

Happy Christmas!

It's been a huge year for BookBar: we have hosted countless events from intimate in-store conversations to an epic evening at the Saatchi Gallery with Elif Shafak. We've hosted Read Dating Singles Nights with our friends at Bored of Dating Apps, wine tasting with Dua Lipa's Service 95, and opened a brand new, award-winning shop in West London.

We've loved expanding our community and are so grateful to our customers in Chelsea who have embraced BookBar so wholeheartedly. and thankful, as always, for our North London community who have steadfastly championed us for nearly 5 years. We've shared recommendations, made coffee, poured wine, and had incredible conversations. Thank you to every person who has taken our book recommendations, given us a book suggestion, joined us for a drink, read one of our newsletters, come to an event, ordered a book online or chatted with us in store. We absolutely love our community and are so grateful that you are part of it.

We'd love to see you in the shop this festive season, for one of our events (check out our website for details), or enjoying an evening amongst the shelves with a steaming glass of mulled wine or a delicious hot chocolate. Let us help you select the perfect gift for someone you love, pulling out suggestions while you relax with a drink, which we'll wrap in our iconic packaging to save you the trouble.

Not sure which book to choose? Our Shelf Medicate Service or a BookBar BookClub subscription make the perfect gift. Our covetable merch is also a perfect stocking-filler.

We know you might not be able to make it down in person for our booksellers to match-make your loved ones with their perfect books, so we hope this catalogue of suggestions acts as a helpful alternative. There's an even more extensive catalogue at our website, but not everything we stock is listed there, so

please do get in touch via email or phone and we can usually order most books to arrive the very next day.

We hope that, whether you are marking it up to give a not-so-subtle hint to your friends and family as to what books you'd like to find in your stocking, or using it to help you find the perfect books for your loved ones, this gift guide is full of treats.

December is a hectic, magical month. Whatever this season evokes for you, we hope that this reading list can comfort and inspire you, and that you have a restful, peaceful and happy end to this year.

The Bookhor XX







A match made in literary heaven...

If you're spoilt for choice, our handy key will help you choose the right book for your recipient.



For the bibliophile - the prolific reader who loves a bookish blockbuster



For the cosy reader - readers who love heart-warming books



For the culture vulture - from film to football, this reader keeps on top of all the latest cultural trends



For the epic reader - great stories with brilliant characters are this reader's kind of novel



For the Fleabag fan – your funny friend who loves a book full of wry wit



For the history buff – your family member who knows their Victorians from their Vikings



For the literary explorer – your friend who loves discovering the next big best-seller



For the literature lover – writers and readers who want to get behind the curtain of the craft



For the love story addict – your romantic friend for whom Christmas means endless re-runs of The Holiday



For the page turner - thriller lovers, who want to stay up into the wee hours for just one more chapter



For the political afi cionado – they're most likely to spark a political debate over Christmas dinner



For the true story lover - the reader who is curious about people and loves gripping true stories



For the weird and wonderful reader - the kooky friend who loves their storytelling deranged and strange



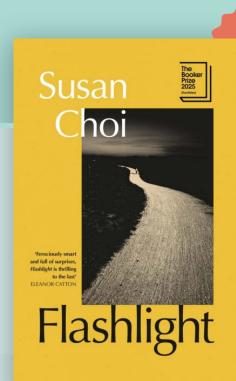
For the science whizz - the one who wants to know about climate, chemistry, psychology and more





Festive Fiction

Some of our favourite novels of the Autumn, which should be in every Christmas stocking...



Set across decades and continents, the Booker-shortlisted Flashlight follows the fates of the Kang family from wartime Japan to modern day California. Part family saga, part thriller, it's completely gripping and utterly compulsive.







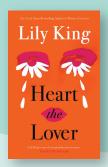






Nadia takes a job with the UN in Iraq rehabilitating women who have joined ISIS. But the world of international aid isn't what she expected, and nor are the women she is helping. Younis' satire of such a dark subject is witty, nuanced, intelligent, and empathetic. £16.99

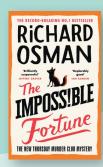




Showcasing how love can be both powerful and heartbreaking, our narrator tells of her two tumultuous relationships at university. With bittersweet scenes and beautiful brevity, it's the perfect gift for a bestie.

£18.99





Distracted by wedding plans and family troubles, the Thursday Murder Club has had a quiet year. But when Elizabeth meets a guest who fears for their life, the thrill of the chase is ignited again...

£22

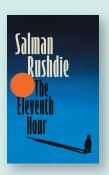




Two men meet in Venice. one a student, one a filmmaker, but tragedy looms near. Part queer love story, part noir thriller, this story is a perfect gift for the book-loving cinephile in your life.

