

Staff Favorites from what we read in 2020



Ninth House

By [Bardugo, Leigh](#)

2019-10 - Flatiron Books

9781250313072 [Check Our Catalog](#)

"The best fantasy novel I've read in years, because it's about real people... Impossible to put down." -- Stephen King

Enter a mesmerizing world of power, privilege, and dark magic among the Ivy League elite in the first book in the Alex Stern series.



The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion

By [Flagg, Fannie](#)

2013-11 - Random House

9781400065943 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Spanning decades, generations, and America in the 1940s and today, The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion is a fun-loving mystery about an Alabama woman today, and five women who in 1943 worked in a Phillips 66 gas station, during the WWII years. [...More](#)



When Breath Becomes Air

By [Kalanithi, Paul](#)

Foreword by [Verghese, Abraham](#)

2016-01 - Random House

9780812988406 [Check Our Catalog](#)

On the verge of completing a decade's worth of training as a neurosurgeon, Kalanithi was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. Just like that, the future he and his wife had imagined evaporated. Kalanithi chronicles his transformation from a naive medical student into a neurosurgeon at Stanford working in the brain, the most critical place for human identity, and finally into a patient and new [...More](#)



The Searcher

By [French, Tana](#)

2020-10 - Viking

9780735224650 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Best Book of 2020

New York Times NPR New York Post

This hushed suspense tale about thwarted dreams of escape may be her best one yet . . . Its own kind of masterpiece. --Maureen Corrigan, *The Washington Post*



No Offense

By [Cabot, Meg](#)

2020-08 - Avon Books

9780063007123 [Check Our Catalog](#)

New York Times-bestselling author Meg Cabot returns with a charming romance between a children's librarian and the town sheriff in the second book in the Little Bridge Island series.



Separation Anxiety

By [Zigman, Laura](#)

2020-03 - Ecco Press

9780062909077 [Check Our Catalog](#)

"*Separation Anxiety* is a hilarious, heart-breaking and thought-provoking portrait of a difficult marriage, as fierce as it is funny.... My advice: Start reading and don't stop until you get to the last page of this wise and wonderful novel. --Alice Hoffman



The Orphan Collector

By [Wiseman, Ellen Marie](#)

2020-08 - Kensington Publishing Corporation

9781496715869 [Check Our Catalog](#)

"An immersive historical tale with chilling twists and turns. Beautifully told and richly imagined."

--Stephanie Dray, *New York Times* bestselling author of *America's First Daughter*

In the fall of 1918, thirteen-year-old German immigrant Pia Lange longs to be far from Philadelphia's overcrowded [...More](#)



The Story of Arthur Truluv

By [Berg, Elizabeth](#)

2018-07 - Ballantine Books

9781524798710 [Check Our Catalog](#)

"I dare you to read this novel and not fall in love with Arthur Truluv. His story will make you laugh and cry, and will show you a love that never ends, and what it means to be truly human."--Fannie Flagg

An emotionally powerful novel about three people who each lose the one they love most, only to find second chances where they least expect them



Fangirl, Vol. 1, Volume 1: The Manga

By [Rowell, Rainbow](#)

Adapted by [Maggs, Sam](#)

Illustrator [Nam, Gabi](#)

2020-10 - Viz Media

9781974715879 [Check Our Catalog](#)

The manga adaptation of the beloved novel featuring all-new scenes by Rainbow Rowell!

"A deliciously warm-hearted nerd power ballad destined for greatness."



