

A stylized illustration of a woman in a red dress and Santa hat, holding a stack of books. The background is a light pink color. The woman is wearing a red dress with a white polka-dot band around her waist and a red Santa hat with a white pom-pom. She is holding a stack of books tied with a red ribbon. The text is centered on the page.

BOOKBAR
**Festive
Gift Guide
2023**



Happy Christmas!



BookBar's third year of celebrating the social side of reading has flown by. We've hosted a jam-packed events programme with some of our favourite authors, welcomed new members of the team, and seen our community flourish over a shared love of books, wine and coffee.

We're so grateful to every single person who has been part of our community. We'd love to see you in the shop this festive season, 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 Subscriptions or a BookBar BookClub subscription make the perfect gift. Our covetable merch is also a perfect stocking-filler.

If you can't visit us in person for our booksellers to match-make your loved ones with their perfect books,

you can browse our catalogue and order online. 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 within a few days. We are so overwhelmed by your support and are so grateful to all the book, wine and coffee-lovers who make up BookBar's community.

Whatever this season means to you, we wish you peace, rest and plenty of time to curl up with a good book!

*The Bookbar
Team xx*

Festive Fiction

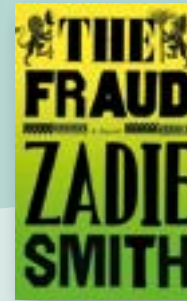
Some of our favourite novels of the Autumn, which should be in every Christmas stocking...



A radical environmental collective encounters a billionaire who offers to solve their financial woes in this unputdownable thriller of Shakespearean proportions. £20

Who's it for?

Fans of literary thrillers, environmental politics and *The Secret History*.



The literary event of the year is Zadie Smith's new novel. In 19th century London, the city is captivated by the trial of a man claiming to be the heir to a large title and fortune. £20

Who's it for?

Who isn't a Zadie Smith fan?



A woman steals her best friend's manuscript after their unexpected death and passes it off as her own in this satire of the publishing industry from the author of cult hit *Babel*. £16.99

Who's it for?

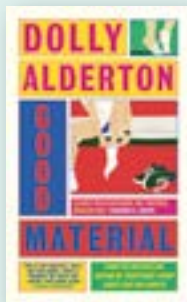
Your thriller-loving friend who loves their fiction, dark, punchy and unputdownable.



A 17th century servant girl flees her settlement, in this stunning new historical novel from the author of *Matrix* and *Fates and Furies*. £20

Who's it for?

Stunning historical fiction like this is the perfect read for your family member who wants to hunker down with a good book over Christmas.



Comedian Andy has been dumped by his long-term girlfriend Jen in Dolly Alderton's triumphant new novel. Expect to have your heart strings pulled and your bellies tickled. £18.99

Who's it for?

Dolly fans, of course! And readers who love a romantic read with plenty of humour.



The world is consumed by a smog that has led to the collapse of biodiversity, and a talented cook is invited to be the private chef for a billionaire in Italy's Alps. A brilliant novel about class and food. £16.99

Who's it for?

Foodies will devour Zhang's stunning food writing in this dystopian novel with a poetic twist.



Claire Keegan has done it again with this stunning new short story about a jilted man, published in a beautiful hardback. £8.99

Who's it for?

The perfect stocking filler for every literature lover.



Fans of Osman's cosy crime novels are in for a treat with the latest in the Thursday Murder Club series. £22

Who's it for?

There's at least one Osman fan in every family, so buy your copy and pass it around in front of the fire.



A mother tells her three grown up daughters the story of her romance with an actor, years before he became famous. £18.99

Who's it for?

Readers who love Ann Patchett's rich, generous writing will fall for her latest novel.



The family of a celebrated poet have to face his abusive legacy in the latest from Booker-winning Anne Enright. £18.99

Who's it for?

Your family member who loves to keep up with the works of our greatest living writers.



A stunning novel about slavery in America from the author of Sing, Unburied, Sing. £18.99

Who's it for?

Readers who want to read the latest from an author considered to be one of the most important writers in America today.



The comedian and filmmaker of Get Out curates this groundbreaking anthology of brand new stories of Black horror. £20

Who's it for?

Horror-lovers, and fans of Jordan Peele's work.



The new novel from the bestselling, Women's Prize-winning author of The Power tackles technology and social media through a cast of characters. £20

Who's it for?

Those who love a page-turning dystopia with a punchy social commentary.



Baumgartner is trying to live with the loss of his beloved wife Anna in this exquisite novel that will remind you of life's small joys, intimacies, sorrows and desires. £18.99

Who's it for?

Whether you're a life-long Auster fan or a first time reader, you'll be moved by his beautifully subtle writing.



The final novel in the Before The Coffee Gets Cold series. Visitors to a cafe can travel back in time, but they must return before their coffee goes cold. £14.99

Who's it for?

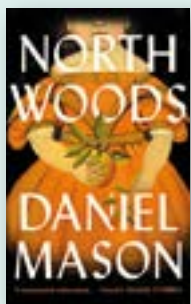
Whimsical and heart-warming, this series is the perfect Autumnal read with which to cosy up.



