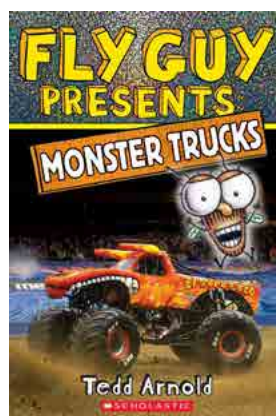
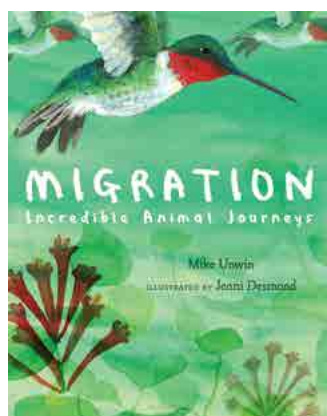
*Sulwe* by Lupita Nyong'o

**Why we love it:**

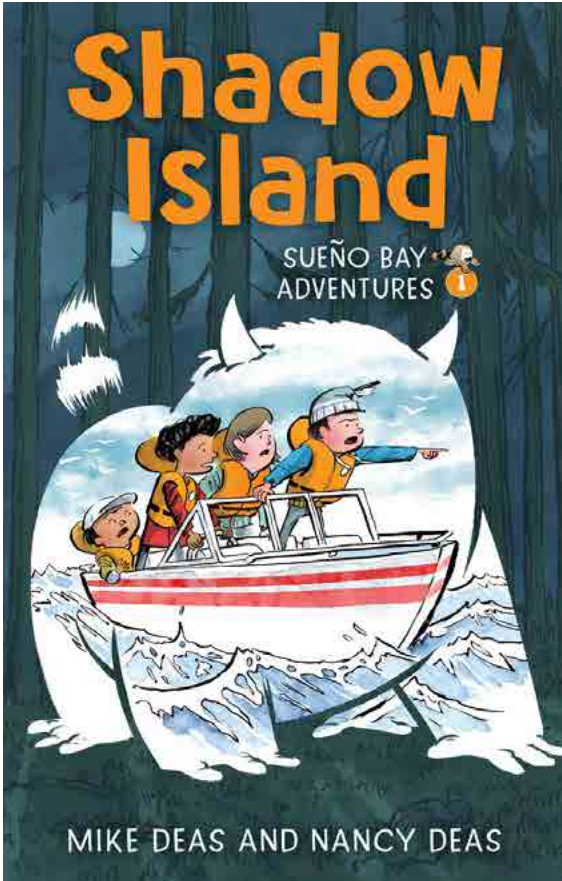
*Sulwe* is both a beguiling and magical story accentuated with art in warm golden tones which blend into rich, purple-hued night scenes, accented with iridescent blues and galactic sprinkles of white.

In her debut as an author, award-winning actress Nyong'o writes a whimsical and heartwarming story that inspire children to see their own unique beauty.

*Sulwe* has skin the color of midnight and is darker than everyone in her family and school. She just wants to be beautiful and bright. Then a magical journey in the night sky opens her eyes and changes everything. This beautiful book sends a message of tenderness and joy to any child who has ever felt unworthy of love on account of their looks.







**Librarian favorite:**

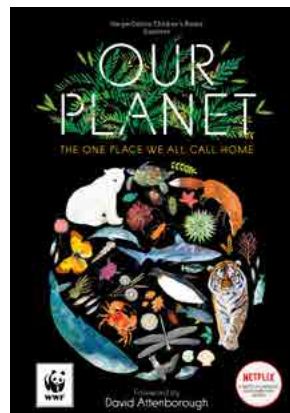
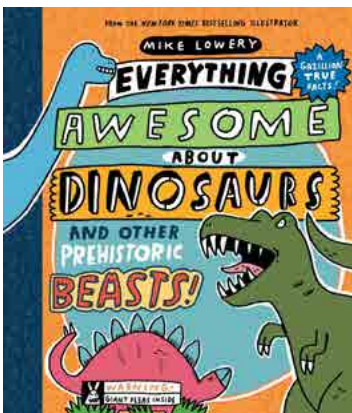
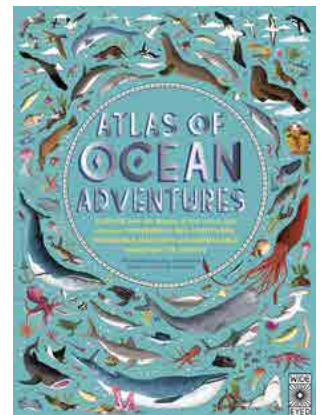
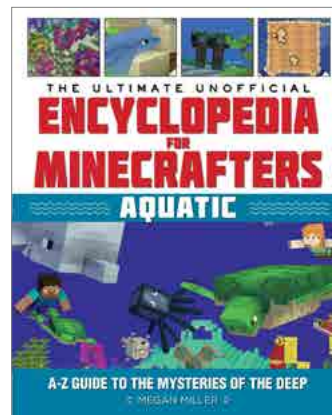
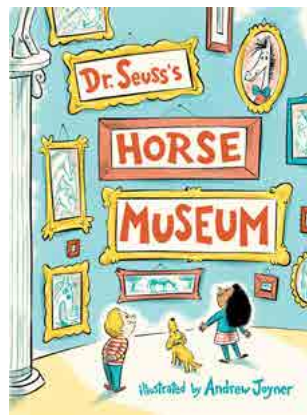
*Sueño Bay Adventures 1: Shadow Island* by Mike Deas

**Why we love it:**

Moon Creatures, missteps, and mayhem lead a boy through a fun, magical romp for young readers.

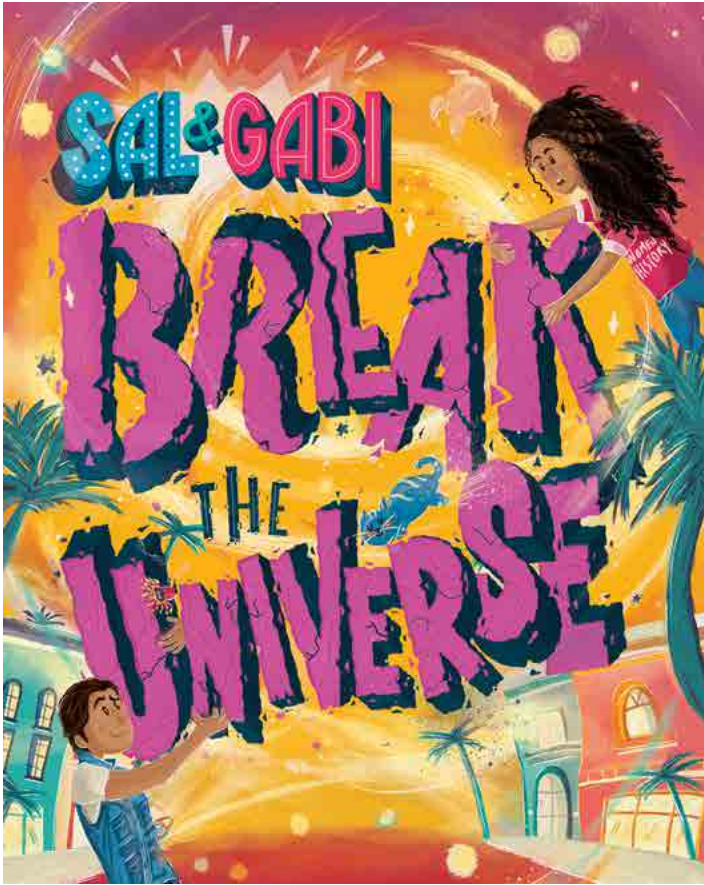
Ollie has nowhere left to live after losing his parents. Now he finds himself stuck at his elderly grandpa's house in Sueño Bay, known as "The Home of the Supernatural." Unhappy and bored, he plans to make his escape back to the mainland when a few of his new classmates pull him into a perilous journey. There, Ollie and company stumble on a pair of strange, raccoon-like horned beasts. Could these be the fabled creatures of local yore?