The Relentless Moon: A Lady Astronaut Novel

By [Kowal, Mary Robinette](#)

2020-07 - Tor Books

9781250236951 [Check Our Catalog](#)



Ribbon of Years

By [Hatcher, Robin Lee](#)

2001-07 - Tyndale House Publishers

9780842340090 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Awards:

Rita Awards (2001)

In this realistic portrayal of a woman committed to God despite her circumstances, her unwavering faith throughout her life not only sustains her but also impacts the lives of others in miraculous ways. [...More](#)



Secrets of the Chocolate House

By [Brackston, Paula](#)

2019-10 - St. Martin's Press

9781250072443 [Check Our Catalog](#)

The second novel in a bewitching series "brimming with charm and charisma" that will make "fans of *Outlander* rejoice!" (*Woman's World Magazine*)

New York Times bestselling author Paula Brackston's *The Little Shop of Found Things* was called "a page-turner that will no doubt leave readers eager for future series installments" (*Publishers Weekly*). Now, [...More](#)



The Mercies

By [Millwood Hargrave, Kiran](#)

2020-02 - Little Brown and Company

9780316529259 [Check Our Catalog](#)

After the men in an Arctic Norwegian town are wiped out, the women must survive a sinister threat in this "perfectly told" 1600s parable of "a world gone mad" (Adriana Trigiani). Finnmark, Norway, 1617. Twenty-year-old Maren Magnussdatter stands on the craggy coast, watching the sea break into a sudden and reckless storm. Forty fishermen, including her brother and father, are drowned and [...More](#)



Your Second Life Begins When You Realize You Only Have One

By [Giordano, Raphaelle](#)

2018-07 - G.P. Putnam's Sons

9780525535591 [Check Our Catalog](#)

THE #1 FRENCH BESTSELLER

MORE THAN 3 MILLION COPIES SOLD WORLDWIDE

The feel-good #1 bestselling French novel about a woman whose mission to cure her "routine-itis" leads her to lasting joy and true fulfillment, for fans of *The Alchemist* and *Hector and the Search for Happiness*.



The Dutch House

By [Patchett, Ann](#)

2019-09 - Harper

9780062963673 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Awards:

Pulitzer Prize (2019)



Malorie: A Bird Box Novel

By [Malerman, Josh](#)

2020-07 - Del Rey Books

9780593156858 [Check Our Catalog](#)

In the "fast-paced, frightening" (*The New York Times Book Review*) sequel to *Bird Box*, the inspiration for the record-breaking Netflix film starring Sandra Bullock, bestselling author Josh Malerman brings unseen horrors to life.



Today Will Be Different

By [Semple, Maria](#)

2017-06 - Back Bay Books

9780316403450 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A brilliant novel and instant New York Times bestseller from the author of *Where'd You Go, Bernadette*, about a day in the life of Eleanor Flood, forced to abandon her small ambitions and awake to a strange, new future.



Everything We Keep

By [Lonsdale, Kerry](#)

2016-08 - Lake Union Publishing

9781503935310 [Check Our Catalog](#)

An Amazon Charts and *Wall Street Journal* bestseller.

A luminous debut with unexpected twists, *Everything We Keep* explores the devastation of loss, the euphoria of finding love again, and the pulse-racing repercussions of discovering the truth about the ones we hold dear and the lengths they will go to protect us.



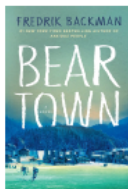
Wow, No Thank You.: Essays

By [Irby, Samantha](#)

2020-03 - Vintage

9780525563488 [Check Our Catalog](#)

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER - Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction Award Winner - A rip-roaring, edgy and unabashedly raunchy new collection of hilarious essays from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *We Are Never Meeting in Real Life*.



Beartown

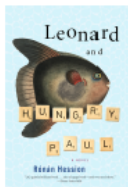
By [Backman, Fredrik](#)

2017-04 - Atria Books

9781501160769 [Check Our Catalog](#)

"You'll love this engrossing novel." --*People*

From the bestselling author of *A Man Called Ove* and *Anxious People*, Fredrik Backman captivates readers with a dazzling, profound novel about a small town with a big dream--and the price required to make it come true.



Leonard and Hungry Paul

By [Hession, Ronan](#)

2020-08 - Melville House Publishing

9781612198484 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A disarming novel that asks a simple question: Can gentle people change the world?



