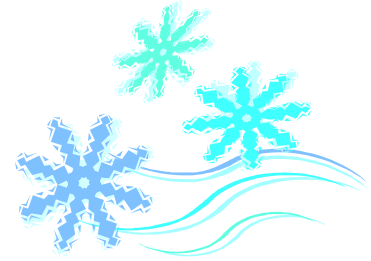


Staff Picks for Holiday Gift Giving



Adult Fiction

The Sense of an Ending by Julian Barnes (Contemporary Fiction)

Tony is in middle age. He's had a career and a single marriage, a calm divorce. He's certainly never tried to hurt anybody. Memory, though, is imperfect.

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte (Gothic, Romance)

An orphan girl's progress from the custody of cruel relatives to an oppressive boarding school culminates in a troubled career as a governess where the master harbors a scandalous secret.

Revolution by Jennifer Donnelly (Historical Fiction, Young Adult)

While teen Andi Alpers in Paris with her estranged father, a Nobel geneticist hired to match the DNA of a heart said to belong to the last dauphin of France, she discovers a diary hidden within a guitar case-- and so begins the story of Alexandrine, who herself had close ties to the dauphin. Danger, intrigue, music, and impeccably researched history.

The House of Silk: A Sherlock Holmes Novel by Anthony Horowitz (Mystery)

Murder, international conspiracy, opium dens. The game is afoot and Holmes and Watson are on the case in this Arthur Conan Doyle Estate-approved novel.

11/22/63 by Stephen King (Fantasy, Suspense)

On November 22, 1963, three shots rang out in Dallas, President Kennedy died, and the world changed. What if you could change it back? Stephen King's heart-stoppingly dramatic new novel is about a man who travels back in time to prevent the JFK assassination.

Let the Great World Spin by Colum McCann (Historical Fiction)

A dazzlingly rich vision of the pain, loveliness, mystery, and promise of New York City in the 1970s.

The Housekeeper and the Professor by Yoko Ogawa (Contemporary Fiction)

Ever since a traumatic head injury, the Professor has lived with only eighty minutes of short-term memory. And every morning, as the Professor and his Housekeeper are introduced to each other anew, a strange and beautiful relationship blossoms between them.

State of Wonder by Ann Patchett (Contemporary Fiction)

Pharmaceutical researcher Dr. Marina Singh is sent to Brazil to track down her former mentor, Dr. Annick Swenson, who seems to have all but disappeared in the Amazon while working on what is destined to be an extremely valuable new drug. Marina embarks on an odyssey into the insect-infested jungle in hopes of finding her former mentor as well as answers to several troubling questions about a friend's death, the state of her company's future, and her own past.

The Help by Kathryn Stockett (Historical Fiction)

When Eugenia "Skeeter" Phelan graduates from Ole Miss and returns to the family plantation in Jackson, Mississippi, she latches on to the idea of writing a story from the point of view of the African

American women who work in the homes of wealthy white families. When it is finally published, rocks Jackson's world in unimaginable ways.

Innocent by Scott Turow (Thriller, Suspense)

Former lawyer Rusty Sabich, now a Kindle County, Ill., chief appellate judge, is suspected of murdering a woman close to him. His wife, Barbara, has died in her bed of what appear to be natural causes, yet Rusty comes under scrutiny from his old nemesis, acting prosecuting attorney Tommy Molto, who unsuccessfully prosecuted him for killing his mistress decades earlier.

Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese (Historical Fiction)

Marion and Shiva Stone are twin brothers born of a secret union between a beautiful Indian nun and a brash British surgeon. Orphaned by their mother's death and their father's disappearance, bound together by a preternatural connection and a shared fascination with medicine, the twins come of age as Ethiopia hovers on the brink of revolution.

Adult Nonfiction

Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition by Daniel Okrent

Explores Americans' relationship with the bottle dating back to the colonial era and analyzes the long-term effects of Prohibition on everything--from the rise of the Mafia and the Ku Klux Klan to language, art, and literature. Fast-paced and fascinating.

Great Book of Boston Sports Lists by Andy Gresh.

With original contributions from over 20 famous sports heroes and fans, this book fans the flames of the ongoing sports debate with informative and entertaining lists that highlight and rank the best, worst, and most remarkable of local sports past and present. Essential Boston sports fan reading.

Visions of Earth: Beauty, Majesty, Wonder by National Geographic

Enthralling images fill the book in a gallery of stunning landscapes, fascinating people, amazing animals, and unexpected glimpses of the usual and unusual.

The 10 Best of Everything, Second Edition: An Ultimate Guide for Travelers by National Geographic

Studded with colorful illustrations, cosmopolitan sidebars, and savvy tips, as well as a wealth of options for getting there via land, sea, or air, this elegant and sophisticated book will awaken yearnings for exotic travel in readers everywhere.

Best Recipes from American Country Inns and Bed & Breakfasts by Kitty and Lucian Maynard

The best crowd-pleasing recipes from widely acclaimed country inns and bed & breakfasts in the United States are collected in this unique cookbook and travel guide.

The Elements: A Visual Exploration of Every Known Atom in the Universe by Theodore Gray

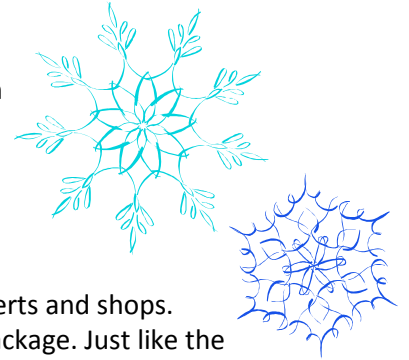
An eye-opening, original collection of gorgeous, never-before-seen photographic representations of the 118 elements in the periodic table. Packed with interesting information, this combination of solid science and stunning artistic photographs is the perfect gift book for every sentient creature in the universe.