This fast-paced adventure is filled with cute and colorful illustrations that bring this story full of mystery, magic, and shenanigans to life.





# for Grades 4–6

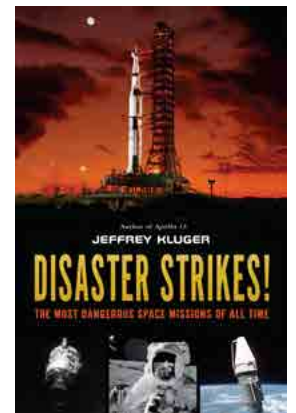
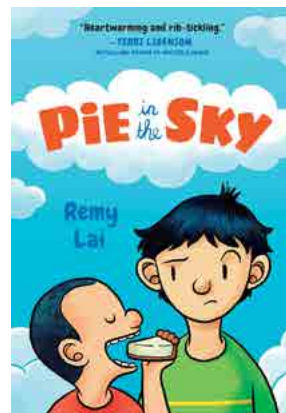
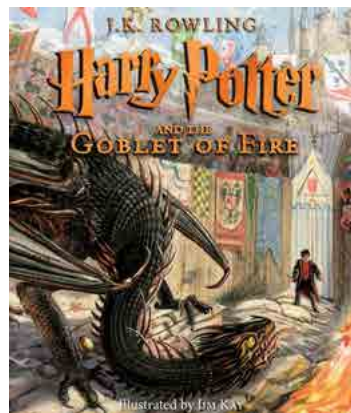
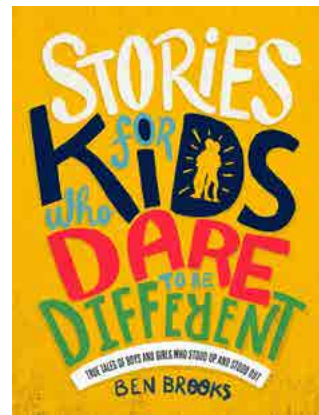
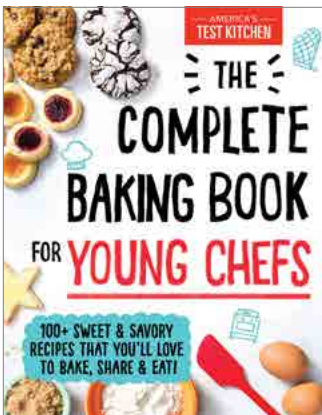


## Librarian favorite:

*Sal & Gabi Break the Universe* by Carlos Hernandez

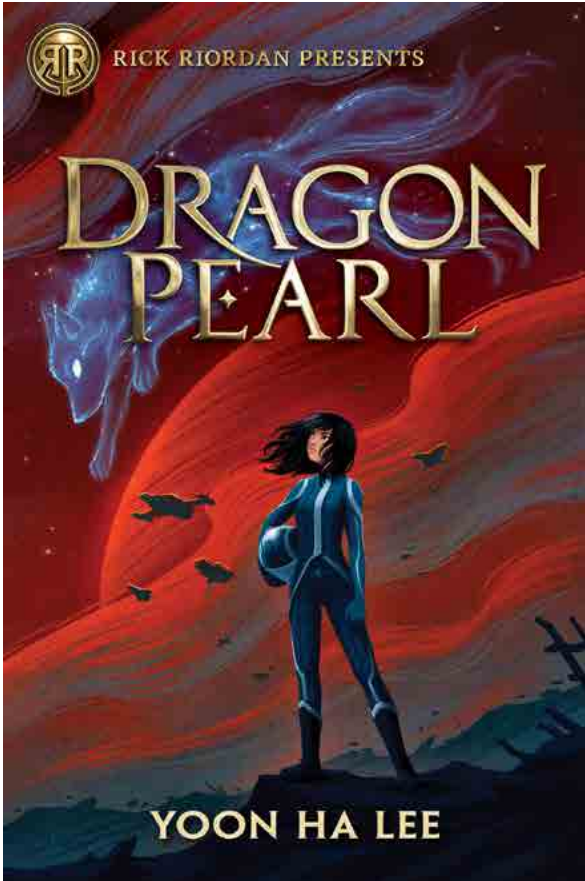
## Why we love it:

After Sal loses his mother, life changes in big ways, including a cross-country move and a new school. To cope, Sal calls on his ability to conjure anything in the universe; he just needs to be careful not to break it. This delightfully clever and moving book that mixes real world issues with a touch of the fantastic will be enjoyed by fans of *A Wrinkle in Time*.





# for Middle School

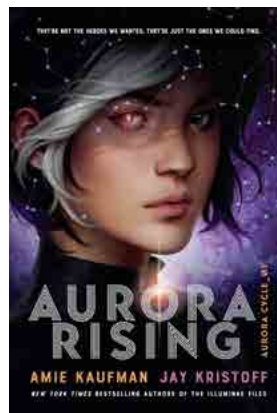
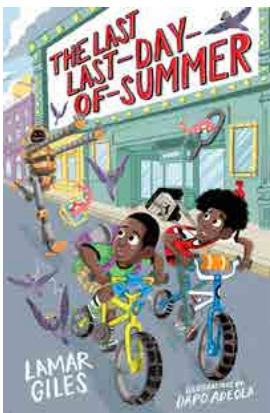
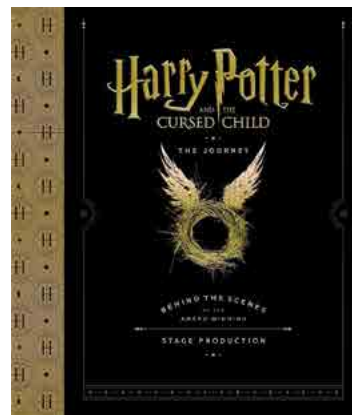


## Librarian favorite:

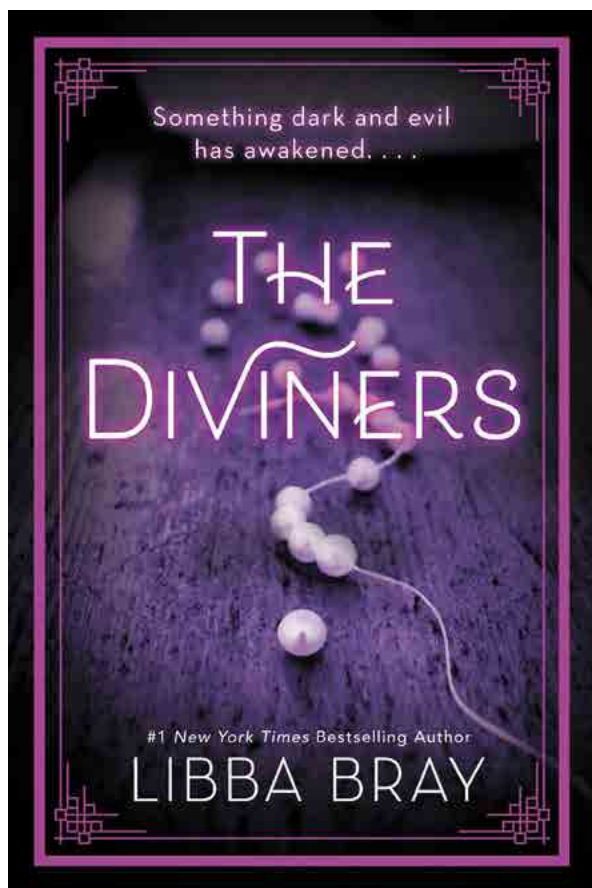
*Dragon Pearl* by Yoon Ha Lee

## Why we love it:

*Dragon Pearl* is a hybrid fantasy/space opera sci-fi adventure mixed in with Korean mythology that will transport you into a world far beyond your craziest imagination. Fans of Rick Riordan's *Percy Jackson* and *Magnus Chase* series' will enjoy this unique story of a 13-year-old girl on a quest to solve the mystery of her missing brother.