£20

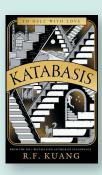




The Eleventh Hour is a dazzling collection that moves between the countries that Rushdie has called home. It's a reckoning with mortality that speaks deeply to what the author has come through.

£18.99





Two students descend into hell in search for their dead professor's soul, with just enough time to finalise their PhDs. Filled with Kuang's clever prose, this is a fantasy romp that's not to be missed.

£22











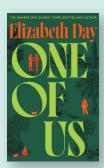




In this prequel to The Priory of the Orange Tree, the great wyrm Fyredel is stirring and sparks of danger threaten to burn the world. With immense world building and epic plot, you'll be completely bewitched.

£18.99





Podcaster, journalist and How To Fail guru returns with a novel about two school friends who end up in Westminster. It's perfect for Riot Club / Saltburn fans with its sharp examinations of privilege and friendship.

£18.99







The author of Sunburn returns with a creeping story of sibling rivalry set in 1960s rural Ireland. With slow-burn sapphic obsession and unsettling gothic intensity, it will please classic and contemporary horror fans alike.

£16.99





Tara Selter has slipped out of time and every morning wakes up to the same November day. As she travels this timeloop, her impression of life and love changes, as does her sense of freedom.

£12.99





Suzanne is running from brutal childhood memories of touring with her dad's band. When her father suddenly dies, there's one final mystery to uncover. It's Daisy Jones and the Six with a gritty crime edge.

£20





Both a prequel and a sequel, We Love You Bunny doesn't fall short of its predecessor's unabashed wildness. A fever dream of a book, it hilariously explores the wonder and horror of creation itself.

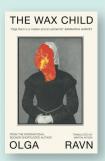
£16.99











International Booker Prize winner Olga Ravn writes with a strangeness and originality in this dark and unsettling tale, based on an infamous Danish witch trial. You might need to sleep with the light on...

£14.99





Described as a 'mobiusstrip' of a book, Audition is a perplexing novel that challenges the roles we play every day. It's compulsively readable, tense and hynoptic, and is shortlisted for this year's Booker Prize.

£18.99





Perfection is a satire of two 'digital nomads' who move to Berlin to pursue the dream life. With a wry eye to millennial culture, and a lot of empathy, this story is affecting and beautifully executed.

£12.99

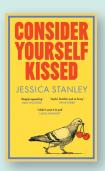




When the ancient, vanished Saraswati river is discovered running deep under the ground of Punjab, a political challenge is awakened that brings together seven individuals across the globe, interweaving their narratives throughout.

£16.99





Set against a decade that included five Prime Ministers, Brexit and Covid, Consider Yourself Kissed puts the subjects of love and family on a grand stage. Beautifully observed, it's perfect for the Ann Patchett fans.

£16.99







A collection of thirteen stories from the author of Rebecca, which pierce the dark heart of our relationships. They are uncanny, provocative and spine-crawlingly terrifying.











Will There Ever Be Another You is a phosphorescent, wild and profound investigation into what keeps us alive in unprecedented times. As ever, Patricia Lockwood's writing is funny and inventive.

£16.99





Medea and Jason seize their chance of a life together, but their love is steeped in vengeance and no one will be safe. Based on the Euripidean story, Natalie Haynes spears another thrilling retelling.

£20





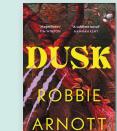
Depraved and genuinely hilarious, Rejection is not for the faint hearted. This collection of interlocking stories is a provocative plunge into the thorniest problems of modern life: sex, relationships, identity and the internet.

£16.99







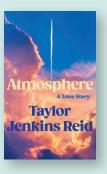


In the Tasmanian bush, a puma roams. Twins Floyd and Iris, both outcasts with a bad reputation, decide to hunt it down, but they quickly realise the big cat is not the only danger they face.

£16.99







From the author of Daisy Jones and the Six comes an epic novel set against the backdrop of the 1980s space shuttle program about the extraordinary lengths we go to live and love beyond our limits.

£20





A charming hit with our team, this debut novel follows a woman trying to make sense of her life, while also falling for her therapist. It's original, quirky and not afraid to touch on trickier emotions.

£16.99











With her trademark humour, Hollie McNish unpicks the role that virginity has played in her own life, as well as others. Her books are like the best coffee dates with friends. Funny, furious and unforgettable.

£14.99





Aisling Rawle's novel is a propulsive mash-up of Lord of the Flies, Love Island and Black Mirror. Deft, addictive, and thought-provoking, The Compound is a perfect page-turner for anyone in a reading slump.

