



**FOR THE FAMILY'S
BEST GIFT GIVER:
A LIBRARIAN'S GUIDE TO
GREAT GIFT BOOKS**



FICTION



FOR THE LITERARY-MINDED FOODIE

Kitchens of the Great Midwest

by *J. Ryan Stradal*

This sweet and savory debut novel—parts of which are set in Evanston—is the coming-of-age tale of a young woman who becomes one of the country's most famous chefs.

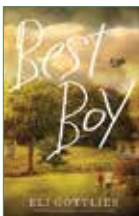


FOR SOMEONE WITH A TASTE FOR THE UNUSUAL

Delicious Foods

by *James Hannanham*

By turns audacious, bleak, and funny, this story of race relations, drugs, and family dynamics will richly reward adventurous readers (and is probably the first book ever to have parts narrated by crack cocaine).



FOR YOUR BOOK CLUB

Best Boy

by *Eli Gottlieb*

Reading clubs will have plenty to discuss with this brilliantly imagined story narrated by a middle-aged man with autism whose orderly life is thrown into chaos when a new resident arrives at his assisted living community.

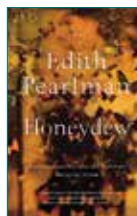


FOR THRILL-SEEKERS

The Hand that Feeds You

by *A.J. Rich*

This riveting, sexy novel of psychological suspense is about an accomplished woman involved with a man who proves to be an imposter. A.J. Rich is actually a pseudonym for celebrated literary authors Amy Hempel and Jill Ciment.



FOR THE SHORT STORY LOVER

Honeydew

by *Edith Pearlman*

Considered one of the greatest short story practitioners of all time, Pearlman shines a brilliantly precise light on the beauty, pain, and grace of everyday life.



FOR THE FRIEND OBSESSED WITH MR. DARCY

Jane Austen: The Complete Works

This lovely box set featuring beautifully bound and decorated editions of Austen's novels will take pride of place in the library of any Janeite.



FOR THE DISCRIMINATING GRAPHIC NOVEL FAN

The Sandman: Overture

by *Neil Gaiman*

Legendary scribe Gaiman makes his long-awaited return to the characters and medium that made him famous.

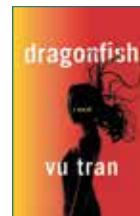


FOR THOSE WHO WISH THEY WERE PART OF THE LOST GENERATION

Villa America

by *Liza Klaussmann*

Klaussman's glittering novel is set in a house on the French Riviera built by the couple that served as real-life inspirations for F. Scott Fitzgerald's *Tender is the Night*.



FOR CRIME BUFFS

Dragonfish

by *Vu Tran*

Written by a University of Chicago creative writing instructor, this riveting cross-genre tale set in the sleazy underbelly of Las Vegas mixes crime noir with reflections on the refugee experience.



FOR FANS OF THE MARTIAN

Seveneves

by *Neal Stephenson*

Readers eager for more characters that “science the hell” out of life and death will be absorbed by this story of annihilation and survival spanning 5,000 years.



FOR DRAMA KINGS AND QUEENS

The Penguin Arthur Miller: Collected Plays

This handsome hardcover compiles the master playwright's major works (including *The Crucible*, *Death of a Salesman*, and *An Enemy of the People*) in celebration of the centennial of his birth.



FOR THE ROMANTIC

A Desperate Fortune

by *Susanna Kearsley*

Told in a dual timeline—one a present-day amateur codebreaker and another a second-generation Jacobite exile living in 1732 France—this lush tale mixes romance with historical intrigue and modern adventure.



FOR ANGLOPHILES WHO TAKE THEIR TEA BLACK

Crooked Heart

by *Lissa Evans*

This irresistibly wry dark comedy set in World War II England chronicles an unlikely alliance between a frazzled con artist and a young orphan who schools her in the art of the steal.

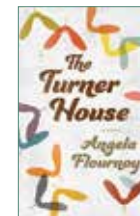


FOR THE READER WITH A TIME TRAVEL TO-DO LIST

Time Salvager

by *Wesley Chu*

This brainy, fast-paced adventure imagines a future where time-travelers visit the past to steal precious artifacts in order to fuel their own dying economy.



FOR COMPLICATED FAMILIES

The Turner House

by *Angela Flournoy*

Pull up a chair and settle in to meet the Turners of Detroit, a sprawling family of 13 children shaped by the Great Migration and working through the joys and trials of everyday life. This unforgettable ode to a family and city in flux was a finalist for the National Book Award.

NONFICTION



FOR THE LOVABLE GROUCH

Grumpy Cat: No-It-All: Everything You Need to No *by Grumpy Cat*
The book for anyone who'd rather say "No, no, no" instead of "Ho, ho, ho."