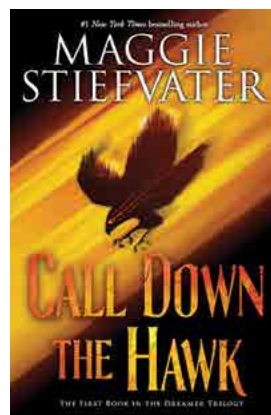
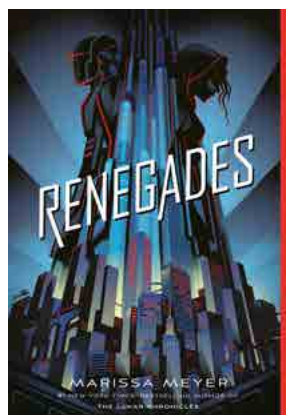
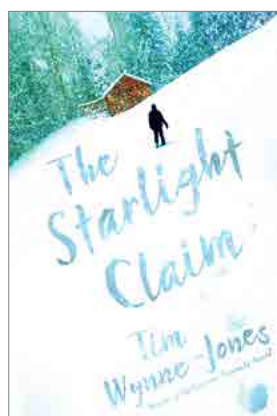
# for High School

**Librarian favorite:**

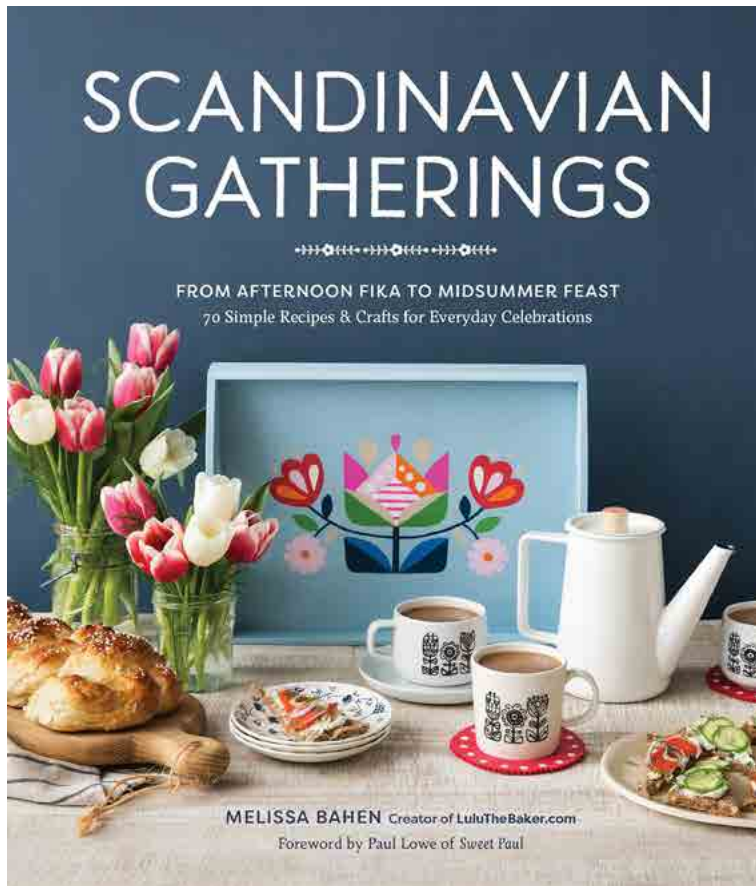
*The Diviners* (series) by Libba Bray

**Why we love it:**

Supernatural powers, 1920s New York City, speakeasies, showgirls, pickpockets, mystery, horror, murder. You're transported to this time and place with Evie and her friends—the Diviners—who all have special “gifts.” In this first book, the Diviners and Evie’s Uncle Will, who runs an occult museum, pursue a serial killer who may be unleashing more than murder. Dashes of humor and romance alternate with suspense and terror—read it with the lights on. The fourth and last book in the series will be published Feb. 4, 2020.





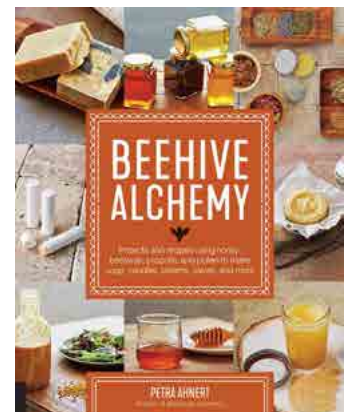
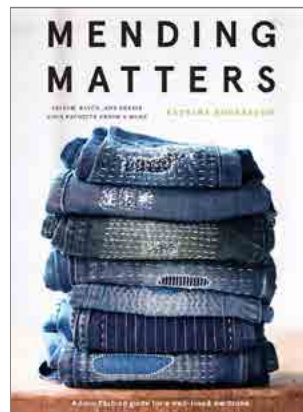
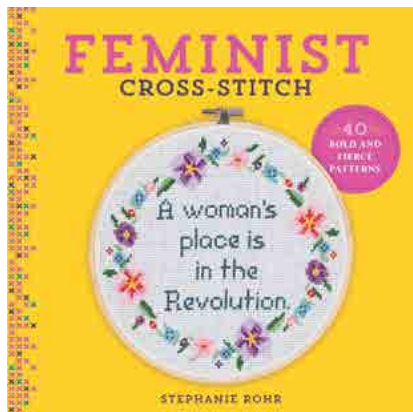


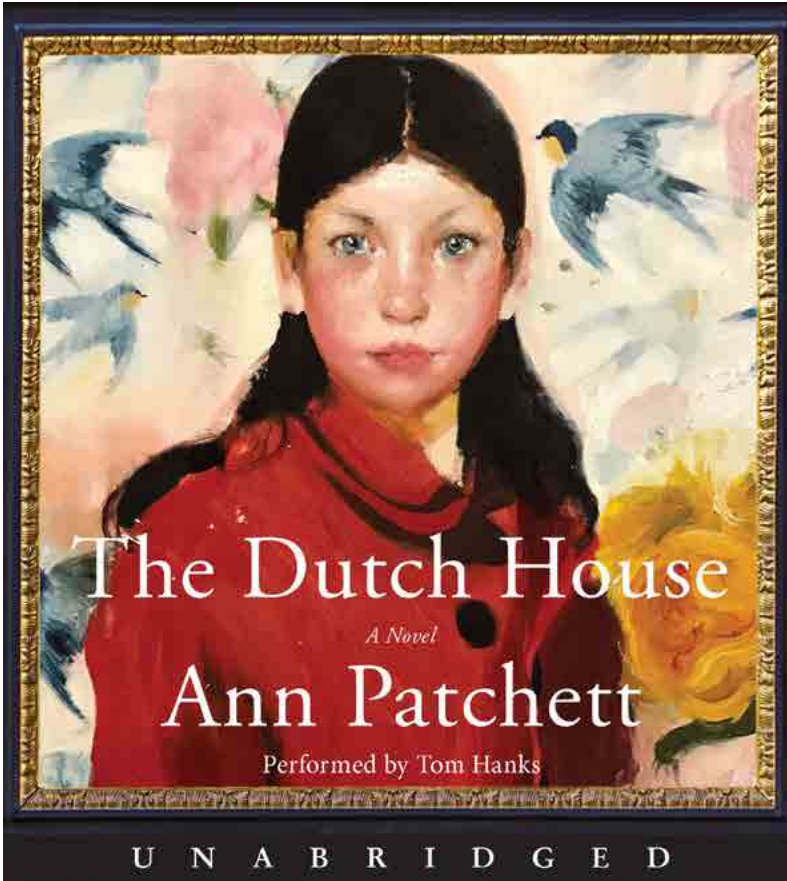
**Librarian favorite:**

*Scandinavian Gatherings: From Afternoon Fika to Midsummer Feast: 70 Simple Recipes & Crafts for Everyday Celebrations* by Melissa Bahen

**Why we love it:**

The craft mavens at EPL referenced this book to create many successful 2019 craft programs here at the Library. There are also lots of delicious recipes to try! The butter cookies are delicious!