£16.99

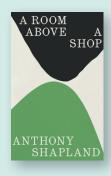




V.E. Schwab once again shows us why she is the queen of fantasy in this bloodthirsty book. It's sapphic, romantic, toxic, and completely unputdownable. A vampire book like no other.

£22





In rural South Wales, two men find themselves trapped in each others' quiet orbits. Their lives intertwine into a love story that reflects the poetic beauty of the Welsh countryside. One for the Clare Keegan fans.

£14.99





In a fantastic exploration of memory and the indelible marks people leave on our lives, Claire-Louise Bennett journeys through one woman's history of love and explores how fleeting relationships have the power to change us forever.

£12.99





A critique of the New York art scene, set at a glamorous dinner party, and a brilliant commentary on the relationship between art and consumerism, beauty and decadence, friendship and phony, with a sharp narrative voice.

£16.99











A high school love triangle is reignited by wildfres that invade Mexico. Part-fact, part-fction, part-myth, acclaimed writer Daniel Saldaña París presents three characters' perspectives of a town that becomes the epicentre of a dancing plague.

£11.99





Mick Herron and the Slow Horses return, becoming involved in a covert operation during the height of the Troubles that threatens to expose the ugly side of state security. Addicted to the TV show? Read on...

£22





Shrimper Thomas longs to escape his life and is thrilled by the arrival of a mysterious American, but all is not as it seems in this Booker Longlisted novella.

£14.99

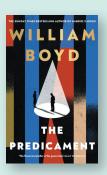




A century after climate collapse has submerged most of the world's major cities and turned Britain into an archipelago, an academic begins a quest to find a poem by a writer from the 21st century.

£22





William Boyd weaves yet another masterful tale of suspense for accidental spy Gabriel Dax.
Wonderfully entertaining, this will be a great gift for the espionage enthusiast.

£20





A popular Booker Prize shortlistee, this family epic is filled with Desai's rich and dynamic prose, discussing everything from friendship, identity, and globalisation.











The perfect pair...

Every month we pair a book with a wine that we think goes beautifully with it. Now you can buy them to take away, give as a gift or enjoy at home yourself!



Doom JuiceGewürztraminer, Vermentino,

Southern Australia

£39



Die Wonder Draai

Lowerland, Cabernet Sauvignon, Chenin Blanc, Merlot, Petit Verdot, Colombard, Shiraz/ Syrah, South Africa

£32



Postpoma Orange

Kerner, Riesling, Slovakia

£35



Semillon, Muscat, Vermentino, Viognier, Southern Australia

£38



Barbera d'Asti, Cossetti, Superiore 'La Vigna Vecchia',

Piedmont £40

Only available in store at BookBar Chelsea

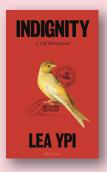




Noël Non-fiction

The best non-fiction from the year, covering memoir, essays, history, politics and more.

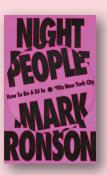




When Lea Ypi finds a photo of her grandmother in 1941, her understanding of her family history is shattered. The authors of Free reckons with the fragility of

reckons with the fragility of truth as she transports us to the vanished world of Ottoman aristocracy.





Mark Ronson recounts his early DJ days in '90s New York, capturing the electrifying music, characters and escapades of the city that never sleeps. Night People will be a hit with the musical mastermind in your life!

£25





A Short History of Japan moves beyond traditional tourist-board clichés to consider Japan's own view of its past, values and culture, from ceramics and theatre to food and architecture.

Perfect for the literary nomad.









The highly anticipated memoir from the legendary Arundhati Roy, recounting her complicated relationship with her imposing mother. This perfect companion to The God of Small Things will leave you nostalgic for a Kerala only she remembers.

£20





Exploring love's relationship to capitalism, social mechanisms and expectations, Shon Faye blends this sharp cultural criticism with beautifully honest memoir, drawing on philosophy, cultural theory and her own experiences to explore love in all its forms.

£20





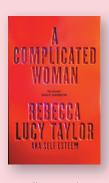


The tell-all memoir from a former Meta insider that exposes both the personal and political fallout when boundless power and a rotten culture take hold, and what happens to the world when careless people control it.

£22



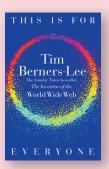




Ivor Novello Award-winning musician otherwise known as SELF ESTEEM takes us on a journey through womanhood told with characteristic candour and creativity, in what is being described as a 'cathartic scream' of a book.