A collection of brand new spooky stories with a festive twist from some of the genre's best writers, including Laura Purcell and Catriona Ward. £16.99

Who's it for?

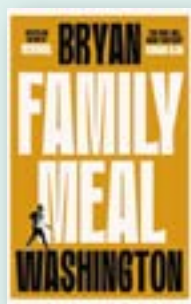
Your friend whose perfect night involves staying in with a good dose of gothic fiction.



A stunning novel following the inhabitants of a cottage in the New England forest in the 16th century to the near-present day. £16.99

Who's it for?

Fans of Richard Powers' The Overstory will love this exquisitely told historical novel.



The second novel from the acclaimed author of Memorial and short story collection Lot is a moving novel about family, friendship, and food. £17.99

Who's it for?

Readers who love keeping up with the greatest writers in contemporary fiction.



These new short stories from the acclaimed writer of Whereabouts centre on the city of Rome, illuminating and dissecting the lives of its inhabitants. £16.99

Who's it for?

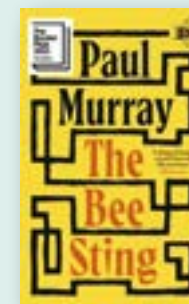
Anyone with a passion for the Eternal City or stunningly subtle short stories.



The debut novel from Huma Qureshi follows two sisters whose relationship is threatened when one takes inspiration from the other's private life in her writing. £16.99

Who's it for?

Huma Qureshi has plenty of fans following her short story collection Things We Do Not Tell the People We Love.



A middle class family's lives are uprooted by the financial crash in this Booker-shortlisted story of family in modern Ireland. £18.99

Who's it for?

Anyone who loves a Franzen-esque family saga.



One of our most-loved living short story writer's new collection examines the everyday in extraordinary ways. £20

Who's it for?

Short story lovers who enjoy writing that will let you see the world through new eyes.

Noël non-fiction

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



A new angle on history, taking you through the past via the objects of women celebrated by history and women forgotten by it. £25

Who's it for?

The historian who enjoys seeing the world from a different perspective.



Natalie Haynes retells some of the most famous classical myths and stories for a modern audience, from Hera to the Furies. £20

Who's it for?

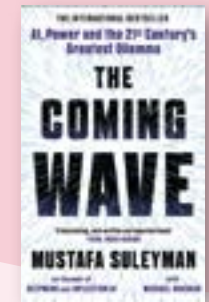
Readers who are mad about mythology will love the latest from the much loved author of Stone Blind and Pandora's Box.



After being mistaken for another writer with radically different, harmful views, Naomi Klein finds herself drawn into a world of conspiracy theories and anti-vaxxers. £25

Who's it for?

Social media addicts, social critics, and fans of Naomi Klein's work.



The founder of DeepMind explores the extraordinary impact AI will have on the world. £25

Who's it for?

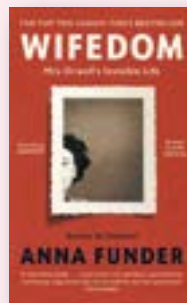
Your technology obsessed relative who can't stop playing with ChatGPT.



Enjoy Dolly Parton in glorious, sparkling colour in this beautifully illustrated celebration of Dolly Parton's iconic sense of style through personal stories and full-colour photographs. £39.99

Who's it for?

Dolly Parton fans and fashionistas will love this gorgeous coffee table book.



The author of Stasiland considers Eileen Blair - otherwise known as George Orwell's wife - and her unspoken influence on his work. £20

Who's it for?

Fans of literary biography will enjoy Funder's ability to unmask the historical role of women behind artistic success.



A groundbreaking history of dance music and the way it has shaped Britain's politics and society today. £20

Who's it for?

Your DJ friend or party animal with an interest in the evolution of dance music.



A moving memoir about a college friendship between two young men in the '90s is a nostalgic elegy to friendship, youth and music. £10.99

Who's it for?

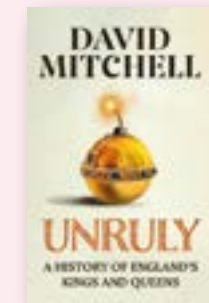
Fans of Patti Smith's Just Kids will love this stunning memoir from the New Yorker staff writer.



A bold new book, unpicking why we have objective ideas about 'good' and 'bad' taste, and what this means for us as individuals and as a society. £18.99

Who's it for?

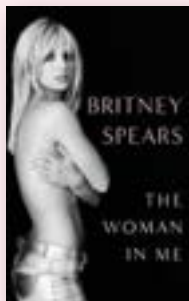
For anyone who's ever wondered where ideas of 'good' and 'bad' taste come from.



This 'Horrible History for grownups' takes a look at Britain's monarchs - and how a bunch of often weird and sometimes narcissistic people came to rule. £25

Who's it for?

Mitchell's witty take on British history is the perfect gift for any history lover with a sense of humour.



Following Britney's release from her conservatorship in 2021, *The Woman in Me* reveals for the first time her incredible journey, and the strength at the core of one of the greatest performers in pop music history. £25

Who's it for?

Noughties obsessives and nineties babies.