Big Summer

By [Weiner, Jennifer](#)

2020-05 - Atria Books

9781501133510 [Check Our Catalog](#)

AN INSTANT *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLER

"Sexy and satisfying, *Big Summer* is the perfect quarantine read." --*USA TODAY*

"The beach read to end all beach reads." --*Entertainment Weekly*



The Chelsea Girls

By [Davis, Fiona](#)

2019-07 - Dutton Books

9781524744588 [Check Our Catalog](#)

The bright lights of the theater district, the glamour and danger of 1950s New York, and the wild scene at the iconic Chelsea Hotel come together in a dazzling new novel about a twenty-year friendship that will irrevocably change two women's lives--from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Lions of Fifth Avenue*.



Stepping Stones

By [Knisley, Lucy](#)

2020-05 - Random House Graphic

9780593125243 [Check Our Catalog](#)

This contemporary middle-grade graphic novel about family and belonging from *New York Times* bestselling author Lucy Knisley is a perfect read for fans of *Awkward* and *Be Prepared*.

Jen is used to not getting what she wants. So suddenly moving the country and getting new stepsisters shouldn't be too much of a surprise.



The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse

By [Mackesy, Charlie](#)

2019-10 - HarperOne

9780062976581 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Charlie Mackesy's beloved *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse* has been adapted into an Academy Award(R) winning animated short film, now available to stream on Apple TV+

#1 *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLER - *WALL STREET JOURNAL* BESTSELLER - *USA TODAY* [...More](#)



All the Devils Are Here: Chief Inspector Gamache Novel Book 16

By [Penny, Louise](#)

2020-09 - Minotaur Books

9781250145239 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Awards:

Agatha Awards (2019)



Your Place in the Universe

By [Chin, Jason](#)

2020-09 - Neal Porter Books

9780823446230 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Explore the known Universe and consider its mind-boggling scale in this crisply illustrated, well-researched picture book from Caldecott Medalist Jason Chin.



My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry

By [Backman, Fredrik](#)

2016-04 - Atria Books

9781501115073 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From the author of the internationally bestselling "A Man Called Ove," a charming, warmhearted novel about a young girl whose grandmother dies and leaves behind a series of letters, sending her on a journey that brings to life the world of her grandmother's fairy tales. [...More](#)



House of Dreams: The Life of L. M. Montgomery

By [Rosenberg, Liz](#)

Illustrator [Morstad, Julie](#)

2020-05 - Candlewick Press (MA)

9781536213140 [Check Our Catalog](#)

An affecting biography of the author of *Anne of Green Gables* is the first for young readers to include revelations about her last days and to encompass the complexity of a brilliant and sometimes troubled life.



Animalia

By [del Amo, Jean-Baptiste](#)

Translator [Wynne, Frank](#)

2019-09 - Grove Press

9780802147578 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A prizewinning and word of mouth literary sensation in France, *Animalia* is an extraordinary epic that retraces the history of a modest French peasant family over the twentieth century as they develop their small plot of land into an industrial pig farm, a visceral, chilling tale of man and beast



One Thousand Gifts: A Dare to Live Fully Right Where You Are

By [Voskamp, Ann](#)

2011-01 - Zondervan

9780310321910 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Awards:

Christian Retailing's Best (2011), Christianity Today Book Award (2011), INSPYs the Bloggers Awards for Excellence in Faith-Driven Literature (2010), Retailers' Choice (2011)



One by One

By [Ware, Ruth](#)

2020-09 - Gallery/Scout Press

9781501188817 [Check Our Catalog](#)

"The Agatha Christie of our generation." --David Baldacci, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author

"Diabolically clever." --Riley Sager, author of *Final Girls*



Cartier's Hope

By [Rose, M. J.](#)

2020-01 - Atria Books

9781501173639 [Check Our Catalog](#)

From M.J. Rose, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Tiffany Blues*, "a lush, romantic historical mystery" (Kristin Hannah, *The Nightingale*), comes a gorgeously wrought novel of ambition and betrayal set in the Gilded Age.



