



## Out of the Box Ideas

For using Novelist's unique metadata in your application

### Introduction

Whether you're designing a hold screen or a check-out receipt, Novelist's recommendations enrich that experience by helping readers discover new books. A reader placing a book on hold is an indication they might be interested in other about what to read next. If they are checking out a book, they may want to see similar titles. Or, the reader might simply want to browse. A more engaging experience with more links back to the library's catalog deepens readers engagement and patrons are less likely to leave the experience empty-handed. The goal is to help readers find their next book – wherever they are.

However, providing high-quality recommendations can be a challenge. Instead of just offering a list of mysteries, how about offering the reader explore "historical mysteries set in Scotland"? This deeper level of exploration is made possible by Novelist's highly structured and curated metadata. Novelist metadata includes details about books, authors, and series – most of which aren't found anywhere else because we create and curate the data in-house.

Novelist offers access to our data via two APIs: a javascript API (provides a predesigned layout of our data) and a RESTful API (offers the ability to design a custom display). This document is intended to provide our partners with *ideas and inspiration* for using the Novelist metadata in a custom designed application using the RESTful API. There is separate technical documentation for the API; this document is intended as product design inspiration.

Want to use the Novelist metadata to enrich your ILS, checkout systems, mobile app, etc.? This document is a jumping off point to help you think about ways to use our data in your application.

**Keep in mind when working with the Novelist metadata that the brand name "Novelist" should appear at least once on each screen where Novelist content is delivered.** Suggested language is "Powered by Novelist." Also be sure to include usage logging callback functionality. More details on Novelist branding and usage logging can be found in the Technology Agreement. Please contact Molly Wyand at [mwyand@ebSCO.com](mailto:mwyand@ebSCO.com) if you haven't received the agreement or if you have questions about these requirements.

Please feel free to keep the dialogue open with us as we work together to design products to serve libraries and readers in new and exciting ways. Contact [mwyand@ebSCO.com](mailto:mwyand@ebSCO.com) for assistance and questions.

## Idea #1: Provide more options when users are placing holds

Libraries want readers to leave with an armful of books and long hold lists are always a frustration. With NovelList's recommendations, you can easily add some **"While You Wait"** recommendations like the one pictured below. Consider putting this either on the *search results page* or the *hold confirmation page*.

The screenshot shows a mobile application interface for a library. At the top, there is a search bar with a back arrow and the word 'Search'. Below the search bar, the author's name 'ANGIE THOMAS' is displayed next to a small icon of a person. A red 'Reserve' button is positioned to the right of the author's name. A prominent red banner below the button contains the text: 'All licenses of this book are currently checked out.' Underneath the banner, the 'Description' section features a list of eight starred reviews from various sources, including Jason Reynolds, John Green, Kirkus Reviews, Publishers Weekly, Booklist, and The Horn Book. The description ends with the text 'Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between' and a 'More...' link. The 'Information' section lists the publication date (March 24, 2017), publisher (HarperCollins), and distributor (Overdrive). Below this, a section titled 'Similar titles recommended by NoveList:' displays four book covers: 'Hush' by Lisa Thompson, 'Chaos Crutcher' by Chris Crutcher, 'KIMANI' by KIMANI, and 'Begging For Change' by Lisa Thompson. At the bottom of the screen is a navigation bar with four icons: a library building for 'Catalog', a book icon for 'My Books', a list icon for 'Reservations', and a gear icon for 'Settings'.

## Idea #2: Liven up receipts with personalized recommendations

If you generate user emails or email receipts, think about adding “Because you liked” recommendations to them. NoveList can provide either individual title-title recommendations or a multi-book recommendation based on a group of titles – both of which generate recommendations based on what the user is already interested in. You could consider adding these to onscreen receipts, email receipts, and printed receipts. Here are some examples:

**Southwest Regional Library** <horizonemail@dconc.gov>  
to me ▾

Durham County Library Notification  
07/23/2017

LOHMANN, JENNIFER  
2501 BANNER ST  
DURHAM NC 27704

**HOLD NOTIFICATION:** The items you requested are ready for pick-up. Please visit the library listed below prior to the date indicated to check out your items. Thank you!