The broadcaster and writer of *Brit(ish)* unpicks the Eurocentric beauty standards and rituals that have reinforced the colonial, patriarchal gaze. £20

Who's it for?

Your friend who's interested in reassessing notions of body image.



Poet Sean Hewitt and painter Luke Edward Hall collect forty queer stories from Classical History in this beautifully illustrated book. £25

Who's it for?

Mythology fans who want to learn more about queer history and love.

A Culinary Christmas



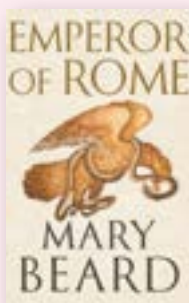
In food writer and journalist Bee Wilson's first recipe book, she shares recipes and tips designed to make life in the kitchen as simple as possible. Complete with beautiful photos and a stunning cloth cover, this is a gorgeous recipe book for fans of Nigel Slater. £28



The author of *Polpo* turns his hand to Florentine cooking. Expect a stunning book full of delicious Tuscan recipes, from roasted squash with borlotti bean and salsa verde to sausages with braised lentils and mustard. £32



In this beautiful anthology, award-winning writers Kate Young and Ella Risbridger present you with their ultimate fantasy dinner party. Here you'll find writing from authors, cooks and poets from Laurie Colwin, Salman Rushdie and Jack Underwood, to Rachel Roddy, Audre Lorde and Nigella Lawson. £25



The author of *SPQR* investigates the Roman Emperors, interrogating their power and shining a light on fantasies of what it meant to be Roman. £30

Who's it for?

History buffs with a passion for the ancient world.



A mesmerising story of shipwreck, mutiny and murder with an explosive ending from the author of *Killers of the Flower Moon*. £20

Who's it for?

The person in your life who loves a bit of investigative journalism will love this unputdownable true story.



This genius book containing the discarded shopping lists of customers at Holloway Road's Waitrose provides a strange insight into the kitchens - and lives - of some of Islington's residents. £9.99

Who's it for?

All your local friends!



Stuffed tells the stories of the food and drink at the centre of social upheavals from prehistory to the present, revealing how these turning points have led to today's extremes of plenty and want. £22



The new collection of simple, delicious, crowd-pleasing recipes from the bestselling author of *Persiana*. £26



Using ten ingredients to walk you through every type of bitterness and how to tame it, each recipe will expand your repertoire, using bitterness in both savoury and sweet dishes to unlock new levels of deliciousness. £27

Great Gifts...



BookBar Bauble
£8



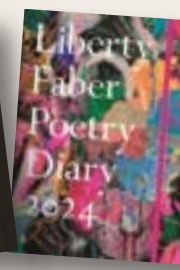
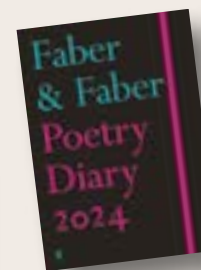
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The Moon Under Water
Carol Ann Duffy
£9.99



Faber /
Liberty Faber Diaries
£12.99/ £16.99

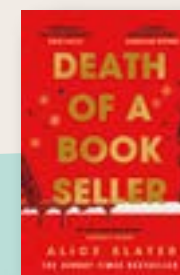


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and Company Book
of Interviews
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Bookseller
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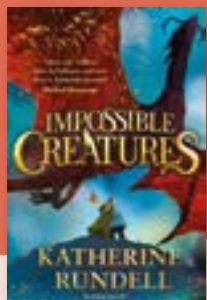
East End Pubs
£25



An Opinionated
Guide to British Art
£15



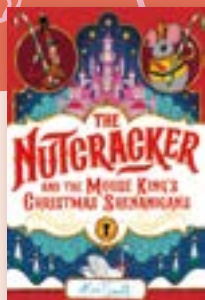
Children's Crackers



'There was Tolkien, there is Pullman and now there is Katherine Rundell', says Michael Morpurgo of the first in this stunning fantasy trilogy by one of Britain's most-loved writers. **£14.99**



Julia Donaldson and Lydia Monks' much loved Ladybird returns for some festive fun. **£7.99**



From the author of The Grampus, comes a gorgeous retelling of children's Christmas classic The Nutcracker. **£15.99**



The fourth book in the Luna Loves... series celebrates separated families at Christmas time, and shows the power of giving to bring people together. **£12.99**



You can't let an elephant pull Santa's sleigh, if you want your presents on Christmas Day...' Join a whole host of animals in silly situations as they try to celebrate the festive season in this fun rhyming story. **£7.99**



This gorgeous series of books takes you through classic pieces of music and the stories they tell, with beautiful illustrations and accompanying music. **£16.99**

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Bookbar Bookclub

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Previous authors have included Bonnie Garmus, Maggie O'Farrell, Emily Ratajkowski, Natasha Brown, Sheena Patel, Ann Patchett, Meg Mason, Elif Shafak, Claire Keegan, Brit Bennett, and Douglas Stuart.

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How to order

Order by 14th December and we'll wrap and post your books to your loved ones in time for Christmas. Don't see something in stock? We can order it for you to arrive within a few working days. All of our postal orders come beautifully gift wrapped, ready to go straight under the Christmas tree.

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