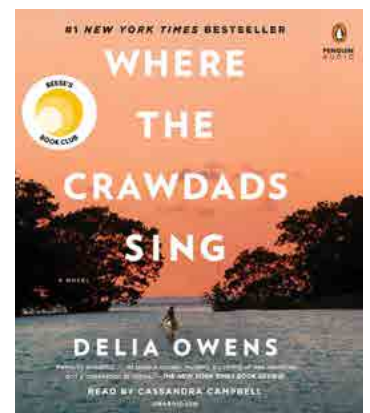
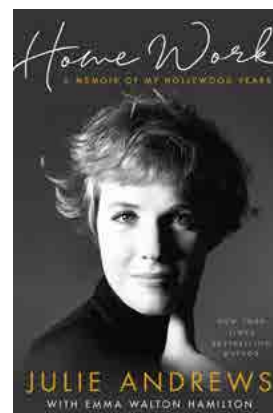
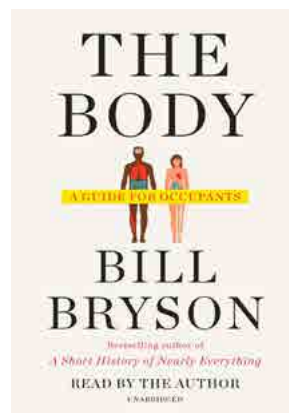
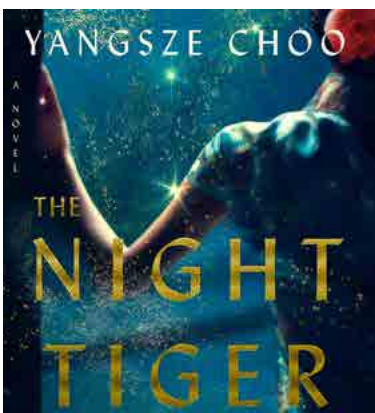
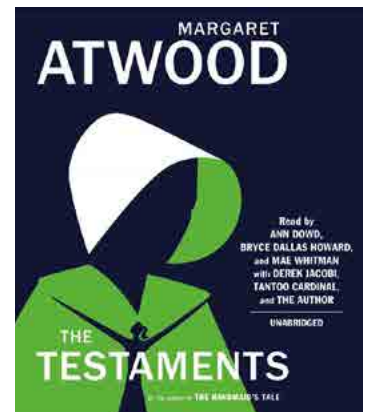
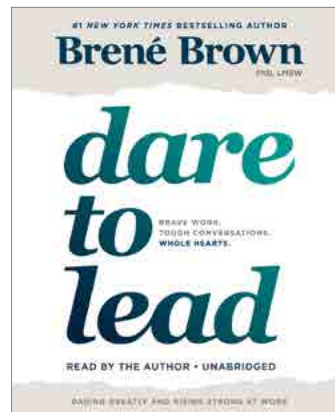
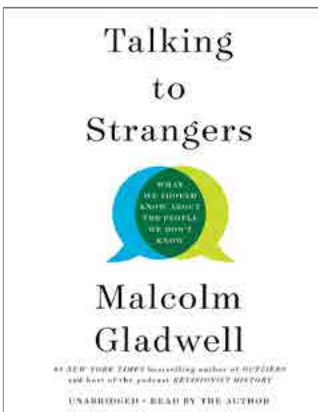


**Librarian favorite:**

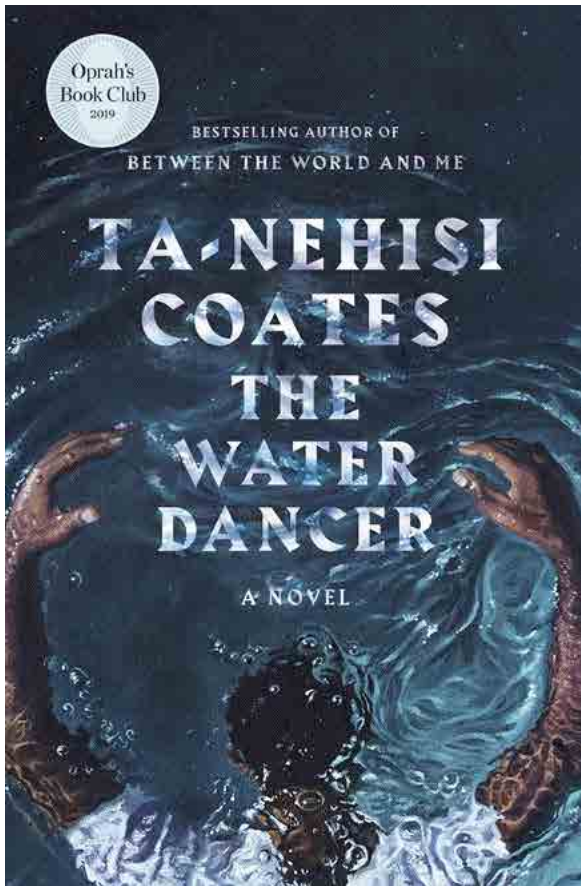
*The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett

**Why we love it:**

*New York Times* best-selling author Ann Patchett's novel, set over the course of five decades, follows the bond between two siblings and their lives in the Philadelphia-area mansion at the end of the Second World War. Narrated by Tom Hanks, this family saga is about loyalty, forgiveness, and obsession.





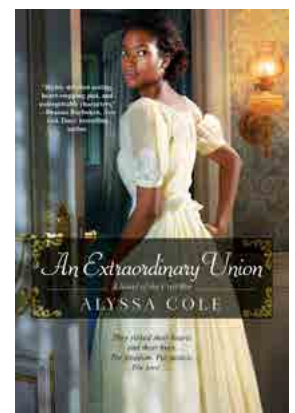
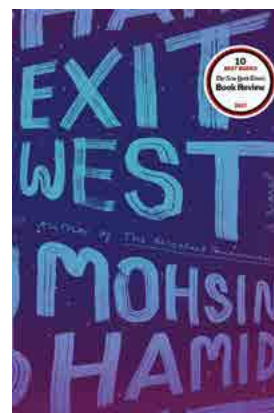
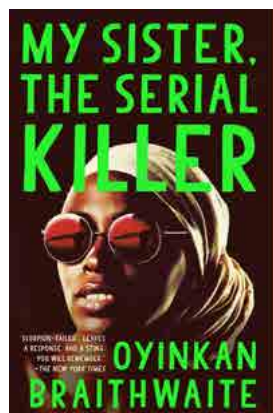
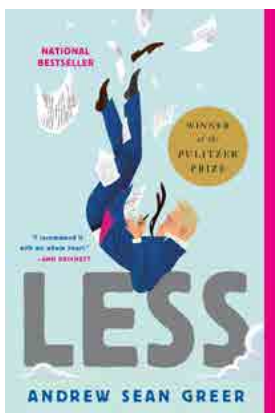
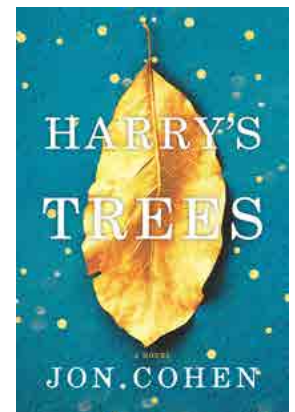
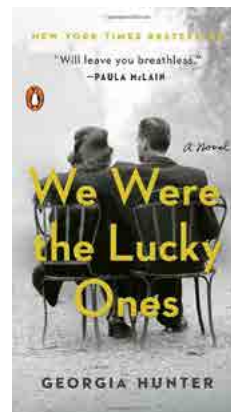
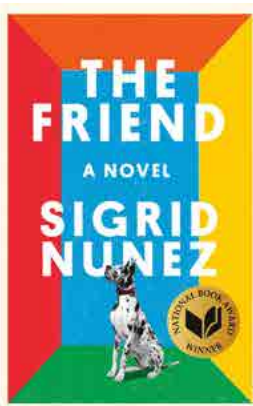


