Bats of the Republic
by Zachary Thomas Dodson

Featuring original artwork and an immaculate design, Dodson creates a unique novel of adventure and science fiction, of political intrigue and future dystopian struggles, and, at its riveting core, of love.

How to Be a Woman
by Caitlin Moran

Caitlin Moran interweaves provocative observations on women's lives with laugh-out-loud funny scenes from her own, from the riot of adolescence to her development as a writer, wife, and mother.

Cowboys Are My Weakness
by Pam Houston

I love anything by Pam Houston, but cowboys are my weakness
-Mary, Library Director

The Los Angeles Times calls it a brilliant collection of stories . . . that strike at the heart. . . . Houston claims for women the terrain staked out by male writers from Hemingway to Richard Ford. Here are 12 shrewd and funny stories about smart women looking for the love of a good man, and men who are wild and hard to pin down.

Leaves of Grass
by Walt Whitman

My favorite book, when pressed to choose because it always stays with me wherever I go.
-Steven, Library Services Manager

Abraham Lincoln read it with approval, but Emily Dickinson described its bold language and themes as "disgraceful." Ralph Waldo Emerson found it "the most extraordinary piece of wit and wisdom that America has yet produced." Published at the author's expense on July 4, 1855, Leaves of Grass inaugurated a new voice and style into American letters and gave expression to an optimistic, bombastic vision that took the nation as its subject.

a few of our FAVORITES

Picks from your Placer County Library staff
City of Thieves by David Benioff

"This is one of my favorite books. It is suspenseful, has memorable characters, it's educational about the siege of Leningrad, and it paints an amazing tale of friendship, hardship and misuse of power."
-Arnie, Kings Beach Library

As wise and funny as it is thrilling and original—the story of two young men on an impossible adventure.

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

"A memoir in verse, this book chronicles the author's early love of stories, her struggles to read as a child, the thrill of the blank page, and the epiphany when she discovers that she is, at heart, a writer."
-Tony, Granite Bay Library

Jacqueline Woodson, one of today's finest writers, tells the moving story of her childhood in mesmerizing verse.

The Sparrow by Mary Doria Russel

"Culture and how it intricately defines everything we do wrapped up in a drama that takes us to another planet. A page turner."
-Livia, Tahoe City Library

If you have to send a group of people to a newly discovered planet to contact a totally unknown species, whom would you choose? How about four Jesuit priests, a young astronomer, a physicist, her engineer husband, and a child prostitute-turned-computer-expert?

Assassination Vacation by Sarah Vowell

"I love her take on history and her humor. I first heard about her on The Daily Show and have been reading her ever since. I've never before known presidential assassinations could be so interesting and amusing."
-Monica, Auburn Library

Sarah Vowell exposes the glorious conundrums of American history and culture with wit, probity, and an irreverent sense of humor. She takes us on a journey to the pit stops of American political murder and through the myriad ways they have been used for fun and profit, for political and cultural advantage.

Night Animals by Gianna Marino

Possum is hiding from the sounds in the night, and his fear sets off a chain reaction in the other night animals.

"A funny little book about night animals who find out they were all running away from themselves. The art is sneaky, silly, and a very good laugh to be had by all at the end. It is a great storytime book."
-Robin, Foresthill Library

Mara, Daughter of the Nile by Eloise Jarvis McGraw

A teen book about the adventures of an ingenious Egyptian slave girl who undertakes a dangerous assignment as a spy in the royal palace of Thebes, in the days when Queen Hatshepsut ruled.

A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman

Meet Ove. He's a curmudgeon-the kind of man who points at people he dislikes as if they were burglars caught outside his bedroom window. He has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. People call him "the bitter neighbor from hell." But must Ove be bitter just because he doesn't walk around with a smile plastered to his face all the time?

"For whatever reason, I've been really attracted this year to the same type of book. A stodgy man has his life take an unexpected twist, the day-to-day sameness is upended, and he sees that change is always possible. The books on my list have wit and honesty, and I really enjoyed them."
-Erika, Meadow Vista Library

This book changed the way I thought as a teen and now as an adult. It is hilarious, truthful, and a must read.
-Amie, Colfax Library

Full Frontal Feminism by Jessica Valenti

A smart and relatable guide to the issues that matter to today's young women. The book covers a range of topics, including pop culture, health, reproductive rights, violence, education, relationships, and more.