10 Chilling Thrillers for Hot Summer Days

PLUS OUR TOP 10 LISTS OF
YA Crime Novels, Animal Stories for Kids and MUCH MORE!

RECOMMENDED
READS, MOVIES & MORE

July 2021

Vaughan Public Libraries
The Perfect Nanny
by Leila Slimani
An enthralling page-turner that scrutinizes the power dynamics between a young mother and her seemingly perfect nanny. More ‘Gone Girl’ than ‘Mary Poppins’ this novel will leave you questioning the contentious issues of motherhood, race and class.

The Dilemma
by B.A Paris
Uncovered secrets and destroyed lives abound in this psychological thriller about the lies a husband and wife keep from one another regarding their children, and the deceit and guilt lined with such powerful decisions.

One by One
by Ruth Ware
For fans of “And Then There Were None” by Agatha Christie, this chilly whodunnit, will leave readers in suspense as each member of the Snoop tech startup team vacationing in the French Alps start disappearing.

My Lovely Wife
by Samantha Downing
Bored with their marriage, Millicent and her husband decide to pick up a new hobby - homicide. This sinister and slow burning tale will make one question who exactly the acquaintances are we keep.

The Suspect
by Fiona Barton
An international disappearance case hits closer to home for Journalist Kate Waters. While following the story of two eighteen-year-old girls missing in Thailand, Kate learns that her own son may be connected and now he too cannot be reached.

The End of Her
by Shari Lapeña
Adjusting to motherhood of twin girls, Stephanie finds a woman from her husband’s past is back and raising questions about the death of her husband’s late wife. Reeling from the accusations, Stephanie begins to wonder who she should trust.

The Boy From the Woods
by Harlan Coben
Found as a child living feral in the woods, Wilde has spent his adult life wondering about his past. When a young girl goes missing in the same woods Wilde was once found, he is forced to expose the deeply protected secrets of a town with no mercy.

You Are Not Alone
by Greer Hendricks
Shay Miller has no job, no apartment, and no love life. When she crosses paths with the glamorous Moore sisters, they promise her “you are not alone”. As Shay’s life becomes too perfect, she wonders if the promise was really a threat.

The Girl From Widow Hills
by Megan Miranda
Still plagued by night terrors twenty years after being abducted while sleepwalking as a child, Arden Maynor does what she needs to survive. Even after moving miles away from her hometown Arden, now Olivia, finds she still cannot escape her past.

The Half Sister
by Sandie Jones
After the loss of their father, two sisters are shocked to learn that they have a half-sister. The revelation brings to the surface years of lies each sister has been hiding, and something much more threatening.
Swoon-worthy YA Romances

**Kids Like Us** by Hilary Reyl
In this thoughtful and tender coming-of-age story, Martin, who is on the autism spectrum, attends school in France, where he discovers he is worthy and capable of love.

**Three Sides of a Heart**
Love triangles are a classic romance trope. With sixteen diverse stories covering a variety of genres from popular authors like Julie Murphy and Brandy Colbert, this collection offers something for everyone.

**The Sun Is Also a Star** by Nicola Yoon
A chance meeting between Natasha, who is trying to stop her family from being deported, and Daniel, who struggles to live up to his family’s expectations, leads to love in this poignant and lyrical novel.

**The Siren** by Kiera Cass
As a siren, it is Kahlen’s duty to lure strangers to their deaths. When she falls in love with a human, can she risk everything for love?

**A Match Made in Mehendi** by Nandini Bajpai
In this fast-paced and engaging romantic comedy, Simi and her best friend, Noah, accidentally cause chaos at school when their matchmaking app produces controversial results.

**The Night We Said Yes** by Lauren Gibaldi
In this relatable summer romance, Ella is reunited with Matt, the boy who broke her heart a year ago, and must decide if he deserves a second chance.

**A Million Junes** by Emily Henry
In this magical spin on Romeo and Juliet, two teens from rival families fall in love while trying to undo the generations-old curse that could lead to their doom.

**Happy Messy Scary Love** by Leah Konen
In this sweet and funny romcom, Olivia must figure out how to reveal her true identity to her online crush, Elm, after sending him a picture of her friend and claiming it’s her.

