



## Center for the Book at the New Hampshire State Library



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### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Summer 2018

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## New Hampshire Romances

In October 2017, we asked NH readers to vote for their favorite romance by a NH author from a list of titles selected by New Hampshire librarians familiar with the genre.

### Titles Selected for Voting

Allan, Cheri. *All or Nothing*. USA: Five Oaks Books, 2015.

Self-made tech millionaire Ian McIntyre has suffered through a reality dating show only to return home to idyllic Sugar Falls, New Hampshire, empty-handed, swarmed by paparazzi, and hounded by a Hollywood producer determined to deliver a Happily Ever After. But then his home is invaded by a sexy, snarky local staging it for the season finale, and Ian finds himself more interested in the cute and scrappy hometown girl dusting off his action figures than the audience's favorite southern belle. Auto mechanic Bailey Adams grew up on the wrong side of the tracks and is struggling to patch together enough odd jobs to buy a garage of her own. When the Golden Boy of Sugar Falls entangles her in his disastrous season of Happily Ever After, they both discover that some long-held dreams are only as 'real' as 'reality' TV. Now, with the deal on her dream garage in jeopardy and her unlikely love affair with America's favorite geeky hunk playing out on national TV, Bailey must decide if she's willing to risk it all for love... or be left with nothing.

Graykin, Justine. *Archimedes Nesselrode*. Markham, Ont.: Double Dragon Publishing, 2013.

Archimedes Nesselrode is an artist who "makes things", no one knows how. As his housekeeper, Vivian Mare must deal with a bestpectacled heron, a winged snake, a guardian basilisk, and a crew of naughty marmosets getting into the crackers. Undaunted by his unruly creations and by the appalling condition of the house, Ms. Mare takes control, learns the secrets of this fantastic household, and discovers the darker side of Mr. Nesselrode's creative powers.

Hebert, Cerian. *The Staying Kind*. USA: Soul Mate Publishing, 2017.

Rio Presley isn't looking for a place to fit in when she finds a job at a stable in New Hampshire. Travis Lithgow isn't expecting to discover a drifter taking up residence in his hunting cabin and working for his aunt. Just back from a tour in the Middle East, he's rebuilding his relationship with his rebellious teenage daughter. He's sure Rio's presence in their lives won't make things easier, but he admires Rio's strength facing the adversities in her life. As Rio fights the urge to get back on the road before she becomes too comfortable with her newfound love of horses, her feelings for Travis become stronger than the need to flee. Both he and his aunt are offering Rio everything she's ever been afraid to want, but staying could bring her past crashing into the happy life she's begun to build.

Hills, Kathryn. *Haunting Highland House: A Time Traveller's Journey, #1*. USA: The Wild Rose Press, 2016.

She's looking to escape her man troubles. Instead, she finds the man of her dreams. There's only one problem. He's dead. Living in a haunted house and uncovering a gateway in time were not in the job description when Samantha Merrill agreed to be the property manager of Highland House. Old photos of the reclusive master of the manor captivate her, yet she's terrified when he appears out of nowhere. How can Robert Pennington be making love to her by the parlor fireplace when he died over a century ago?

<http://nhbookcenter.org>

Robert Pennington is a powerful industrialist charged with caring for an ailing father, a meddling mother, and two wayward siblings. Weary of his burdens, he longs for change. Is he ready for a woman from the future? His disciplined world turns upside down when the mysterious Samantha Merrill crashes his sister's birthday ball. He is wildly attracted to this intriguing beauty, but is it magic or mischief motivating her? When Sam vanishes before his eyes, he knows only one thing for certain. He wants her back.

Isaak, Elaine, ed. *Love Free or Die: 23 Tales of Love from the Granite State*. Concord, NH: Plaidswede Publishing, 2013.

**THIS TITLE WAS THE FAVORITE IN OUR SURVEY WITH 28.76% OF THE VOTES.**

Includes stories by Michael Samuels, Kari Lemor, S. J. Cahill, Robin Small, Shana Chartier, Judi Calhoun, Annie Boghigian, Jessie Salisbury, Susan E. Kennedy, Abby Goldsmith, Sylvia Beaupré, James Isaak, David O'Keefe, Leah Brent, Justine Graykin, Timothy Boudreau, Norman Klein, B. K. Rakhra, K. J. Montgomery, Melva Michaelian, Robert E. Owen, Amy Ray, and Troy Ehlers.

Jaeger, Peggy. *A Kiss Under the Christmas Lights*. USA: The Wild Rose Press, 2016.

With Christmas just a few weeks away, Gia San Valentino, the baby in her large, loud, and loving Italian family, yearns for a life and home of her own with a husband and bambini she can love and spoil. The single scene doesn't interest her, and the men her well-meaning family introduce her to aren't exactly the happily-ever-after kind. Tim Santini believes he's finally found the woman for him, but Gia will take some convincing she's that girl. A misunderstanding has her thinking he's something he's not. Can a kiss stolen under the Christmas lights persuade her to spend the rest of her life with him?

