

# GIFT PICKS

A curated selection of holiday gift ideas for book lovers

This impending winter season marks DC Public Library Foundation's fifth annual "Gift Picks," the holiday edition of "Lit Picks," our curated, quarterly e-newsletter.

We have compiled our favorite internet findings for your literary loved ones. In addition to our below shopping suggestions, D.C. is home to talented retailers such as [DeNada Knitwear](#), [Salt & Sundry](#), [Kicheko Goods](#), [Belle Epoque Pottery](#), [Proper Topper](#) and so many more [Made in DC](#) businesses. And, of course, we hope that you will support our D.C. bookstores by shopping at [Politics & Prose](#), [Kramerbooks](#), and [Upshur Street Books](#).



## The Ultimate Bags for Bibliophiles



resisting adulthood.

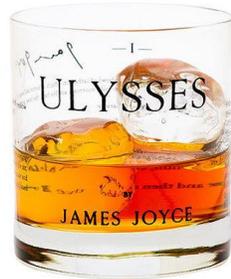
Behind book covers, we typically encounter complex tales of love, tragedy, mystery, perseverance, alternate worlds - and now lip stick and car keys! *Krukrustudio*, sold through *Etsy*, has created a line of [book cover purses](#) featuring the covers of some of our favorite novels. Add passion and romance to your daily routine with the [Anna Karenina purse](#). [The Catcher in the Ryebag](#) is the perfect gift for your disillusioned teenager while the [Peter Pan purse](#) is great for the close friend

If you love the idea of gifting a beautiful bag but would prefer for it to hold a copy of your favorite book rather than announce it, we suggest a couple of local alternatives. Select a beautifully patterned clutch from [Printed Wild](#) or a gorgeous leather bag from [Stitch & Rivet](#). Whatever you decide, make sure it's big enough to fit your favorite paperback, or at the very least, your library card!



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## Swallow Your Words



Put on your thinking cap while preparing your nightcap. What could be more dramatic than a whiskey on the rocks and the words of Alexandre Dumas? Gift a complete set of [Literature Rock Glasses](#) comprising text from works such as *The Count of Monte Christo*, Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, James Joyce's *Ulysses* and more.

Even better, gift these glasses with a bottle of Made in DC [Green Hat Gin](#) or [Cotton & Reed Rum](#) and then fill them with literature-inspired cocktails. For ideas on how to fill these literary glasses with creative concoctions, visit your local DC Public Library to check out Philip Greene's [To Have and Have Another: A Hemingway Cocktail Companion](#).

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## To Be Profane, Or Not To Be Profane? That Is The Question

Share some comic relief with your family this holiday season by playing a game that's sure to make everyone laugh (and learn!). If you love literature as much as you love the game *Cards Against Humanity*, [Bards Dispense Profanity](#) is the card game for you! Take the poetic texts of William Shakespeare and apply them to ridiculous contexts. The yellow cards provide a mad libs-style scenario to be filled in with quotes from Shakespeare displayed on the white cards. Players then decide which quote pairs best with the scenario on the yellow card.



Perhaps this fun, yet educational game should be required in 9th grade English class. If you're not the biggest fan of Elizabethan English and Shakespearean tragedy, try your hand at [Dick: a card game based on the novel by Herman Melville](#). Although an intimate knowledge of Shakespeare and Melville works is not required to play, you can brush up on both by visiting your [neighborhood DC Public Library](#).

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## Love Your Library and the City it Serves? Give!



Tis' the season for love, kindness and community investment. No matter what happens with American politics or the demographic changes to our city, the library will always be an inclusive institution that welcomes, serves and supports ALL members of the community from babies to job seekers to those with disabilities. DC Public Library is a center for learning and empowerment that provides free resources, programs and access to technology in an effort to combat the digital, economic and educational divide. Be a socially conscious, culturally invested citizen by giving the greatest gift of all to the library that you love.

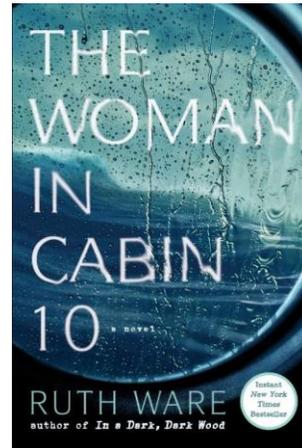
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[today!](#)

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## Survive the Holidays With a Dose of Suspense

Looking for escapist fiction to get you through your chaotic holiday travels (or the current state of the country)? We believe nothing could be more engrossing than a psychological crime novel. For those who have already read [Gone Girl](#) and [The Girl on the Train](#), [Refinery 29](#) has compiled a list of similar suspenseful thrillers ripe for consumption. The list includes fictional crime novel, *Moral Defense*, from lead O.J. Simpson prosecutor, Marcia Clark, who leveraged her intimate experience with criminal justice to become a mystery author. Other titles like [The Woman In Cabin 10](#) and [The Passenger](#) incite chills upon simply looking at the cover art.



Even *The Guardian* endorses our antidote, although with a preference for true crime. Rafia Zakaria explains that "...reading a genre where the worst has already happened is an odd comfort." [Her crime picks](#) include [People Who Eat Darkness](#) and [In Cold Blood](#). Of course, horror or no horror, DCPL librarians would be happy to assist in your search for the perfect read for your holiday voyage.

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The DC Public Library Foundation wishes you and yours a very happy holiday season!

Thanks for supporting the DC Public Library. If you haven't already, please give again this year! Visit [dcplfoundation.org](http://dcplfoundation.org) to contribute today.

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