**You Don’t Live Here** by Robyn Schneider
Sasha Bloom struggles with her conservative grandparents’ expectations of how she should live - and whom she should love. An introspective novel about finding yourself.

**Once and for All** by Sarah Dessen
Despite working for her mother’s wedding planning business, Louna is skeptical about romance and it’s up to Ambrose to win her over. A light summer romance about overcoming heartbreak and taking chances.
Captivating YA Crime Novels

Missing by Kelley Armstrong
Winter Crane begins to wonder if the teenagers in her town left willingly, after she comes across an injured boy. A fast-paced, menacing murder mystery that will keep you entertained from start to finish.

Immoral Code by Lillian Clark
In this emotional rollercoaster, the loyal friends of a deadbeat billionaire’s abandoned daughter orchestrate a 21st-century Robin Hood plot to hack into her father’s company and steal the tuition money that she needs to follow her dreams.

There’s Someone Inside Your House by Stephanie Perkins
When increasingly violent attacks overshadow life at Osborne High, an intense hunt for the killer leads to the revelation of astonishing secrets. A gruesome, small-town read with culturally diverse characters.

The Last to Let Go by Amber Smith
When her mother is arrested for killing Brooke’s abusive father, Brooke must confront the shadow of her family’s violence and dysfunction. An emotionally jarring, authentic read that includes mental health themes and LGBTQIA+ diverse characters.

The Leaving by Tara Altebrando
In this chilling read, six children disappear on their first day of kindergarten; eleven years later only five come home. A unique, compelling story that will keep you engaged until the end.

A Good Idea by Cristina Moracho
A girl returns to her small hometown in Maine seeking revenge for the death of her childhood best friend. A fast-paced, atmospheric read with a lush writing style.

Found by Harlan Coben
Mickey Bolitar and his friends continue to investigate the Abeona Shelter, while Mickey searches for answers about his father’s tragic death. An action-packed, plot-driven novel with dark secrets and unanswered questions.

Broken Things by Lauren Oliver
Everyone thinks Mia and Brynn killed their best friend after becoming obsessed and delusional over a novel. But on the anniversary of their friend’s death, a discovery pulls them back together to find out what happened that night.

Suicide Notes from Beautiful Girls by Lynn Weingarten
In this intense mystery, Delia’s death has people in town wondering if it’s a suicide. Yet her best friend, June, wonders if it’s murder.

Dare Me by Megan E. Abbott
A suicide focuses a police investigation on the coach of a cheerleading team. A beautifully written novel that examines themes of friendship and betrayal.
10 Mesmerizing Movies about Music

Hearts Beat Loud
A single father and his college-bound daughter become an unlikely musical duo in this feel-good movie about family, love, and growing up.

Yesterday
After an accident during a mysterious blackout, a struggling singer-songwriter wakes up to a world where no one knows the Beatles existed and rises to stardom by performing their songs. A quirky and engaging film about the costs of fame.

The High Note
An aspiring music producer and a successful singer have a chance to change both their careers in this pitch-perfect behind-the-scenes look at the music industry.

I Still Believe
A heartfelt and inspirational movie about the life of Christian music star Jeremy Camp, whose wife’s battle with cancer causes him to question his faith.

Rocketman
A dazzling movie-musical about iconic pop star Elton John’s rise to fame, featuring a standout performance from actor Taron Egerton.

Straight Outta Compton
An entertaining biopic chronicling the rise and fall of influential hip-hop group N.W.A., whose controversial but brutally honest music still resonates today.

Her Smell
Elisabeth Moss stars as a self-destructive punk rocker who must overcome her demons before she sabotages her band’s success in this intense and compelling drama.

Popstar
A hilarious parody starring comedy trio The Lonely Island about an egotistical former boy band member who must make amends with his former bandmates when his solo career implodes.

Forever My Girl
A country singer who left his fiancée at the altar to pursue fame must face the music when he returns home for his best friend’s funeral. A light-hearted romance perfect for fans of Nicholas Sparks.

Song to Song
The lives of two couples become intertwined in this star-studded, visually stunning story of musicians struggling to make it in Austin, Texas.
**Ellie’s Story**  
by W. Bruce Cameron  
Trained as a search-and-rescue dog since puppyhood, Ellie can track and find people who are physically lost, but it is her owners, widower Jakob and lonely Maya, who challenge her to find a way to save people who are lost in other ways.