The Poisoner's Handbook: Murder and the Birth of Forensic Medicine in Jazz Age New York by Deborah Blum.

In early twentieth-century New York, poisons offered an easy path to the perfect crime. However, chief medical examiner Charles Norris, together with toxicologist Alexander Gettler, set the justice system on fire with their trailblazing scientific detective work, triumphing over seemingly unbeatable odds to become the pioneers of forensic chemistry.

Rin Tin Tin: The Life and the Legend by Susan Orlean

Filled with humor and heart and moments that will move you to tears, this is an irresistible blend of history, human interest, and masterful storytelling—a dazzling celebration of a great American dog by one of our most gifted writers.



Miette: Recipes from San Francisco's Most Charming Pastry Shop by Meg Ray, Frankie Frankeny and Leslie Jonath

More than 75 gorgeous color photos capture the unique beauty of Miette desserts and shops. Scalloped edges on the book block enhance the preciousness of this fetching package. Just like the adorable cakes, cookies, clairs and tarts for sale in Miette's case, this book is irresistible!

DVDs

Crazy Stupid Love

Rated PG-13

At fortysomething, straight-laced Cal Weaver (Steve Carell) is living the dream—good job, nice house, great kids and marriage to his high school sweetheart. But when Cal learns that his wife, Emily (Julianne Moore), has cheated on him and wants a divorce, his "perfect" life quickly unravels. Worse, in today's single world, Cal, who hasn't dated in decades, stands out as the epitome of un-smooth. Now spending his free evenings sulking alone at a local bar, the hapless Cal is taken on as wingman and protégé to handsome, thirtysomething player Jacob Palmer (Ryan Gosling).

Inception

Rated PG-13

Dom Cobb (Leonardo DiCaprio) is the best there is at extraction: stealing valuable secrets inside the subconscious during the mind's vulnerable dream state. His skill has made him a coveted player in industrial espionage but also has made him a fugitive and cost him dearly. Now he may get a second chance if he can do the impossible: inception, planting an idea rather than stealing one. If they succeed, Cobb and his team could pull off the perfect crime. But no planning or expertise can prepare them for a dangerous enemy that seems to predict their every move. An enemy only Cobb could have seen coming.

Life (narrated by David Attenborough)

Not Rated

Aided by breathtaking high-definition cinematography, the makers of *Planet Earth* explore the more colorful strategies the world's creatures employ to procreate, evade predators, and obtain nourishment in this BBC series.

Luther. Season 1

Not Rated

Idris Elba (*The Wire*, *American Gangster*) stars as Detective John Luther in this thrilling new crime series from BBC America. A self-destructive near-genius, Luther might just be as dangerous as the depraved

criminals he hunts. Forced to face his own capacity for violence, he struggles with why his wife left him and what draws him to Alice, a beautiful, highly intelligent mass murderer.

Midnight in Paris

Rated PG-13

When Gil (Owen Wilson) visits Paris with his materialistic fiancée (Rachel McAdams) and her unpleasant parents, he can't stop thinking that all he wants to do is quit the movies, move to Paris, and write that novel he's been meaning to finish. While strolling through the city at night, he walks right into his fantasy: the bohemian Paris of the 1920s, complete with Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald, Picasso and Dali, and Ernest Hemingway.

Scott Pilgrim vs. the World

Rated PG-13

Scott Pilgrim (Michael Cera) is an accidental heartbreaker, a Canadian slacker who obsesses over the girls who've dumped him. When he lays eyes on Ramona (Mary Elizabeth Winstead), he thinks he's found his soulmate, but unfortunately, Ramona has some serious baggage: seven deadly exes, and Scott must battle them all if he wants to date Ramona.

Super 8

Rated PG-13

In the summer of 1979, a group of friends in a small Ohio town witness a catastrophic train crash while making a super 8 movie and soon suspect that it was not an accident. Shortly after, unusual disappearances and inexplicable events begin to take place in town, and the local Deputy tries to uncover the truth - something more terrifying than any of them could have imagined.

The Thin Man

Not Rated

The intoxicating chemistry and repartee between the oft-teamed William Powell and Myrna Loy as Nick and Nora Charles--America's favorite soused detectives--is fully 100-proof in the marvelously witty Thin Man movies. Powell and Loy deliver their sparkling dialog with giddy enthusiasm (and occasionally slurred speech) in this rapid-fire, three-martini suspense comedy adapted from the novel by Dashiell Hammett.

Titanic

Rated PG-13

Leonardo DiCaprio and Oscar-nominee Kate Winslet light up the screen as Jack and Rose, the young lovers who find one another on the maiden voyage of the "unsinkable" R.M.S. Titanic. But when the doomed luxury liner collides with an iceberg in the frigid North Atlantic their passionate love affair becomes a thrilling race for survival. From acclaimed filmmaker James Cameron comes a tale of forbidden love and courage in the face of disaster that triumphs as a true cinematic masterpiece.

True Grit

Rated PG-13

Mattie Ross (Hailee Steinfeld), is determined to avenge her father's blood by capturing Tom Chaney (Josh Brolin), the man who shot and killed him for two pieces of gold. Just fourteen, she enlists the help of Rooster Cogburn (Jeff Bridges), a one-eyed, trigger-happy U.S. Marshall with an affinity for drinking and hardened Texas Ranger LaBoeuf (Winner Matt Damon) to track the fleeing Chaney. Despite their differences, their ruthless determination leads them on a perilous adventure that can only have one outcome: retribution.