February 2020 - The top ten books published this month that librarians across the country love.

The Bear
by Andrew Krivak
(Bellevue Literary Press)
A young girl and her father live alone in a mountain forest that fronts a lake in a devastated world. She learns from him how to live off the land, hunting for food, and finding shelter. The Bear is the moving story of a journey they make together to the ocean, and the bear who helps her find her way back home. For fans of The Dog Stars (Heller) and The Road (McCarty).

—Sandy Jones Boyd, Mountain Regional Public Library, Young Harris, GA
NoveList read-alike: Tiain Dreams by Denis Johnson

The Girl in White Gloves
A Novel of Grace Kelly
by Kerri Maher
(Berkley)
"An interesting, fictional take on the life of one of America's favorite actresses, Grace Kelly. She struggles to break free from controlling parents and forge her own life. Although she marries her prince, the confinements of her marriage contract assure that she never truly succeeds at happily ever after. For readers who liked The Girls in the Picture (Benjamin) and A Touch of Stardust (Acott)."

—Debbie Lease, Hillsdale Public Library, Hillsdale, NJ
NoveList read-alike: Meet Me in Monaco by Hazel Gaynor

Golden in Death
An Eve Dallas Novel
by J. D. Robb
(St. Martin's Press)
"Hard to believe that this is #50 in this series. Even harder to believe that the stories remain fresh and the characters compelling, but it does not disappoint. There's a satisfying path to solving the very distressing murders, and particular pleasure in seeing the characters continue to change and grow. For fans of the In Death series, Linda Howard, and Lisa Gardner."

—Beth Mills, New Rochelle Public Library, New Rochelle, NY
NoveList read-alike: Jane Rizzoli and Isles series by Tess Gerritsen

The Other Mother
A Novel
by Rebecca Serle
(Pamela Dorman Books)
"Recents from the fantasy world of the In Death series. The book is nonfiction that is as satisfying as the fiction. The book recounts the early days of Churchill as prime minister when France fell to Germany and the British Empire stood alone against Hitler. For readers who like John M. Barry (The Great Influenza) and David King (Death in the City of Light)."

—Christine Edgar, Farmington Libraries, Farmington, CT
NoveList read-alike: The Hidden Girl by Louise Millar

The Splendid and the Vile
A Saga of Churchill, Family, and Defiance During the Blitz
by Erik Larson
(Crown)
"Once again Larson's new book is nonfiction that is as hard to put down as the best fiction. The book recounts the early days of Churchill as prime minister when France fell to Germany and the British Empire stood alone against Hitler. For readers who like John M. Barry (The Great Influenza) and David King (Death in the City of Light)."

—Celia Morse, Berkley Public Library, Berkley, MI
NoveList read-alike: Their Finest Hour by Winston Churchill

The Worst Best Man
A Novel
by Mia Sosa
(Avon)
"A classic enemies to lovers plot told from the perspective of both sides of the would-be couple, both likable and the chemistry between the two was well-written and believable. For fans of Red, White & Royal Blue and The Wedding Party."

—Karma Campbell, Catosa Public Library, Catosa, OK
NoveList read-alike: Framer by Sarah Smith

The Authenticity Project
A Novel
by Clare Pooley
(Pamela Dorman Books)
"Julian, Monica, and others present themselves publicly in one way, but their entries in an Authenticity Project notebook reveal them to be more insecure, eager to change, and ultimately more interesting. A heartwarming story about how not everyone tells the truth about who they are. For fans of The School of Essential Ingredients, The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry, and A Man Called Ove."

—Maggie Holmes, Richards Memorial Library, North Attleboro, MA
NoveList read-alike: Meet Me at the Museum by Anne Youngson

The Other Americans
by Clare Pooley
(Pamela Dorman Books)
"An interesting, fictional take on the life of one of America's favorite actresses, Grace Kelly. She struggles to break free from controlling parents and forge her own life. Although she marries her prince, the confinements of her marriage contract assure that she never truly succeeds at happily ever after. For readers who liked The Girls in the Picture (Benjamin) and A Touch of Stardust (Acott)."

—Christine Edgar, Farmington Libraries, Farmington, CT
NoveList read-alike: Jane Rizzoli and Isles series by Tess Gerritsen

NoveList read-alike: Sant X by Alexys Schaitkin
(Celadon Books)
"Claire was a child when her much older sister Alison died and there are many gaps in her knowledge of who Alison was and how she died. This is a deep character study and a story about obsession, grief, and finding a path after loss. For readers who enjoyed What We Lose by Zinzi Clemmons and The Other Americans by Laila Lalami."

—Rebecca Swanson, Fitchburg Public Library, Fitchburg, MA
NoveList read-alike: Going East by Matthew D’Ancona

The Guest Room
by Laila Lalami
(Random House)
Isles series by Tess Gerritsen
(Benjamin)
"For fans of the Authenticity Project series. The Other Mother by Rebecca Serle is another read-alike."

—Debbie Lease, Hillsdale Public Library, Hillsdale, NJ
NoveList read-alike: Meet Me at the Museum by Anne Youngson

The Dog Hound
by Sarah Smith
(William Morrow Paperbacks)
"A young girl and her father live alone in a mountain forest that fronts a lake in a devastated world. She learns from him how to live off the land, hunting for food, and finding shelter. The Bear is the moving story of a journey they make together to the ocean, and the bear who helps her find her way back home. For fans of The Dog Stars (Heller) and The Road (McCarty)."

—Sandy Jones Boyd, Mountain Regional Public Library, Young Harris, GA
NoveList read-alike: Tiain Dreams by Denis Johnson

Red, Faker
by Erik Larson
(St. Martin's Press)
"Hard to believe that this is #50 in this series. Even harder to believe that the stories remain fresh and the characters compelling, but it does not disappoint. There's a satisfying path to solving the very distressing murders, and particular pleasure in seeing the characters continue to change and grow. For fans of the In Death series, Linda Howard, and Lisa Gardner."

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