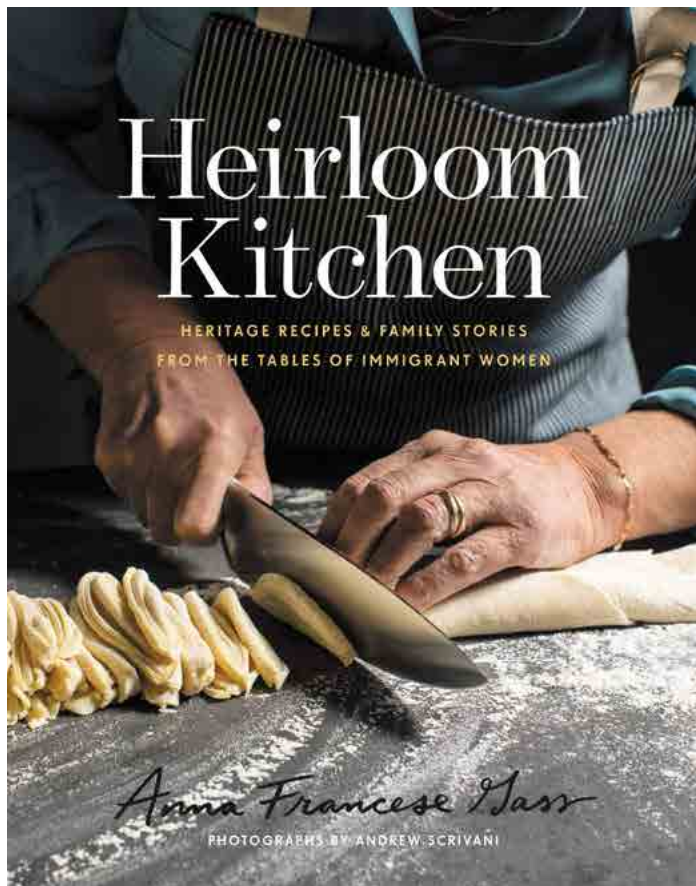
**Librarian favorite:**

*The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates

**Why we love it:**

Ta-Nehisi Coates burst upon the literary scene in 2015 with his award-winning nonfiction book *Between the World and Me*. Elmhurst enthusiastically embraced this important work during our 2017 One Book, One Community program. Now, Coates' highly-anticipated fiction debut depicts the psychological effects of slavery and a young man's search for freedom, set against the backdrop of the Underground Railroad. The readers on your holiday gift list will not want to miss this!



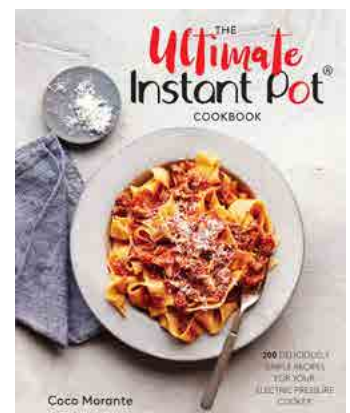
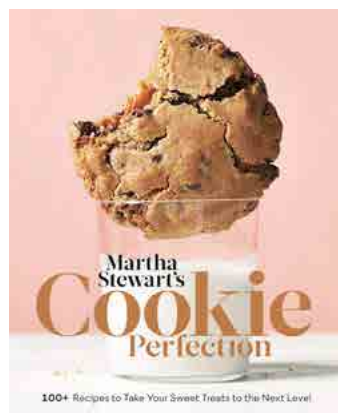
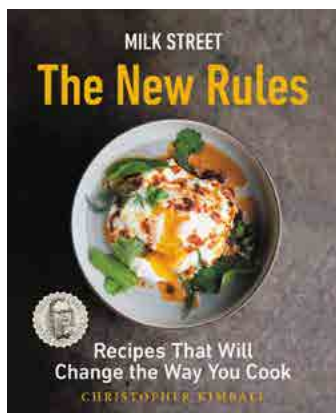
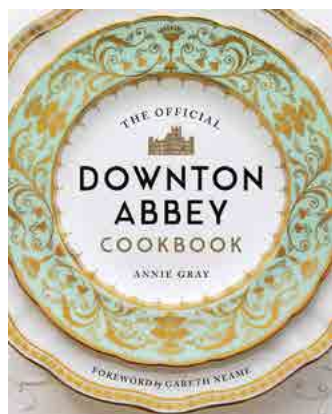
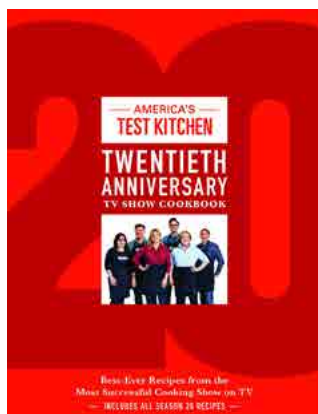


**Librarian favorite:**

*Heirloom Kitchen: Heritage Recipes and Family Stories from the Tables of Immigrant Women* by Anna Francese Gass

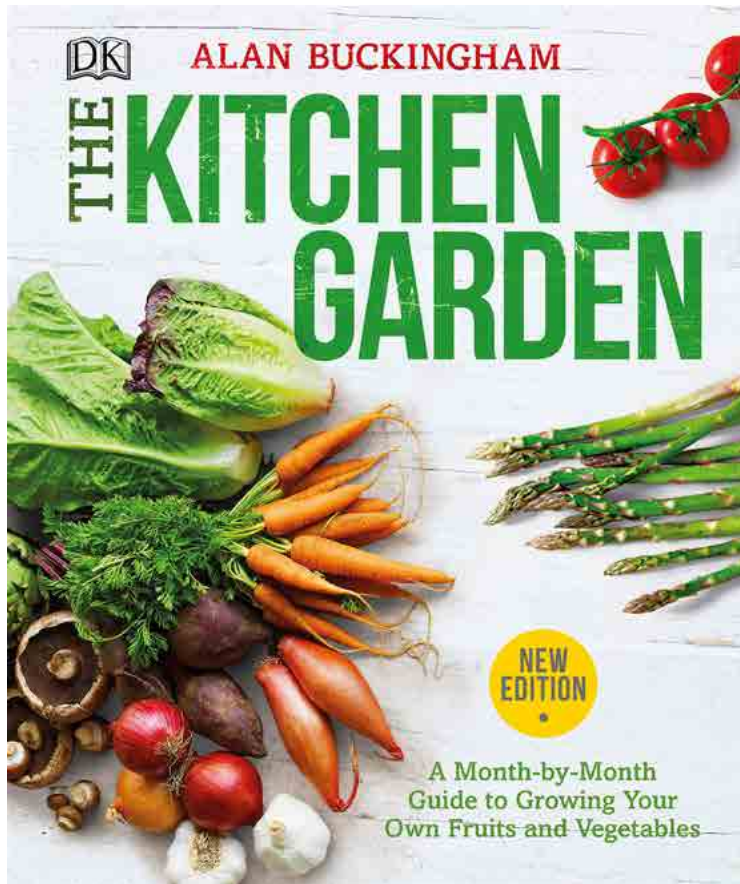
**Why we love it:**

This is a beautiful book with traditional recipes and family stories from immigrant women. Many of our favorite foods have their roots in other countries. This book includes the recipes for those foods along with the stories of the women who brought them to this country.