FOR THE ADULT WHO'S A KID AT HEART

Only What's Necessary: Charles M. Schulz and the Art of Peanuts *by Chip Kidd*
No one who grew up loving Charlie Brown, Snoopy, and friends should miss this lavishly illustrated tour through the Peanuts archives.



FOR THE COOLEST FEMINIST YOU KNOW

My Life on the Road *by Gloria Steinem*
Filled with juicy details and fresh insights, this memoir from the feminist icon is the next best thing to having her over for a chat over a glass of wine and dinner.



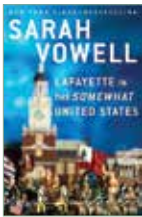
FOR THE BUSY HOME COOK

Pioneer Woman Cooks: Dinnertime *by Ree Drummond*
Food Network star Drummond maps out how to make fast, yummy suppers the whole family will love, from make-ahead favorites to meals that can be whipped together in 16 minutes or less.



FOR THE PERPETUAL RESOLUTION-BREAKER

Better Than Before *by Gretchen Rubin*
To change your life you must change your habits. But to do that, Rubin argues, you must first figure out how you respond to expectations. This breezy read offers a roadmap on how to make sustaining good habits easier.



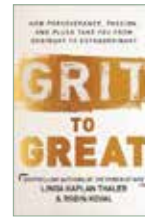
FOR THE HISTORY BUFF WHO LOVES A LAUGH

Lafayette in the Somewhat United States *by Sarah Vowell*
This sometimes hilarious and always insightful look at Revolutionary War icon (and George Washington BFF), the Marquis de Lafayette, is the latest work from author and NPR personality Vowell.



FOR MEMOIR FANS

H is for Hawk *by Helen Macdonald*
When Macdonald's father dies unexpectedly, she copes by doing something she's always dreamed of: adopting and training a goshawk. This exquisitely crafted memoir of loss, determination, and nature was a surprise bestseller.



FOR THE FRIEND TRYING TO GET AHEAD

Grit to Great: How Perseverance, Passion, and Pluck Take You from Ordinary to Extraordinary *by Linda Kaplan Thaler and Robin Koval*
The authors explain how it's not native intelligence or natural talent that makes people excel, but resilience and focused attention.



FOR WHEN YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO GIVE THAT BIRKIN BAG

Primates of Park Avenue *by Wednesday Martin*
A bawdy, gossipy memoir of life among the real housewives of New York's Upper East Side. Whether real or embellished (some claim portions were fabricated), it's a deliciously guilty pleasure.



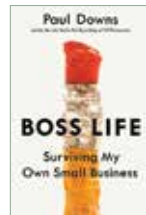
FOR THE HGTV ADDICT

Home *by Ellen DeGeneres*
Amid 25 years building a successful comedy and TV career, DeGeneres also bought and renovated nearly a dozen homes. This coffee table book displays inspiring images of those projects as well as touches of her trademark wit.



FOR THE POP-CULTURE POLITICO

Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg *by Irin Carmon and Shana Knizhnik*
Left-leaning political junkies will love this buoyant illustrated biography, inspired by the Internet meme of the same name, of the flyest justice SCOTUS has ever known.



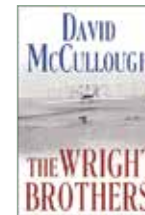
FOR THE BUDDING ENTREPRENEUR

Boss Life: Surviving My Own Small Business *by Paul Downs*
The owner of a busy Pennsylvania woodshop offers an honest, warts-and-all look on the stresses of running a company in a changing economy, endearingly revealing his own mistakes and realities so others can learn from them.



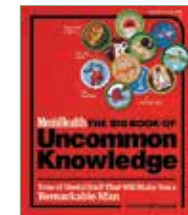
FOR THE DECORATOR WHO WANTS TO GO NATIVE

Cabin Porn: Inspiration for Your Quiet Place Somewhere *by Zach Klein, Steven Leckart, and Noah Kalina*
Anyone who longs for a simpler way of living will gaze longingly at these serene photos of handmade homes with idyllic settings, unique architecture, and cozy interiors.



FOR FREQUENT FLIERS

The Wright Brothers *by David McCullough*
Pulitzer Prize-winner McCullough tells the dramatic behind-the-scenes story of the Midwestern siblings who taught the world how to fly.



FOR THE MAN WHO DOESN'T KNOW EVERYTHING... YET

Men's Health: The Big Book of Uncommon Knowledge *by Jeff Csatari*
Even the manliest man will find something to learn in this compendium of essential life skills, featuring everything from making a cocktail to gutting a fish to impressing a date.



