



# June 23 2020

## Amy

**Day of Tears** by Julius Lester

When gambling debts and greed enter into the Butler household, Pierce Butler decides to host the biggest slave auction in American history and breaks a promise by selling Emma, his most-valued slave and caretaker of his children--a decision that brings about unthinkable consequences.

Readalikes: **Crossing Ebenezer Creek** by Tonya Bolden, **Brown Girl Dreaming** by Jacqueline Woodson

**Upright Women Wanted** by Sarah Gailey

A near-future exploration of queer identity, written in the style of a pulp western, finds a woman stowing away to escape her arranged marriage to a man who was once engaged to the late best friend she secretly loved.

Readalikes: **Magic for Liars** by Sarah Gailey, **The Ventriloquists** by E. R. Ramzipoor

**The Subtweet** by Vivek Shraya

When Neela Devaki's song is covered by internet-famous artist Rukmini, the two musicians meet and a transformative friendship begins. But as Rukmini's star rises and Neela's stagnates, jealousy and self-doubt creep in. With a single tweet, their friendship implodes, one career is destroyed, and the two women find themselves at the center of an internet firestorm.

Readalikes: **Daisy Jones and the Six** by Taylor Jenkins Reid, **Juliet, Naked** by Nick Hornby

## Anne

**Hieroglyphics** by Jill McCorkle

Bonding over the mutual losses of their parents in childhood, a couple determined to leave a history for their own children respectively sift through family records and obsess over a possible childhood home before uncovering troubling memories.

Readalikes: **Maine** by J. Courtney Sullivan, **Benediction** by Kent Haruf

**Now We Shall Be Entirely Free** by Andrew Miller

When Captain John Lacroix returns home from Spain, wounded, unconscious, and alone, he believes that he has seen the worst of what men may do. Slowly regaining his health, Lacroix journeys north to the misty isles of Scotland with the intent of forgetting the horrors of the war. Unbeknownst to him, however, something else has followed him back from the war—something far more dangerous than a memory.

Readalikes: **Cold Mountain** by Charles Frazier, **The Thousand Autumns of Jacob De Zoet** by David Mitchell

**Disappearing Earth** by Julia Phillips

The shattering disappearance of two young girls from Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula compounds the isolation and fears of a tight-woven community, connecting the lives of neighbors, witnesses, family members and a detective throughout an ensuing year of tension.

Readalikes: **There, There** by Tommy Orange, **Love Medicine** by Louise Erdrich

## Catherine

**The Belles** by Dhonielle Clayton

Born one of the revered Belles in the opulent world of Orleans, where people are naturally born gray and seek the talented Belles to transform themselves with beauty, Camellia dreams of being declared the queen's favorite before her arrival at court exposes dark and dangerous realities within the palace walls.

Read-alikes: **Uglies** by Scott Westover, **The Selection** by Kiera Cass

**A Heart in a Body in the World** by Deb Caletti

Followed by Grandpa Ed in his RV and backed by her brother and friends, Annabelle, runs from Seattle to Washington, D.C., becoming a reluctant activist as people connect her journey to her recent trauma.

Read-alikes: **Starfish** by Akemi Dawn Bowman, **All the Bright Places** by Jennifer Niven

## Margaret

**The Two Lives of Lydia Bird** by Josie Silver

A woman grieving the loss of her fiancé finds herself swapping back and forth between parallel lives, including one in which her first love has survived and another involving a new person who is asking her to move on.

Readalikes: **In Five Years** by Rebecca Searle, **Evvie Drake Starts Over** by Linda Holmes

**The New Husband** by D. J. Palmer

After meeting Simon Fitch, a teacher from her daughter Maggie's middle school, widow Nina Garrity has hopes of putting her shattered life back together, but her friends aren't so sure that Simon has the best of intentions.

Readalikes: **Then She Was Gone** by Lisa Jewell, **Our House** by Louise Candlish