**Maggie and the Flying Horse**  
by E.D. Baker  
A friendly, charming story about eight-year-old Maggie who tries to save an injured flying horse. She must journey through the Enchanted Forest, to find a kindly stableman named Bob, who cares for many different magical animals.

**The President’s Mane is Missing**  
by Tom Angleberger  
Inspector Flytrap, a Venus Flytrap, hopes to become the world’s greatest detective with the help from his assistant, Nina the Goat. A funny adventure story with unforgettable characters.

**The Bad Guys in the Baddest Day Ever**  
by Aaron Blabey  
These wannabe heroes include different animal characters that go on exciting adventures. A hilarious and enjoyable series, perfect for fans of Dog Man and Captain Underpants.

**Puppy’s Big Day**  
by Nick Bruel  
Uncle Murray takes Puppy on a walk on a day that Bad Kitty is being unusually difficult but has several unpleasant encounters with a police officer and one mean dog along the way. An educational and humorous story.

**Max’s Story**  
by W. Bruce Cameron  
An uplifting read about a small dog named Max who helps his owner, CJ, navigate the big city of New York. Max helps his owner find her talent and strength and learns that there is enough love to go around.

**Lost in the Nether**  
by Cube Kid  
A bizarre and engaging read about a playful kitten named Eeebs. He has amazing adventures in the world of Minecraft.

**Agnes and Clarabelle**  
by Adele Griffin  
Agnes the pig and Clarabelle the chicken are best friends. They love to do different activities together and help each other through every up and down. A beautiful story about loyalty and true friendship.

**A Daring Rescue**  
by Catherine Hapka  
Abby and Bella discover a hidden cove that’s home to a pod of dolphins, but they must decide whether to share their discovery with others. A magical, enchanting tale about sea creatures.

**Bad Kitty Goes to the Vet**  
by Nick Bruel  
Even the best bad kitties can get sick, and when it happens, it means just one thing: a visit to the vet! A silly story with the perfect blend of action and humor.
Everything Space
by Helaine Becker
In this National Geographic book for kids, extraordinary space photographs, infographics, and first-hand accounts from astronauts will pull curious young readers in just like gravity!

Did You Know? Space
by Sarah Cruddas
A quick read through this book and your questions about space will be answered! In this easy-to-read question and answer formatted reference book, young readers will learn the answers to more than 200 of the most common space related questions.

Seeing Stars
by Sara Gillingham
In this visually sensational introduction to the constellations, young astronomers will learn the information they need to name, recognize, and locate all 88 constellations in the night sky. The perfect resource for first-time stargazers.

Journey Through Our Solar System
by Mae Jemison
Explore the history behind the astronomers who have studied our solar system for hundreds of years. Readers will be transported out of this word as they learn about the methods used and currently use to study planets, moons, and stars.

Space
The perfect reference book for young space explorers looking to learn more about our remarkable Universe. From rockets and space missions to constellations and galaxies this book is an ideal resource for any child interested in space.

Night Sky Detective
by Ben Morgan
Learn all about the night sky with this hands-on book filled with activities for adventurous space explorers. With over 30 activities from learning how to spot constellations, and launching a rocket, this book is perfect for inquiring minds.

Life on Mars
by Jon Agee
In this quirky and playful picture book, a young astronaut is convinced that he is the only living being on Mars. Unbeknownst to him, a sneaky Martian has been there all along waiting ever so patiently for the astronaut, to leave.

Field Trip to the Moon
by John Hare
Climb aboard young space explorers, it's time to take a field trip to the moon! In this exciting picture book readers will have the opportunity to imagine themselves as astronauts in space and immerse themselves in new concepts such as space travel.

Hey-ho, to Mars We’ll Go!
by Susan Lendroth
Join along with this jaunty group of astronauts as they sing their way to the Red Planet known as Mars.

The Darkest Dark
by Chris Hadfield
Canadian space legend Chris Hadfield shares his inspiring childhood story of overcoming his fear of the dark and daring to dream the impossible; to become an astronaut and voyage through outer space - ‘the darkest dark ever’.

Inspire young readers to learn about space!
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