# for the Green Thumb

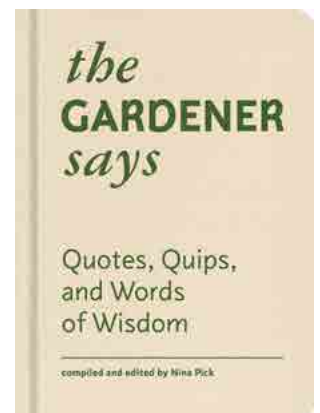
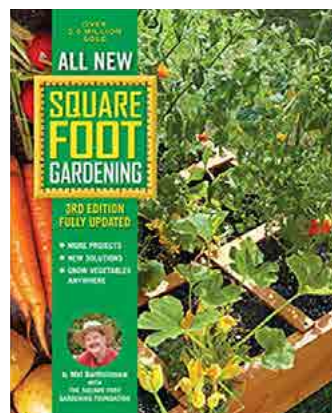
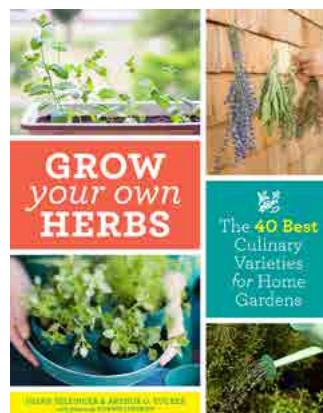
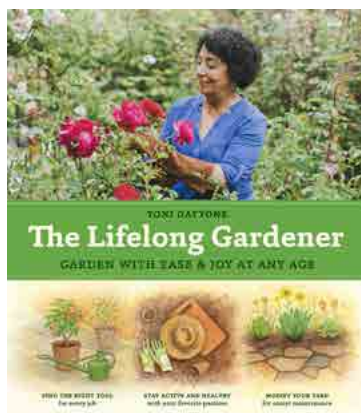
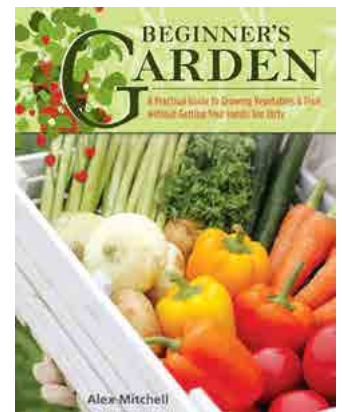
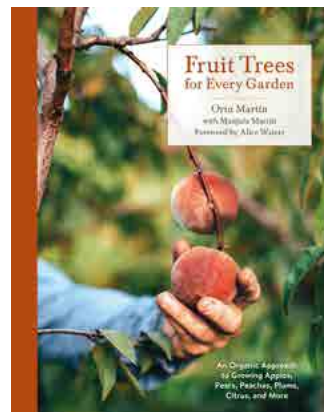
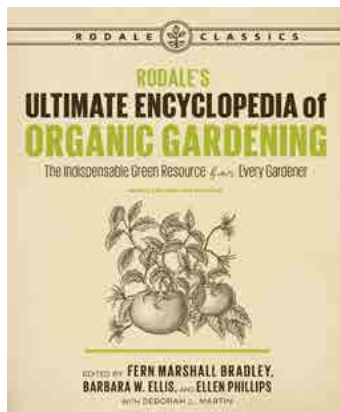


## Librarian favorite:

*The Kitchen Garden* by Alan Buckingham

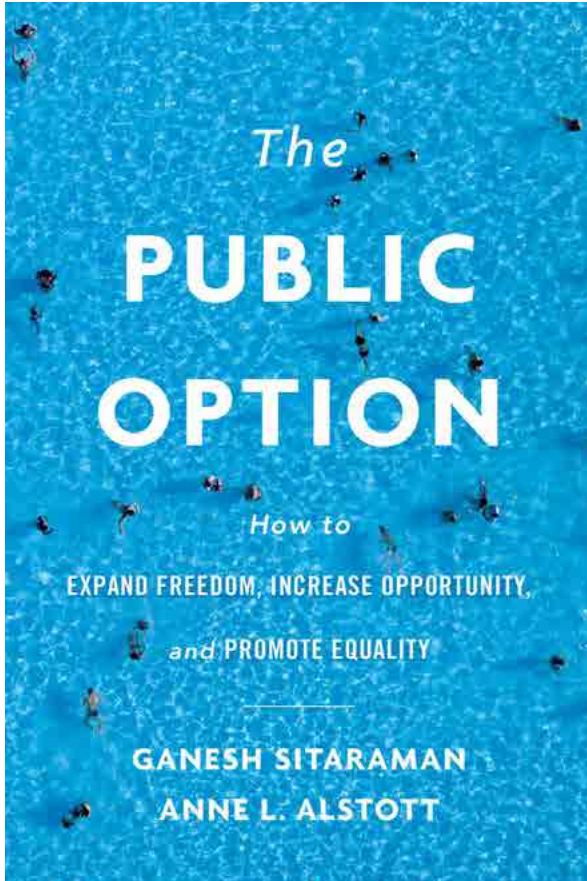
## Why we love it:

This month-by-month kitchen garden guide is a must-have for any gardener. The book moves through tasks to tackle, which crops to sow, and harvest. It discusses commonly grown plants and offers creative suggestions. Colorful photographs are found on every page. A section on troubleshooting plant diseases and pests is also included.





