

While you wait: Readalikes for Great Big Beautiful Life
Assistant Library Director Meggin Kitterman

Are you tired of waiting in the hold line for “Great Big Beautiful Life,” the newest Emily Henry book? Or maybe you are not waiting because you have already read the book and now you want more romantic comedies? Either way, the library can help! Here is a list of newer readalikes available at the library, with descriptions from the publishers.

“It’s a Love Story” by Annabel Monaghan. “Jane Jackson spent her adolescence as ‘Poor Janey Jakes,’ the barbecue-sauce-in-her-braces punch line on America’s fifth-favorite sitcom. Now she’s trying to be taken seriously as a Hollywood studio executive by embracing a new mantra: Fake it till you make it.”

“Writing Mr. Right” by Alina Khawaja. “Legal secretary by day, aspiring novelist by night, Ziya Khan pours herself into writing stories featuring the kinds of diverse characters she loves. When yet another [rejection letter] arrives...Ziya decides to throw her novel and her dreams in the trash. End of story. Except that when Ziya wakes up, there’s a flesh-and-blood version of her muse standing in her kitchen. His name is Aashiq, and it’s his job to inspire Ziya to write again.”

“The Summer We Ran” by Audrey Ingram. “Does your past define your destiny? Told through multiple perspectives, rich with emotion and immersive dual timelines, [this book] weaves together a story of lost love, devastating secrets, shocking sabotage, and the painstaking decision two people must make to fulfill the futures they each desire.”

“Dream On, Ramona Riley” by Ashley Herring Blake. “A small-town waitress and a Hollywood star’s worlds collide in this new romance.”

“Any Trope but You” by Victoria Lavine. “Beloved romance author Margot Bradley has a dark secret: she doesn’t believe in Happily Ever Afters. Not for herself, not for her readers, and not even for her characters, for whom she secretly writes alternate endings that swap weddings and babies for divorce papers and the occasional slashed tire. When her Happily Never After document is hacked and released to the public, she finds herself canceled by her readers and dropped by her publisher.” Read what happens next!

“Story of My Life” by Lucy Score. “Hazel Hart was a successful romance novelist until a breakup drives her straight into writer’s block. Having failed (and failed some more) to deliver her new manuscript, she’s hiding from the world behind a wall of old takeout containers until her publisher lays down the law. If she misses her next deadline, it’s The End.”

“Promise Me Sunshine” by Cara Bastone. “Grieving the loss of her best friend, a young woman’s life is turned upside down when she meets a grumpy stranger who swears he can help her live again.”

“First-Time Caller” by B.K. Borison. "Aiden Valentine has a secret: he's fallen out of love with love. And as the host of Baltimore's romance hotline, that's a bit of a problem. But when a young girl calls into the station asking for dating advice for her mom, the interview goes viral, thrusting Aiden and Heartstrings into the limelight."

“The Love Lyric” by Kristina Forest. "Iris Greene used to be a woman with a plan. But all of that changed after she met the love of her life at twenty-five, got pregnant and married...and then became a widow and a single mother all in a little over two years. Now, after years of hustling, Iris is the director of partnerships at a beauty company and raising sweet six-year-old Calla by herself. Despite her busy life, she still can't help but feel lonely. She just needs to catch her breath--and one night, at her sister's wedding, when she steps outside to do just that, she sees a certain singer who takes her breath away."

“Drop Dead” by Lily Chu. "One mysterious mansion. Two rival journalists. Three weeks to uncover the story--and love--of a lifetime."

If you'd like to request these or any other titles, visit www.newulmlibrary.org and choose Library Catalog, or call the library at 507-359-8331. New Ulm Public Library is located at 17 North Broadway and is open from 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m. on Monday-Thursday and 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. on Friday-Saturday.