Romance Fiction                      LIN, J.  
The Lotus Palace /                      33450162852857

Pickup at: South Regional              Hold expires: 07/30/2017

To renew your books online: <http://dur.sdp.sirsi.net/>  
This is an unmonitored email box. Please do not reply to this email.

Excited to read THE LOTUS PALACE? Try these similar titles:

- THE YELLOW EMPEROR'S CURE by Kunal Basu
- CORNERED TIGRESS by Jade Lee
- ALL THE TEA IN CHINA by Jane Orcutt

**Central Library**  
Hours: M-S 9AM - 5PM  
Sun 9AM - 5PM  
Visit us on-line or call for renewals  
[www.3m.com/QuickConnect](http://www.3m.com/QuickConnect)  
Call: 555-555-5555

Customer Name: John Doe  
Customer ID: XXXXXXXXXX

**Items that you checked out:**  
The Devil in the White City  
Due: Thursday, Dec 13, 2013  
The Aviator's Wife  
Due: Thursday, Dec 13, 2013  
The Last Policeman  
Due: Thursday, Dec 13, 2013

Total items: 3  
Account balance: \$1.50  
12/12/2013 1:56 PM  
Checked out: 6  
Overdue: 0  
Hold requests: 2  
Ready for pickup: 2

Thank you for using 3M eLibrary!

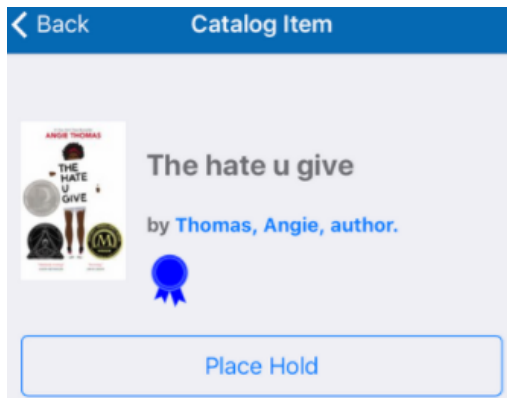
**Recommended Reads:**  
Title: The Women  
Author: Boyle, T. Coraghessan  
ISBN: 9780670020416

Title: Loving Frank  
Author: Horan, Nancy  
ISBN: 9780345494993

Title: The Alienist  
Author: Carr, Caleb  
ISBN: 9780679417798

### Idea #3: Provide readers with helpful indicators

Knowing that a title is an award winner or has been made into a movie can someone's interest and help a reader decide that they want to read a book. NoveList has data elements that can help you identify award winners. We also have data elements for starred reviews, books-to-movies, Lexile reading levels, Accelerated Reader levels, and more. You could consider adding these data elements to *search results pages* or *title detail pages*.

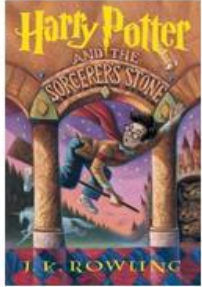


## Idea #4: Series information, correct and curated

Series readers are passionate enthusiasts – they want to know the correct order of books in a series and they want to know what comes next. But accurate series data can be difficult to find. NoveList spends a lot of time curating series data and we can deliver that to you for inclusion in your application. Make your series readers happy!