# for the Civically Engaged

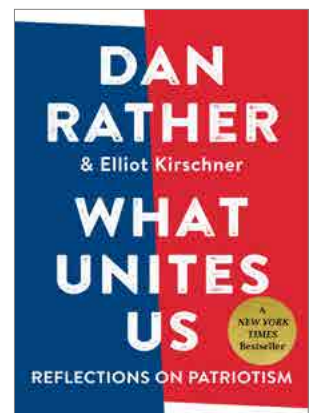
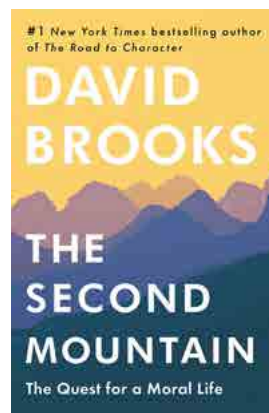
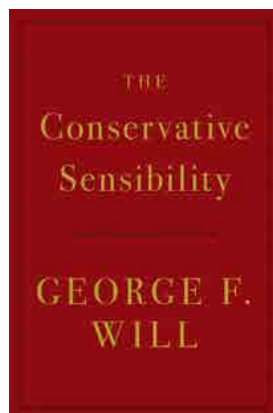
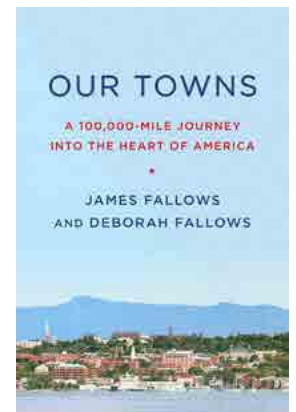
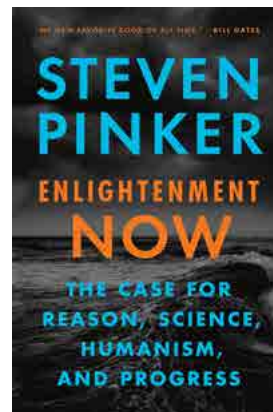
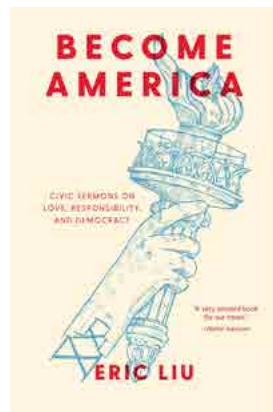
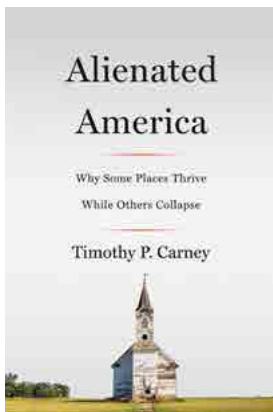


## Librarian favorite:

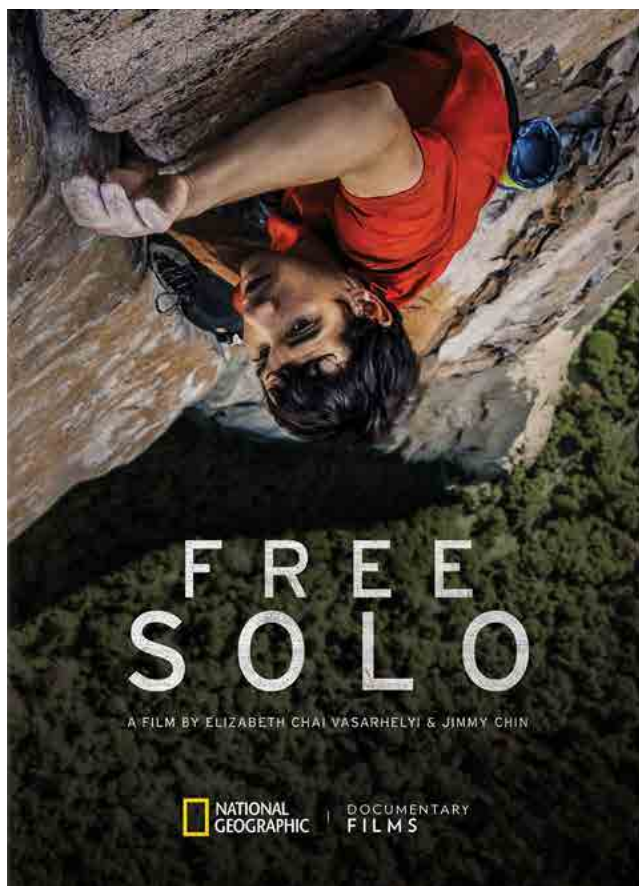
*The Public Option: How to Expand Freedom, Increase Opportunity, and Promote Equality* by Ganesh Sitaraman and Anne L. Alstott

## Why we love it:

Sitaraman and Alstott make the case for expanding public-funded options for services, such as childcare or the internet. The public option competes with private sector options for the purpose of achieving greater equality. The authors give the example of the USPS, which competes with FedEx and UPS. This book will catch the interest of the armchair policy wonk in your life, as it is sure to spark conversation whether they agree with the premise or not.





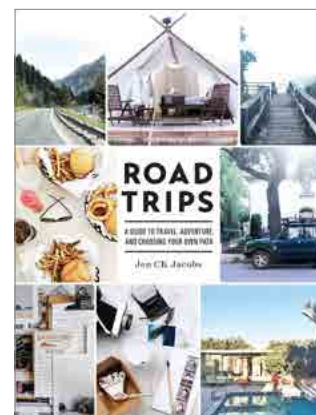
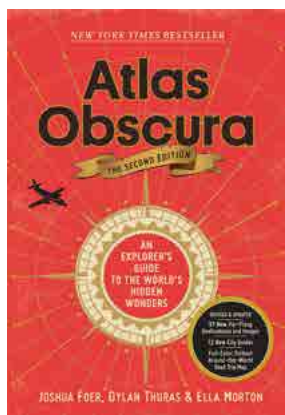
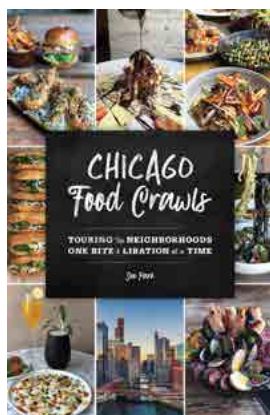
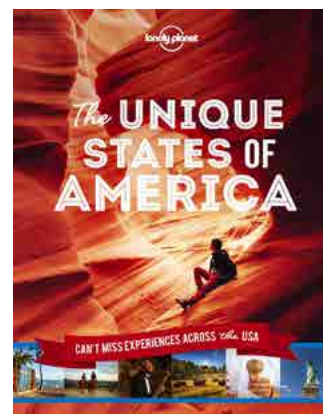
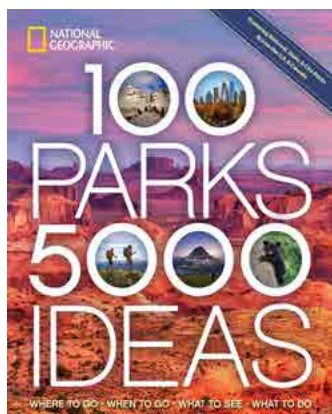


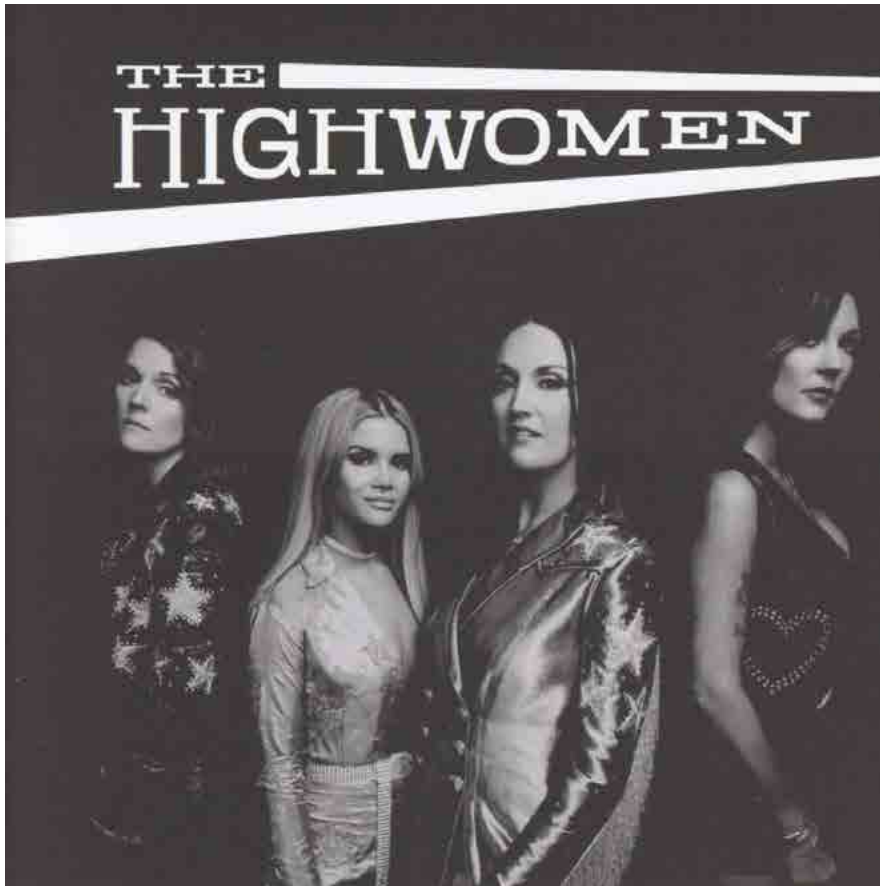
**Librarian favorite:**

*Free Solo* by National Geographic  
Directed by Jimmy Chin and Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi

