NONFICTION

Modern Romance (2015) Aziz Ansari

In this book, comedian Aziz Ansari blends his comedic observations with scientific research to examine how dating culture has changed recently in America. He focuses on how modern technology and social media have not only dramatically increased the number of romantic partners available for us to meet, but also how communicating over these platforms impacts the way that we interact and interpret signals within our relationships. An insightful read for anyone looking to understand modern interactions, whether they are currently in a relationship or looking for a new romance.

The Loneliness Cure (2015)

Kory Floyd, PHD

Six strategies for finding real connections in your life and meaningful relationships that have been severed or prevented by the entrapment of social media. The more connected we are, the more alone we become because we cheat ourselves of the affectionate human contact we need for mental and physical well-being.

Swiped (2015)

Adam Levin

Levin has seen every scam under the sun: fake companies selling "credit card insurance"; criminal, medical, and child identity theft; emails that promise untold riches for some personal information; cat phishers, tax fraud, fake debt collectors who threaten you with legal action to confirm your account numbers; and much more. As Levin shows, these folks get a lot less scary if you see them coming.

American Girls: Social Media and the Secret Life of Teenagers (2016)

Nancy Jo Sales

Boys are texting girls asking for nude pics back. Girls send them back out of fear of being called prudes or worse, not because they want to. This book is a wake-up call to all parents and society in general. Parents need to keep a close eye on their children's use of social media and teach them how to use it. Our laws need to catch up to the age of Internet. There are whole new ways for people to be abused because of it. The young women interviewed almost always wanted someone older and wiser to intervene, help, or at least guide them.

Alone Together (2012)

Sherry Turkle

In *Alone Together*, MIT technology and society professor Sherry Turkle explores the power of our new tools and toys to dramatically alter our social lives. It's a nuanced exploration of what we are looking for—and sacrificing—in a world of electronic companions and social networking tools, and an argument that, despite the hand-waving of today's self-described prophets of the future, it will be the next generation who will chart the path between isolation and connectivity.

Mindsharing: the Art of Crowdsourcing Everything (2015) Lior Zoref

An easy to read guide that will help you develop positive relationships with the individuals in your network and tap their collective intelligence to solve problems.





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Staying Connected:

A Collection of Recent Fiction and Nonfiction About the Internet and Social Media



All books listed are available at libraries in the Monroe County Library System.

FICTION

Keep Me Posted (2016)

Lisa Beazley

Manhattan-dwelling Cassie, a wife and mother of twin toddlers, and her sister Sid, an expat living in Singapore, challenge each other to keep in touch by sending handwritten letters through the mail. They find this to be a wonderfully satisfying experience, until a careless slipup on the part of the tech-savvy sister occurs, and the letters go viral, and their most intimate thoughts are revealed.

Don't Try to Find Me (2015)

Holly Brown

Fourteen-year-old Marley runs away from home and leaves her parents with only a brief message that includes the phrase "don't try to find me." The police are reluctant to spend much time or their limited resources on a case they believe is a typical teenage runaway, so the parents begin their own campaign to try to find their daughter by using Facebook and Twitter and by creating a FindMarley.website.

Missing You (2014)

Harlan Coben

NYPD detective Kat Donovan joins an online dating site only to find her ex-fiancé's profile. As she looks into making contact with him, she also is investigating the disappearance of single women who have profiles on this same dating site.

Book of Numbers (2016)

Joshua Cohen

An enigmatic tech mogul named Principal hires a failed novelist named Josh Cohen (the author's doppleganger) to ghostwrite his memoir. As Cohen grows closer to his subject, he embarks on a disturbing and threatening trip behind the digital veil.

On the Rocks (2015)

Erin Duffy

Just as Abby decides the wedding dress she is trying on is "the one", her bestie, Grace let's out an "Oh my God". Turns out Abby's fiancé has changed his mind and his Facebook status to single. When Abby re-enters the dating scene she finds that social media now plays a very important part. Men don't call women back if they don't have a Facebook page. The pictures a woman posts tell a guy what the relationship will probably be like. Lots of tight dresses and drinking pictures promise a good time for all.

The Circle (2014)

Dave Eggers

Mae is hired by the Circle, the most powerful Internet company in the world, and feels she's landed her dream job. She's thrilled to be working for such an innovative company until she finds her life becoming more and more centered on her job and online "life", leaving no room for a private life in the real world.

Wife 22 (2013)

Melanie Gideon

Alice and William have been married for 20 years. Their relationship is less than romantic and fairly routine. When Alice gets an email to be part of survey on marriage, she decides to participate. When the relationship with "Researcher 101" becomes more than she expected she begins to reevaluate everything she knows. Told though Facebook entries, emails and texts this book is a modern day romance.

The Status of All Things (2015)

Liz Fenton and Lisa Steinke

After Kate is dumped on the night of her rehearsal dinner, she finds she is able to change her life with her Facebook statuses. With the help of her two best friends, Kate tries to control and repair her relationship using social media, but she finds that fate is not so easily rewritten.

Love and Miss Communication (2015) Elvssa Friedland

Evie Rosen fights to find her real self in a world of staged selfies and Facebook updates.

I've Got Your Number (2013)

Sophie Kinsella

Poppy Wyatt is beside herself when she loses her engagement ring and her cell phone in quick succession. When she finds a cell phone in a trash can at the hotel where she lost the ring, she seizes it, giving out the number so that people can contact her if they find the ring. It proves to be a company phone that belonged to the now former assistant of businessman Sam Roxton. He reluctantly agrees to let her keep it until the ring is found as long as Poppy is willing to send him any business e-mails that come to the phone.

Reconstructing Amelia (2013)

Kimberly McCreight

Smart and pretty Amelia appears to have jumped off the roof of her high school after being caught cheating. Her mother, Kate, soon after receives an anonymous text indicating that Amelia didn't jump. Suspecting that her 15-year old daughter may have been murdered, Kate begins to work with a police detective by piecing together evidence from texts, emails, blog entries and Facebook to help form a picture of Amelia's recent life.

Where'd You Go Bernadette (2012)

Maria Semple

From the outside, Bernadette Fox's life seems perfect...her husband is a big inventor at Microsoft, her 15 year old daughter Bee is a straight-A student in the most prestigious private school in Seattle, and they are planning a family trip to Antarctica to celebrate Bee's perfect grades. On the inside though, Bernadette's anxieties and hatred of the people of Seattle have caused her to become more and more of a recluse, relying on a virtual personal assistant in India do almost everything for her. When Bernadette suddenly disappears, many blame it on her eccentricities, but Bee knows that something must be wrong. She sifts through countless emails, documents, and correspondence in order to piece together what happened to her mom, and tries to figure out where Bernadette may have gone.

NW (2013)

Zadie Smith

Four young people from Northwest London try to make adult lives outside of the council estate of their childhood. One of them discovers how easily social media and the Internet turns her into an active–and anonymous–participant in the lives of others.

The Knockoff (2016)

Lucy Sykes

When Imogen returns to her magazine *Glossy* after six months away she is surprised by the changes that have occurred. Her young assistant, Eve, has done away with most of the staff and is in the process of changing the magazine from print to app only. It is up to Imogen to fight back and retake her business or become a sign of the times.