Skipping Christmas

By [Grisham, John](#)

2003-10 - Doubleday Books

9780385508414 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Imagine a year without Christmas. No crowded malls, no corny office parties, no fruitcakes, no unwanted presents. That's just what Luther and Nora Krank have in mind when they decide that, just this once, they'll skip the holiday altogether. Theirs will be the only house on Hemlock Street without a rooftop Frosty; they won't be hosting their annual Christmas Eve bash; they aren't even going to [...More](#)



When Stars Are Scattered

By [Jamieson, Victoria](#)

Author [Mohamed, Omar](#)

Illustrator [Jamieson, Victoria](#)

2020-04 - Dial Books

9780525553915 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Awards:

Schneider Family Book Award (2020)

A National Book Award Finalist, this remarkable graphic novel is about growing up in a refugee camp, as told by a former Somali refugee to the Newbery Honor-winning creator of *Roller Girl*.



Sold on a Monday

By [McMorris, Kristina](#)

2018-08 - Sourcebooks Landmark

9781492663997 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER WITH MORE THAN A MILLION COPIES SOLD--*Sold on a Monday* is the unforgettable book-club phenomenon, inspired by a stunning piece of Depression-era history.

"A masterpiece that poignantly echoes universal themes of loss and redemption...both heartfelt and heartbreaking."--Pam Jenoff, *New York Times* bestselling author of [...More](#)



Waiting for the Barbarians

By [Coetzee, J. M.](#)

Illustrator [Askew, C. C.](#)

2010-06 - Penguin Books

9780143116929 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A modern classic, this early novel by Nobel Laureate J. M. Coetzee centers on the crisis of conscience and morality of the Magistrate--a loyal servant of the Empire working in a tiny frontier town, doing his best to ignore an inevitable war with the "barbarians." [...More](#)



You're Invited to a Moth Ball: A Nighttime Insect Celebration

By [Burns, Loree](#)

Illustrator [Harasimowicz, Ellen](#)

2020-04 - Charlesbridge Publishing

9781580896863 [Check Our Catalog](#)

RSVP and have a ball--a moth ball--while studying moths in your own backyard



Dumplin'

By [Murphy, Julie](#)

2015-09 - Balzer & Bray/HarperTeen

9780062327185 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Awards:

Cybils (2014), Tayshas Reading (2015)

Now a Netflix feature film, starring Jennifer Aniston, Danielle Macdonald, and Dove Cameron, as well as a soundtrack from Dolly Parton



Class ACT

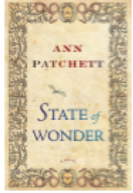
By [Craft, Jerry](#)

Illustrator [Craft, Jerry](#)

2020-10 - Quill Tree Books

9780062885517 [Check Our Catalog](#)

New York Times bestselling author Jerry Craft returns with a companion book to *New Kid*, winner of the 2020 Newbery Medal, the Coretta Scott King Author Award, and the Kirkus Prize. This time, it's Jordan's friend Drew who takes center stage in another laugh-out-loud funny, powerful, and important story about being one of the few kids of color in a [...More](#)



State of Wonder

By [Patchett, Ann](#)

2012-05 - Harper Perennial

9780062049810 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Award-winning, "New York Times"-bestselling author returns with a provocative and assured novel of morality and miracles, science and sacrifice set in the Amazon rainforest. [...More](#)



Return of the Thief

By [Turner, Megan Whalen](#)

2020-10 - Greenwillow Books

9780062874474 [Check Our Catalog](#)

The thrilling, twenty-years-in-the-making conclusion to the *New York Times*-bestselling Queen's Thief series by Megan Whalen Turner.

The epic novels set in the world of the Queen's Thief can be read in any order.



Midnight Sun

By [Meyer, Stephenie](#)

2020-08 - Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

9780316707046 [Check Our Catalog](#)

#1 New York Times bestselling author Stephenie Meyer makes a triumphant return to the world of *Twilight* with this highly anticipated companion: the iconic love story of Bella and Edward, told from the vampire's point of view. When Edward Cullen and Bella Swan met in *Twilight*, an iconic love story was born. But until now, fans have heard only Bella's side of the story. [...More](#)