

GIFT PICKS

A curated selection of holiday gift ideas for bibliophiles

This winter season marks DC Public Library Foundation's second annual "Gift Picks," the holiday edition of "Lit Picks," our quarterly literary newsletter.

"Lit Picks" is our DC Public Library insider's guide into the literary tidbits we're reading, liking and sharing. We hope you enjoy our look at some of the best and most interesting items the Web has to offer on books, reading and life.

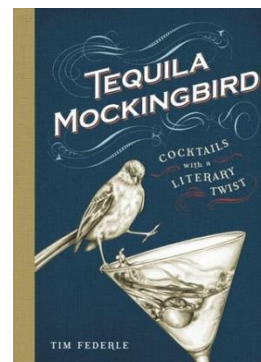
The purpose of "Gift Picks" is to guide you on your holiday gift hunt for the bookworms in your life. What do you buy for the person who has already read all of the classics and best sellers? Read on for some novel picks for your favorite book lover.

And, if you are looking for the perfect book for someone on your list, don't forget - your neighborhood librarian would be happy to provide book recommendations! Here's a list of your [neighborhood libraries](#).



Mixologists & Book Aficionados Unite!

Prepare your taste buds for potent, pun-filled cocktail suggestions. [Tequila Mockingbird: Cocktails with a Literary Twist](#), Goodread's Choice 2013 Winner for Best Cookbook, demonstrates the intoxicating power of timeless novels. Shake up your next holiday party or book club by serving a Gin Eyre or a Rip Van Drinkle. Even the virtuous Atticus Finch most likely imbibed some spirits after a long day in court -- although he may well have preferred Bourbon to Tequila.



Put Down Your iPad and Create an Heirloom

Feeling crafty and nostalgic? Channel your inner scribe by penning your journal, poetry, creative writing or family history. Then bind it beautifully with the [book binding kit](#) from D.C.'s own Proper Topper. For a slight shortcut, come visit DCPL's exciting [Digital Commons](#) and use the Espresso book publishing machine to self-publish your work before binding it. Once your book is handsomely bound, preserve its crisp page corners with one of these sturdy leather [bookmarks](#).



For a wearable bound book, the [book necklace](#), also from Proper Topper, serves as both a fashionable accessory and a portable journal.

The Warmth of Words



It may have been easier for Jane Austen's leading ladies to withstand the cold, damp winters of England in these printed [scarves](#). Let your favorite words warm you inside and out with the perfect gift for any hopeless romantic. These hand-made scarves feature quotes from Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, *Persuasion*, *Emma*, *Sense and Sensibility*, and *Mansfield Park*. Envelop yourself in Captain Wentworth's profession of love to Ms. Elliot and other poetic lines from Austen's famous protagonists.

For those heading out to sea this holiday season (or experiencing an existential crisis), consider donning quotes from Melville's *Moby Dick* instead. This brass [cuff](#) features an illustration of the infamous sperm whale, and is a chic accompaniment to any holiday adventure.



Zany Gifts for Bibliophiles

Ever wish you could smell like the pages of your favorite book? Perhaps you would like your comforter to tell you a bedtime story, or your teacups to correct your grammar. BuzzFeed has compiled a list of eclectic and eccentric gift ideas for bookworms.

This list includes [perfume](#) for book lovers, a printed duvet cover with text from *The Sleeping Beauty*, and porcelain teacups with complementary saucers for those still confusing "you're" and "your." The [personalized embosser](#) allows you to brand your own at-home library collection. For the traditionalists rebelling against e-readers, the transparent book weight or thumb ring page holder could prove a pragmatic gift. Click [here](#) to see the full list.



Eat, Live, and Read Like a Local



LIBRARIES

For those with travel plans on their holiday itinerary, literary food blog, Eat This Poem, offers [literary city guides](#) for destinations across the country such as Philadelphia, Chicago, Nashville, San Francisco, Minneapolis and more. Each city guide is curated by a native, and lists local bookstores, coffee shops, bakeries and restaurants, as well as public libraries! If you don't have travel plans, you could consider a semi-"staycation" in Charlottesville, VA -- one of the cities included in the literary city guide. If you're bound even closer to home, come and explore D.C.'s renovated and modern [green libraries](#) - perfect for a local library tour.

Amplify Your Doll Collection

Ring in the New Year with some of your nearest and dearest -- authors. These [miniature author dolls](#) would serve as great stocking-stuffers for the avid reader and doll collector. Uneek Dolls offers an expansive assortment of hand-made author dolls, each clutching a copy of one of their famous works. The collection includes all the greats -- William Faulkner, Emily Dickinson, Kurt Vonnegut, Ernest Hemingway, J.D. Salinger, Maya Angelou, Mark Twain, Oscar Wilde, Sylvia Plath, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Shel Silverstein and so many more.



And of course, if you do choose to buy books as gifts, we hope you'll visit one of our fantastic local booksellers, [Politics & Prose](#) and [Kramerbooks](#).

Again, thanks for supporting your DC Public Library - if you haven't already, please give again this year! Visit dclibrary.org/giving to learn more about the Literati and the Ex Libris Society giving memberships, and donate today!