### Books in This Series

Harry Potter (Original series) [View in NoveList](#)



1. [Harry Potter and the sorcerer's stone](#)

[View in NoveList](#)



2. [Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets](#)

[View in NoveList](#)



3. [Harry Potter and the prisoner of Azkaban](#)

[View in NoveList](#)



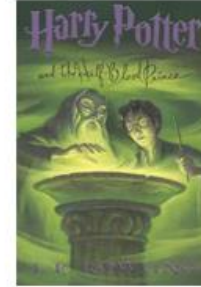
4. [Harry Potter and the goblet of fire](#)

[View in NoveList](#)



5. [Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix](#)

[View in NoveList](#)



6. [Harry Potter and the half-blood prince](#)

[View in NoveList](#)



7. [Harry Potter and the deathly hallows](#)


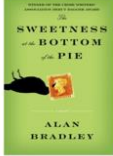


[View in NoveList](#)

## Idea #5: Offer multiple kinds of read-alike recommendations – based on title, series, OR author

NovelList knows that readers have different preferences. Some of them like certain authors and want more like that author. Others finish a series and want to start another series that will give them a similar experience. That’s why we provide read-alike recommendations on multiple levels: based on the title, the series, OR the author. And we always give a REASON WHY we made the recommendation, so there’s no guessing. It also means that readers know that our recommendations are applied with authority.


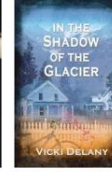


### You Might Also Like These...

#### Series

			
<b>Sister Jane Foxhunting mysteries</b> by Brown, Rita Mae Ⓜ Why this match? ⊕ Show Titles	<b>Flavia De Luce mysteries</b> by Bradley, C. Alan, 1938- Ⓜ Why this match? ⊕ Show Titles	<b>Thomas Lynley mysteries</b> by George, Elizabeth, 1949- Ⓜ Why this match? ⊕ Show Titles	<b>Richard Jury mysteries</b> by Grimes, Martha Ⓜ Why this match? ⊕ Show Titles

### You Might Also Like These...

#### Titles

			
<b>The various haunts of men</b> by Hill, Susan Ⓜ Why this match?	<b>In the shadow of the glacier</b> by Delany, Vicki Ⓜ Why this match?	<b>Haunted ground</b> by Hart, Enn Ⓜ Why this match?	<b>The chalk circle man</b> by Vargas, Fred Ⓜ Why this match?

### You Might Also Like These...

#### Authors

<b>James, P. D.</b> Ⓜ Why this match?	<b>Leon, Donna</b> Ⓜ Why this match?	<b>Bowen, Gail, 1942-</b> Ⓜ Why this match?
<b>Christie, Agatha, 1890-1976</b> Ⓜ Why this match?	<b>Dexter, Colin</b> Ⓜ Why this match?	<b>Albert, Susan Wittig</b> Ⓜ Why this match?
<b>Deverell, William, 1937-</b> Ⓜ Why this match?	<b>Todd, Charles</b> Ⓜ Why this match?	<b>Robinson, Peter, 1950-</b> Ⓜ Why this match?
<b>Strange, Marc</b> Ⓜ Why this match?	<b>Crombie, Deborah</b> Ⓜ Why this match?	<b>Blunt, Giles</b> Ⓜ Why this match?



Louise Penny offers contemporary versions of the classic detective novel popularized by Agatha Christie. If Penny's intelligent but intuitive detective and his skill at drawing information out of suspects appeals to you, you may want to try the novels of Agatha Christie, especially those starring Hercule Poirot. -- Shauna Griffin



## [FUNCTIONALITY COMING SOON TO OUR RESTful API]

### Idea #6: Display browsable lists/carousels

Readers love to browse! We are building access points into our REST API that will allow you to provide browseable lists based on:

- **Genre:** we drill down past the usual broad categories (mystery, romance) into the subcategories that are specific to readers' interests (e.g., time travel romances, historical mysteries, and so on).
- **Appeal:** This is a type of access point that is unique to NovelList and allows exploration of books by zeroing in on style or mood.
- **Recommended reads lists:** these lists are built by NoveList and cover many different creative categories (ex: For Fans of Taylor Swift, Fans of The Handmaid's Tale, and more)
- **Over 1,000 Award Lists**

Our lists/data can always be filtered by the customer's collection.

Check out these road trips for your summer road trip



Recommendations powered by [NovelList](#)

#### Sardonic and Witty [View All](#)

Clever books with a side of sarcasm



#### New and Popular in...

#### Forthcoming Historical Fiction [View All](#)

New books about old times.