Kepner, Linda Tiernan. *Magicians and Vampires: A Vampire of Manhattan Adventure*. NH: Flying Chipmunk Publishing, 2016.

There's a new refugee in Manhattan: a sick, dispirited young magic-user who has witnessed the destruction of everything he knows, and betrayal by everyone he loves. He is being pursued. He has failed his friends. By the time he reaches Good Hope Hospital, Adam Conroy has hit bottom.

The Vampire of Manhattan and his team are familiar with the bottom. With the support of their remarkable friends and allies, including weredogs and local witches, they sort through Conroy's truths and lies to save their island once again.

LeDuc, Nora. *The Devil Wore Sneakers*. Dunbarton, NH: Nora LeDuc, 2015.

Who shot Lucy Watson's estranged brother, the popular high school teacher who brought snacks for the staff and volunteered to help troubled students? When Lucy Watson returns to her hometown in New Hampshire to bury her brother, she learns law enforcement is looking into several suspects. But soon the search for the killer grows intensely personal for Lucy. The police discover a fierce argument occurred the day of the murder between Lucy's brother and his best friend Liam McAllister, Lucy's first love. The cops shift their focus to Liam. Determined to get justice, Lucy becomes involved in the mystery and must choose to put her faith in Liam one last time, or face the truth; she is in love with her brother's murderer.

Olech, Lisa. *Picture Me Naked*. USA: The Wild Rose Press, 2013.

Z. Z. LAMBERT wasn't born uptight, but someone needed to be the adult. Zee's a "color-inside-the-lines" artist with a hippy mother, a mostly dead grandmother, and a cat named Isabella Rossellini. Add to her life's palette a stunning new life model, Jagger Jones. Is it just her, or does all the air leave the room when he shows up? Good thing he's just passing through. This is no time to fall in love, especially not with her model, no matter how perfectly knee-melty he may be. Australian JAGGER JONES is a rolling stone. Living with nothing to tie you down takes talent. Posing without your britches is a piece of cake. He's three years into his walkabout with only his dead father's ashes for company. But Z.Z. Lambert stops him faster than a croc in the mud. Her paintings of him are incredible. She sees past all of his posturing, past the flesh and bone and uncovers his heart. Zee understands the promise he made his father, and comes to love him enough to let him go. But does she love him enough to let him stay? His only other choice is a future without her. And he can't picture that at all.

Ross, Ana E. *The Tycoon's Temporary Bride*. NH: Ana E Ross, 2014.

Since he was left standing at the altar, Adamo Andreas has been a bit bride-shy. This handsome, sexy CEO is quite content with his temporary relationships, until the day he literally bumps into Tashi Holland. One look into Tashi's frightened, emerald eyes and Adam finds himself falling into his old habit of rescuing damsels-in-distress—something he's sworn never to do again, since the moment he begins to rescue a damsel-in-distress is the moment he begins falling for her. Tashi Holland is running from a man whose identity she doesn't know, and looking for one who's just as mysterious. Following the instructions of the FBI agent who rescued her from a New York City human-trafficking kingpin, Tashi arrives in Granite Falls, New Hampshire—the safe haven the agent has sent her to. But without the identity of the man who's to protect her, Tashi feels lost, scared, and vulnerable. She has no idea whom to trust, so when she bumps into a man in a café, and finds herself locked in his arms, she panics and runs. A near-death experience brings them together again, and slowly, but surely, Tashi begins to trust Adam, and eventually tells him about New York City and the FBI agent who died rescuing her. Will Tashi's fear that Adam might suffer the same fate as the FBI agent keep her from accepting his offer of protection by becoming his temporary bride?

Wall, Susan Ann. *Insert Wife Here: Superstitious Brides #7*. NH: Susan Ann Wall, 2017.

Sean Beckett turns Cynthia Munn's luck -- and her world -- upside down with a harmless date, a risky bet, and a night Cyn might regret.

### **Titles Recommended by Voting Readers**

Chartier, Shana. *Past Lives*. Winter Garden, FL: Pants on Fire Press, 2016.

J has been cursed for all eternity. In her very first life on Earth, she made the mistake of falling in love with her sister's betrothed ... and it was all downhill from there. In revolutionary France, J and the other members of Marie Antoinette's court are forced into hiding, desperate to escape a wild uprising out for their blood. From there, she is reincarnated in America in the late 1800s, where she disguises herself as a man in the Confederate army and is surrounded by carnage and blood. In Austria in the 1930s, she became the only hope for her Jewish friends' survival against the Nazi storm. Now, as a 21st century teenager, she faces mountains of extracurricular volunteer work and a ruthless bully all on her quest to get into a competitive college. Talk about a bummer. Beside her in each life, Sebastian finds himself on the wrong side of every battle. Always a soldier, he makes it his mission time and time again to rescue J with the hope that maybe someday they'll get the chance to be together, if only that were possible. They say that everything happens for a reason, but can J and Sebastian find a way to break their curse and finally make a life together?