£22

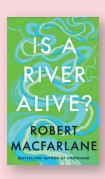




The inventor of the World Wide Web shares the story of the internet's troubled history, and the story behind his creation, which he famously gave to the world for no commercial benefit.

£25



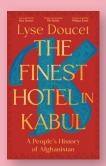


An urgent, personal and political book from one of the most celebrated British writers, Robert Macfarlane, Is A River Alive? argues that rivers are not mere matter for human use, but living beings.









In 1969, the Hotel Inter-Continental Kabul opened its doors as Afghanistan hoped to modernise. Doucet presents the experiences of the Afghans who have kept the hotel running to craft a richly immersive history of their country.

£25

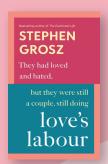




Bestselling environmentalist Hannah Ritchie answers fifty key climate questions once and for all, clearing the air so we can get on and fix things. Dive in, get informed and build a better world for everyone.

£20





Drawing on over forty years of candid and surprising conversations with his patients, psychoanalyst Stephen Grosz elegantly shows how we can deploy the agonies of love as tools for understanding.

£18.99



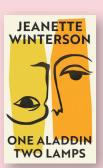




The bestselling author of The Story of Art Without Men returns with a transformative guide to living more creatively. Filled with interviews, personal conversations, books and talks, it offers reflections to inspire a new generation of artists.

£16.99





By fracturing the story of Shahrazad in One Thousand and One Nights. Jeanette Winterson asks us to reread what we think we know and reminds us of the importance of storytelling to change our own narratives.

£18.99





What do Taylor Swift and Sylvia Plath have in common? Essayist Maggie Nelson unpicks the way that two generationally revered female artists manage ideas of fame, creativity and womanhood in this extraordinary zine.

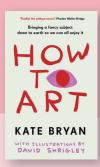
£9.99







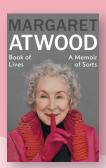




Drawing on Kate Bryan's twenty-year experience in art and illustrated by David Shrigley, How to Art is her joyful guide to the art world, drawing back the curtain to remind us that art is for everyone.

£16.99

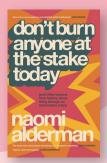




One of the greatest writers of our age tells her own story. Margaret Atwood links key moments in her life to the books that have shaped our literary landscape, from Alias Grace to The Handmaid's Tale.

£30





The author of the Women's Prize winning dystopian The Power turns her creativity to the rise of our 'Information Age' in a thought-provoking exploration of the digital era and information overload.

£16.99

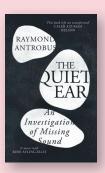




In her latest memoir, Mary
Portas shares how she
revitalised Harvey Nichols
with her trademark wit
and candour. This is 90s
nostalgia bottled, and a
reminder of the importance
of the high street in
building community.

£20





Raymond Antrobus sets his memories of an East London childhood alongside the lives of other D/deaf cultural figures, providing a much-needed examination of deafness, community, family, grief, and growing up in the in-between

£16.99





In Love with Love is a wild tour from the very beginnings of kissing in books through historic trends, favourite tropes, beloved friends and brandnew loves. Perfect for the romantic fiction lovers in your life.

£16.99











With an unrivalled ability to think through some of the most urgent preoccupations of our times, Smith examines iconic artists, considers changes of government and even shares her trip to Glastonbury to witness Stormzy's ascendance.

£22





Labels applied to mythological women echo throughout history: Homemaker. Virgin. Warrior. Witch. Madwoman. Monster. Here are the real stories behind the archetypes and what they can teach us about modern womanhood.

£22

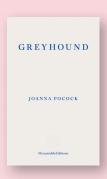




During his eight years at England, Southgate forged a unique management style, combining empathy with emotional intelligence and accountability. His leadership lessons go beyond football providing modern day advice that can apply to anyone.

£25

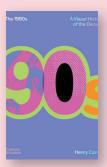




Flipping between two
Greyhound bus trips years
apart, Pocock unravels
the economic climates,
social changes and epic
landscapes of the new
world and explores late
capitalism during the

£14.99





An exploration of history, art, film, music and culture in a unique, immersive and visual narrative of a conflicted and momentous decade. This is nostalgic non-fiction that will make for the perfect table-top gift.

£48





Musician and memoirist Patti Smith returns with the fourth in her beloved collection of writing. The most intimate of Smith's memoirs, Bread of Angels takes us through her teenage years as art and romance take hold.

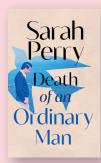
£25







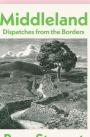




Before Sarah Perry's father-in-law began to fade away, only nine days after a cancer diagnosis, he appeared a very ordinary man. However, as Perry and her husband nursed him it became clear how extraordinary he was.

