

NoveList

*I love this book. I want to read another one like it.
The library has only three books by this author. Are there any more?
I need to read a story set in the Civil War
and all the books on my list are already checked out.
My child is in 5th grade. He hates to read
but he needs to read a Newbery Award book for school.
This book is the middle of a series. I want to read the first book.*

Any of these questions or similar ones sound like your dilemma? Try out three databases on the Bartholomew County Public Library website www.barth.lib.in.us. The three are NoveList, Book Sellers and Book Lists and Book Reviews.

NoveList is a database of over 135,000 fiction books that is updated monthly as new novels are published. Book Sellers and Book Lists, and Book Reviews are databases put together by the same people who publish the magazine *Book Page* which the library distributes for free.

All of them are easy to use. With your library card in hand click on NoveList Fiction Finder on the Bartholomew County Public Library website. Put in your library card number. Now you will see the NoveList home page.

There are lots of choices on the NoveList homepage but start with the tab called Search Our Database. You may search by author, title or series title. You may describe a plot ((mystery, National Parks) and even look for articles about a single title or about books on a particular topic.

Under the tab called Browse Lists you can select lists of awards, honors and recommended books in the different age groups or look at lists by kind of story, mystery, horror, romance, etc. There are special lists called "Grab and Go" for elementary school children.

Once you have chosen a title, you will see a plot summary, reviews and a link to other books by the author, and a button for similar titles.

You make your own lists of titles and email to yourself or just save them in My NoveList. Unfortunately, NoveList is not linked to the library's online catalog. You will need to go one more step and check your NoveList selections against the online catalog. If the library does not have the title you want, you can click on World Cat InterLibrary Loan on our website to request the title from another library.

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We hope these tools help you find books to read. Of course, you may still want to ask a librarian and we will be glad to help you find just the right book, movie, CD, or article. Expand your world. Read.

Elizabeth Monette is a reference librarian at Bartholomew County Public Library.