Jaeger, Peggy. *The Voices of Angels*. USA: The Wild Rose Press, 2016.

Love is the last thing Carly Lennox is looking for when she sets out on her new book tour. The independent, widowed author is content with a life spent writing and in raising her daughter. When newscaster Mike Woodard suggests they work on a television magazine profile based on her book, Carly's thrilled, but guarded. His obvious desire to turn their relationship into something other than just a working one is more than she bargained for. Mike Woodard is ambitious, and not only in his chosen profession. He wants Carly, maybe more than he's ever wanted anything or anyone else. As he tells her, he's a patient man. But the more they're together, Mike realizes it isn't simply desire beating within him. Carly Lennox is the missing piece in his life. Getting her to accept it-and him-may just be the toughest assignment he's ever taken on.

Leuci, Gina. *The Devil's Invention*. USA: The Wild Rose Press, 2015.

Marriage? Been there, done that, have the divorce papers to prove it. Last thing Kelly wants is a relationship. Then a sexy firefighter moves into the neighborhood and her ex-husband decides he wants her and their girls back. Kelly must choose between the man she wants and the life that will keep her family together. Finn believes that love is nothing more than the Devil's Invention. Love them and leave them is a way of life. But when he falls for his neighbor, Finn risks his life and his heart to protect Kelly from her ex-husband.

Monninger, Joseph. *Eternal on the Water*. New York, NY: Gallery Books, 2010.

Cobb, a devoted teacher and nature-lover, takes a sabbatical from his New England boys prep school seeking to experience what Henry David Thoreau and the transcendentalists did in the early nineteenth century. Kayaking to the last known spot where the American writer and philosopher camped four years before he died, he encounters the beautiful free-spirited Mary. Also a teacher, avid bird-watcher, and deft adventurer, Mary is flirtatious and beguiling, and the two soon become inseparable. Mary is like no one Cobb has ever met before, but he gets the feeling that she is harboring a secret. Eventually she shares her fears with Cobb--that she may be carrying the gene for a devastating, incurable illness that runs in her family. Finding strength in their commitment to one another, the two embark on a journey that is filled with joy, anguish, hope, and most importantly, unending love. Set against the sweeping natural backdrops of Maine's rugged backcountry, the exotic islands of Indonesia, scenic Yellowstone National Park, and rural New England, *Tender River* is a timeless and poignant love story that will captivate readers everywhere.

Picoult, Jodi. *The Pact: A Love Story*. New York, NY: W. Morrow & Co., 1998.

Friendship, loyalty, lifelong love -- and teenage suicide. The Golds and the Hartes, neighbors for eighteen years, have always been inseparable. So have their children--and it's no surprise that in high school Chris and Emily's friendship blossoms into something more. But the bonds of family, friendship, and passion--which had seemed so indestructible -- suddenly threaten to unravel in the wake of unexpected tragedy. When midnight calls from the hospital come in, no one is ready for the truth. Emily is dead at seventeen from a gunshot wound to the head. There's a single unspent bullet in the gun that Chris pilfered from his father's cabinet--a bullet that Chris tells police he intended for himself. But a local detective has doubts about the suicide pact that Chris describes. This extraordinary, heart-rending novel asks questions that every parent faces: How much do we know about our children? Our friends? What if . . .' As its chapters unfold, alternating between an idyllic past and an unthinkable present, *The Pact* paints an indelible portrait of families in anguish . . . and creates an astonishingly suspenseful courtroom drama, as Chris finds himself on trial for murder.

Salisbury, Jessie. *A Heart Mended*. USA: Soul Mate Publishing, 2015.

Wilfred has a broken heart. Betrayed years ago by his young wife and severed from his life work by a heart attack, he has retreated to a resident youth camp to hide and impart his love of nature to mostly uncaring campers. Too hurt to ever love again, too much in pain to care, he has retreated from the world to await his inevitable death. But Shannon knows better. As the camp nurse, she understands his physical pain, and as she has learned to know, and deeply love, him, she has found the parts he keeps hidden. She knows he is a caring, gentle soul, a good man who could be healed, if he would let somebody help him, but he is rejecting her offered love. Robbie is a sad reluctant camper. Left by his parents while they vacation, bullied by his bigger cabin-mates, he can't swim, hates baseball, but likes butterflies. His love of the outdoors catches Wilfred's attention, but Robbie is the son of Wilfred's ex-wife. Robbie stands between Wilfred and Shannon, pulling them together and driving them apart, until Robbie is trapped in a burning barn with only Wilfred to get him out.