FOR THE BUDDING FASHIONISTA

I Had a Favorite Hat *by Boni Ashburn*
Rather than letting her mother pack away her favorite floppy hat, a little girl begs to keep it out, charmingly decorating the chapeau for different seasons. (Ages 2–4)



FOR YOUR GRAND CHILD

Ballet Cat: The Totally Secret Secret *by Bob Shea*
Ballet Cat and Sparkles the pony can't decide what to play today. With silly, kid-friendly humor, this adorable tale of self-confidence and teamwork shines. (Ages 3–7)



FOR THE NEWLY MINTED BIG BROTHER OR SISTER

Wolfie the Bunny *by Ame Dyckman*
Dot the bunny is horrified when her parents take in the baby wolf they find on their doorstep. She tries to warn her parents of the dangers of having a wolf around, until an unexpected encounter with a bear changes her perspective. (Ages 2–4)



FOR SOMEONE WHO LOVED HARRY POTTER

SuperMutant Magic Academy *by Jillian Tamaki*
Being a teen is tough, even if you don't have paranormal powers like the kids in Tamaki's graphic novel.



FOR TEENS WHO EMBRACE THEIR AWESOME

Dumplin' *by Julie Murphy*
Willowdean may call herself "fat," but she's never been uncomfortable about her weight. If other people have a problem with it, then it's just that—their problem.



FOR BLENDED FAMILIES

We Are All Made of Molecules *by Susin Nielsen*
Brilliant, socially awkward Stewart is excited that his dad is going to marry cute, popular Ashley's mom. They're going to be such wonderful friends! Ashley has other ideas.



FOR KIDS WHO KNOW IT'S HIP TO BE SQUARE

Minecraft Blockopedia *by Alex Wiltshire*
Minecraft maniacs will love this slip-cased reference book that walks them through the different types of cubes that can be used in the game's 3-D world. (Ages 7 and up)



FOR RAINA TELGEMEIER FANS

Roller Girl *by Victoria Jamieson*
Readers who loved *Smile* and *Sisters* will be drawn to this realistic and inspiring graphic novel about two friends who grow apart after one discovers a passion for roller derby. (Ages 9–12)



FOR KIDS WHO LOVED WONDER

Rain Reign *by Ann M. Martin*
Rose Howard is obsessed with homonyms (liked "rain" and "reign") and has Asperger's syndrome. When her beloved dog, Rain, goes missing in a storm, Rose has to venture far from her comfort zone if she wants to find her best friend. (Ages 9–12)



FOR GAMERS WHO WANT TO SAVE THE WORLD

Armada *by Ernest Cline*
It's just another day of high school for Zack, until he glances out his classroom window and spots the flying saucer. Soon his video-gaming skills are put to use fighting the alien invasion.



FOR TEENS WHO LOVE GETTING THE CREEPS

Miss Peregrine's Peculiar Children Boxed Set *by Ransom Riggs*
This gift set includes three books—*Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*, *Hollow City*, and *Library of Souls*—all of which combine fiction with vintage photography to tell a mesmerizingly spooky tale.



FOR DYSTOPIA LOVERS

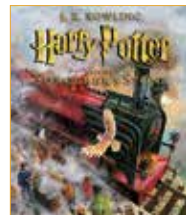
Vivian Apple at the End of the World *by Katie Coyle*
Vivian's parents are true believers of a new religion, and they warn her that the end times are coming. If she doesn't join the faith she'll be left behind. Vivian thinks it's all nonsense—until Rapture Day.

KIDS



FOR YOUR ONE-OF-A-KIND GRANDKID

The Lost My Name books
Give a colorful, personalized book to your grandchild that takes them on an adventure to find the letters of their missing name. Visit the website Lostmy.name and choose from six whimsical character designs. (Ages 2–6)



FOR A NEW GENERATION OF LITTLE MUGGLES

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone: The Illustrated Edition *by J.K. Rowling*
This lavish full-color edition of the beloved novel features more than 100 illustrations from acclaimed artist Jim Kay, perfect for kids just being introduced to Harry and those who want to get to know him all over again. (Ages 6 and up)

TEENS



FOR SOMEONE LOOKING FOR A HERO

Ms. Marvel *by G. Willow Wilson*
Kamala Kahn, a geeky Pakistani American teenager from New Jersey, struggles with fitting at school when one day a strange fog rolls in and she's granted her wish to get superhuman powers. This series turns superhero conventions on their head in a charming, smart, relatable way.



FOR JOHN GREEN FANS

All the Bright Places *by Jennifer Niven*
Seniors Theodore and Violet find one another on their school's bell tower, each contemplating taking the leap. Instead they develop an unusual friendship in the face of mental illness.



5215 Oakton Street
Skokie, IL 60077
847-673-7774
www.skokielibrary.info



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