

Our Favorite New Books of 2018

Enjoy these librarian-tested, librarian-approved books that were released in 2018.

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"There, There" by Tommy Orange — A cast of characters depicts the experience of Native Americans living in urban settings. *Miranda E., Library Center*

"Be Prepared" by Vera Brosgol — A 244-page children's comic book about a misfit girl and her brother at summer camp, struggling with primitive plumbing, snobby tent mates, and boys-versus-girls competitions. *Allison S., library substitute*

"The Dinner List" by Rebecca Serle — On her 13th birthday, Sabrina finds herself in a fantasy dinner: with five living or dead people, all with something to say to her. *Vanessa S., Library Center*

"Educated: A Memoir" by Tara Westover — Born to a father opposed to public education and never attended school, Westover spent her days working in her father's junkyard or stewing herbs for her mother, a self-taught herbalist and midwife. *Gina D., Library Center*

"Tempests and Slaughter: A Tortall Legend" by Tamora Pierce — Young adult fantasy. Arram Draper, Varice Kingsford and Ozorne Tasikhe forge a bond of friendship that sees them through many changes as student mages at Imperial University of Carthak. *Tierney G., Willard Branch*

"A Heart in a Body in the World" by Deb Caletti — Young adult fiction. Followed by Grandpa Ed in his RV, Annabelle, 18, runs from Seattle to Washington, D.C., becoming a reluctant activist as people connect her journey to her recent trauma. *Lindsey B., Collection Services*

"The Late Bloomers' Club: A Novel" by Louise Miller — Two headstrong sisters, a small town's efforts to do right by the community and the power of a lost dog to conjure up true love. *Judy W., Park Central Branch*

"Vox" by Christina Dalcher — The government decrees that women are allowed only 100 words per day, can no longer be taught to read or write, or hold jobs. Dr. Jean McClellan vows to reclaim her voice. *Kathi W., Library Center*

"How to Be a Good Creature: A Memoir in Thirteen Animals" by Sy Montgomery — The author reflects on the personalities and quirks of 13 animals who have profoundly affected her in this life-affirming memoir featuring illustrations by Rebecca Green. *Nancee D-S, Youth Services*

"An Absolutely Remarkable Thing" by Hank Green — The first to document the appearance of the Carls, giant robot-like statues popping up around the world, April May finds herself at the center of an intense spotlight that puts her at risk. *Sarah F-J, Willard and Ash Grove branches*

"Spinning Silver" by Naomi Novik — An imaginative retelling of the Rumpelstiltskin fairytale. *Rochelle H., Fair Grove Branch*

"I'll Be Gone in the Dark: One Woman's Obsessive Search for the Golden State Killer" by Michelle McNamara — An account of the unsolved Golden State Killer case, tracing the rapes and murders of dozens of victims and the author's determined efforts to help identify the killer and bring him to justice. *Gay W., Library Center*

"Time's Convert" by Deborah Harkness — A Revolutionary War-era doctor seizes a chance to become a vampire, only to find the ancient traditions governing his new life clashing with the deeply held beliefs of his former one. *Haley F. Library Center*

"Lake Success" by Gary Shteyngart — Narcissistic and divorced from the real world, hedge fund manager Barry Cohen oversees \$2.4 billion in assets. Deeply stressed by an SEC investigation and his son's autism, he flees New York for a simpler, more romantic life while his wife wrestles with her own demons. Can two imperfect characters navigate the chaos of their own making? *Holly C. Schweitzer Brentwood Branch*

"Florida" by Lauren Groff — A collection of stories spanning centuries of time in mercurial Florida examines the decisions and connections behind life-changing events in characters ranging from two abandoned sisters to a conflicted family woman. *Jeannine B. Schweitzer Brentwood Branch*

"A Breath of Hope" (Under Northern Skies Book 2) by Lauraine Snelling — Siblings travel to America to join family on a Minnesota farm. But an uncle refuses to help build a house for the family and forbids the community to come onto his land. Can the tragedy that reveals the uncle's anger and isolation bring to them all together into a true family? *Melissa D., Business Office*

"Circe" by Madeline Miller — Follows Circe, the banished witch daughter of Helios, as she hones her powers and interacts with famous mythological beings before a conflict with one of the most vengeful Olympians forces her to choose between the worlds of the gods and mortals. (This is the Library's One Read title for April 2019) *Alana M. Library Center*

"Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI" by David Grann — A true account of the early 20th century murders of dozens of wealthy Osage and law-enforcement officials, one of the most chilling conspiracies in American history. *Cindy C., library sub*

"The Great Alone" by Kristin Hannah — A desperate family seeks a new beginning in the near-isolated wilderness of Alaska, only to find that their unpredictable environment is less threatening than the erratic behavior found in human nature. *Sarah R. Community Relations*

"Mary's Monster: Love, Madness, and How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein" by Lita Judge — Pairing free verse with over 300 pages of black-and-white watercolor illustrations, *Mary's Monster* is a unique biography of Mary Shelley, the pregnant teenage runaway who became one of the greatest authors of all time. *Amanda H., Republic Branch*

"Brief Cases: More Stories from the Dresden Files" by Jim Butcher — The world of Harry Dresden, Chicago's only professional wizard, is rife with intrigue and creatures of all supernatural stripes. *Renee G., Local History*

"Sing, Unburied, Sing" by Jesmyn Ward — Living with his grandparents and toddler sister on a Gulf Coast farm, Jojo navigates the challenges of his tormented mother's addictions and his grandmother's terminal cancer before the release of his father from prison prompts a road trip of danger and hope. *Kim F., Library Station*

"Sabrina" by Nick Drnaso — When Sabrina disappears, an airman in the U.S. Air Force is drawn into a web of wild theories and outright lies. *Sabrina* depicts a modern world devoid of personal interaction and responsibility, where relationships are stripped of intimacy through glowing computer screens. An indictment of our modern state, Drnaso contemplates the dangers of a fake news climate. *BJ A., Willard Branch*



Springfield-Greene County Library District