**Why we love it:**

This documentary follows Alex Honnold, a free soloist climber who is preparing to face his biggest challenge yet: climb up the 3,000 ft. El Capitan in Yosemite National Park. This film gives a breathtaking, bird's-eye view of a man and his relationship to the challenges and beauty in nature. If you've ever visited El Capitan in person, you know that climbing it with ropes seems extreme ... to think he attempted it without ropes makes it that much more intense to watch. A fascinating documentary!





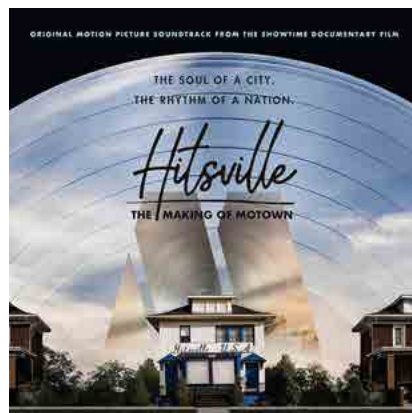
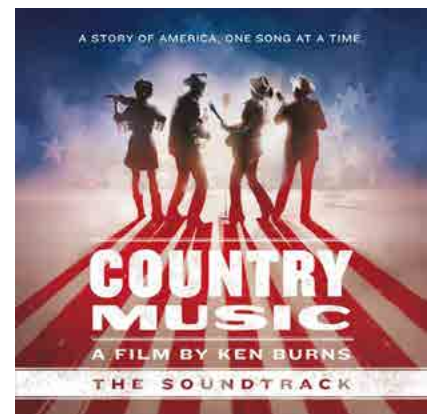
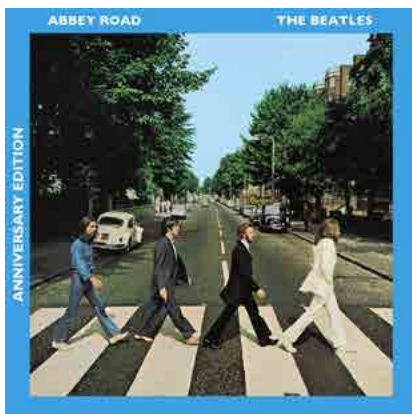
## Librarian favorite:

*The Highwomen* by Brandi Carlile, Natalie Hemby, Maren Morris, and Amanda Shires

## Why we love it:

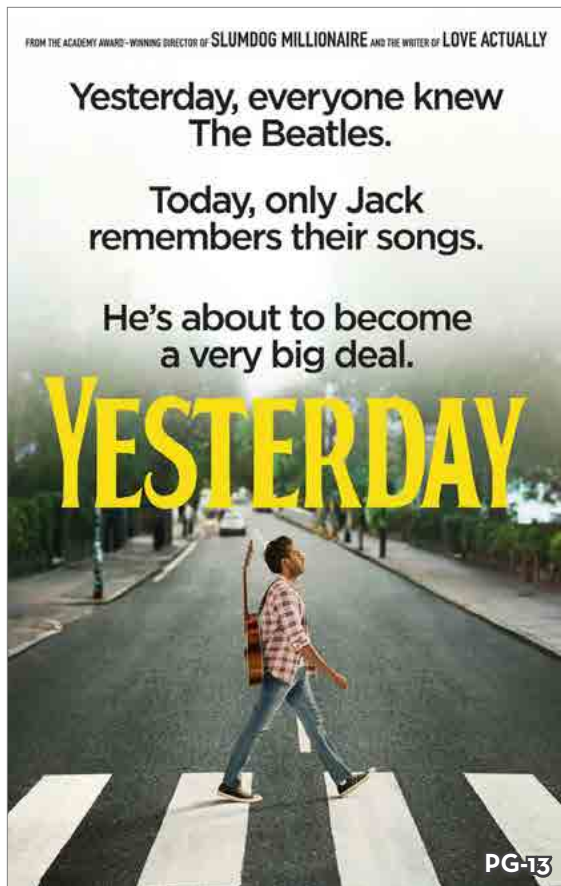
The all-female supergroup Highwomen flips the script on the popular 1980s group, The Highwaymen (and rewrites the title song with the blessing of Jimmy Webb, the original songwriter), bringing women to the center of the stage in the age of #MeToo and the much-discussed lack of representation of women artists on country music radio stations and at country music festivals.

Carlile, Hemby, Morris, and Shires have created an album that not only touts good music, tight harmonies, and smart, turn-of-phrase lyrics, but also comes with a powerful message. We especially love the track "Crowded Table," about everybody coming together and creating a world where everyone is welcome.





# for Movies and TV



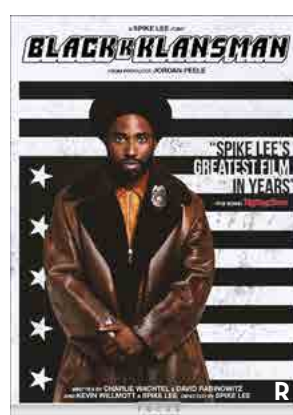
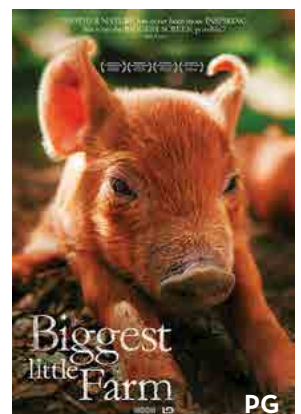
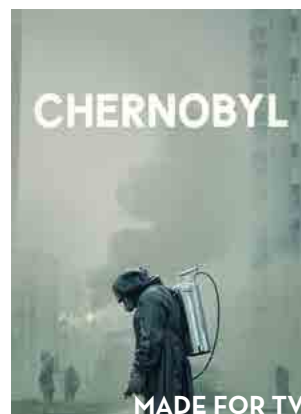
## Librarian favorite:

*Yesterday* directed by Danny Boyle.

Starring Himesh Patel, Lily James, Ed Sheeran, and Kate McKinnon

## Why we love it:

This sweetly charming fantasy film answers the question: What if the Beatles never existed? Lead actor Himesh Patel does a great job performing Beatles covers: When we saw it in theaters, it was impossible not to sing along. A fun and entertaining escape, destined to be one of those films you watch again and again.





**Librarian favorite:**

*Wingspan* by Elizabeth Hargrave

**Why we love it:**

*Wingspan* casts its players as bird enthusiasts looking to attract a diverse pool of birds to their habitats. Each colorfully illustrated bird card has unique powers that can create intriguing combos with the other birds already in your playing area. The gameplay is competitive and well-balanced, the components are utterly gorgeous (including tiny pastel eggs and a little bird feeder!), and the theme is a refreshing change of pace from the war-and-exploring games that dominate the marketplace.