£18.99



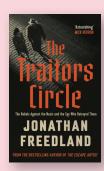


Rory Stewart

Middleland is a portrait of rural Britain today – a place caught in tensions between farming and the natural world, through the lens of Rory Stewart's years as the MP of Britain's most remote constituency.

£22





A group of high-society anti-Nazi dissenters meet for a tea party one afternoon in 1943, but someone is poised to betray them. From the bestselling author of The Escape Artist, comes another gripping true story.

£25





The author of Wild Swans returns with a sequel to her iconic history of her family in China, opening in 1909 with her grandmother's birth and ending in 1978 as the Mao era reaches its conclusion.

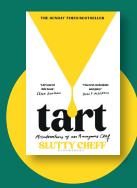








A Culinary Christmas



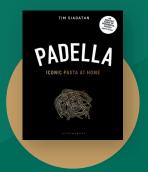
Anonymous writer Slutty
Cheff takes us along on
her misadventures in food
and sex, as she carves out
a space for herself in the
restaurant world. It's
The Bear, if it was sexier
and feminist.

£16.99



The author behind Salt, Fat Acid Heat, Samin Nosrat, shares more of the receipes she loves and captures the feeling of joy that comes with sharing a meal.

£30



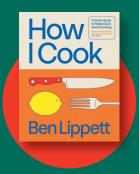
From the iconic restaurant,
Padella includes easy-tofollow recipes for everything
from everyday cooks, to
simple but sublime dishes
that celebrate seasonal
ingredients, plus guides for
making fresh pasta.

£25



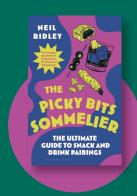
A homage to Palestinian food and culture, Boustany is the first solo cookbook from Sami Tamimi, Ottolenghi cofounder. Boustany is full of down-to-earth, relaxed, plentiful recipes, reflective of Sami's approach to food.

£30



Ben Lippett distills years of experience as a professional chef to reveal the reasons behind everything we do when preparing food, teaching you skills that can be applied to any recipe and instilling kitchen confidence.

£26



Neil Ridley's back, and this time he's bringing picky bits! With 161 snacks and 99 drinks to boot, you'll find something for every occasion – from meat, fish and veggie snacks to alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks.

£12.99







In Portuguese, FUSÃO translates to fusion, and that's exactly what lxta Belfrage does here as she brings all her signature creativity and flair to the food of her mother's homeland of Braxil.

£28



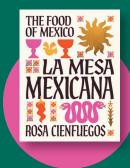
Sama Sama celebrates Lin's culinary identity - Malaysian, Chinese and Scottish.
Encouraging simplicity for maximum joy in the kitchen, Lin teaches us to cook, trust our palates and broaden our ideas of authenticity.

£28



After five years living communally, home cook Rosie Kellett makes delicious seasonal food on a budget. In her first cookbook, she shares low-effort, high-reward, vegforward recipes to nourish you and your loved ones.

£27



La Mesa Mexicana is an ode to one of the oldest cuisines in the world, with more than 120 recipes that showcase the diversity, breadth and influence of Mexican ingredients and cuisine.

£39.95



Emiko Davies explores the ingredients essential to Japanese cooking and uses simple, easy-to-find items that can be combined with fresh produce and a few basics to create delicious and authentic Japanese food.

£30



The Anthony Bourdain Reader is the definitive collection of his writing, a testament to an enduring and singular voice. Including eclectic and curated chapters, well-loved recipes and never-before-published pieces.





Great Gifts







BookBar Tote Bag £**12.99**









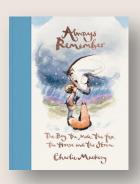




Special Editions and Gifts



Home India Knight £22



Always Remember: The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, the Horse and the Storm Charlie Mackesy £22



Shaking Hands With Death Terry Pratchett £9.99





Eliza Clark specials
Eliza Clark
£15 each



My Brilliant Friend Elena Ferrante £45









Children's **Crackers**





On this island-hopping adventure, readers will come face-to-face with incredible creatures from the giant tortoises of the Galápagos islands to the leaping lemurs of Madagascar.

£14.99



The Rose Field is the culmination of a cultural phenomenon in which quests converge in the most dangerous, breathtaking and world-changing ways.

£25



The countdown to Christmas has never been more inspiring. Each day, children can unwrap a new story featuring trailblazers, pioneers, and dreamers.



April Wood is no stranger to adventure living in the Arctic, but a long-distance dog sled race may be a step too far.

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