



Book Gifts for the Holidays



IT'S TIME TO GET ALL LIT UP WITH THESE THIRTEEN SPARKLING TITLES. FROM A MISSING PERSONAL ASSISTANT AND A REALITY TV SHOW GONE WRONG TO A MYSTERIOUS DECK OF TAROT CARDS AND A RECIPE COLLECTION OF SOUTHERN-FARE-MEETS-FRENCH FLAIR, THERE'S SOMETHING HERE FOR EVERYONE ON YOUR HOLIDAY LIST. SO **GIVE THE GIFT OF READING THIS SEASON...TO YOUR LOVED ONES AND YOURSELF.** *BY EMILY LIEBERT*



SMALL GAME
BY BLAIR BRAVERMAN

Mara was surprised when reality TV producers visited Primal Instinct—the school where she teaches affluent clients to survive a night outdoors. She was even more shocked when they decided to cast her in their new show, *Civilization*, where contestants live off the land in an attempt to win a large sum of money. All she has to do is endure four strangers for six weeks...until things go terribly wrong, leaving them stranded in the northern wilds. Suddenly, the game threatens to become dangerous and Mara must summon the courage to rise to the occasion.



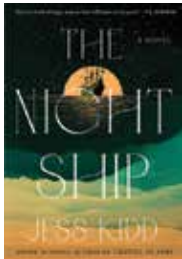
BLACKMAIL AND BIBINGKA
BY MIA P. MANANSALA

Lila Macapagal's cousin Ronnie is trouble. So when he returns to Shady Palms during Christmastime—after ghosting the family for fifteen years—she's skeptical about his claim that recently purchasing a local winery means he's back on his feet. Just when Lila's new business is taking off and she's found romance with her close friend Jae, Ronnie is suspected of murder and things start to get shady fast. Could her own flesh and blood really have killed someone? She's determined to prove otherwise...but it won't be as easy as she'd like.



NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE HAPPENED IF PRINCE WERE ALIVE
BY CAROLYN PRUSA

A lot can transpire in forty-eight hours, especially when your world has been upended by your husband's affair and an impending Category Four hurricane is about to hit Savannah, the city you call home—which is exactly what Ramona is facing. Not to mention her obnoxious boss, her nitpicking mother and her toilet-training toddler. Over the course of two days, as she attempts to evacuate, a neighborhood child and the class guinea pig are added to her motley crew. While Ramona steers her way through severe weather, police check points, bathroom crises, directives from her boss and sheepish texts from her philandering husband, she longs for the days when her life resembled a Prince song.



THE NIGHT SHIP
BY JESS KIDD

Inspired by a real-life event, this ambitious historical novel by the award-winning author of *Things in Jars* travels back to 1629 when Mayken, a recently orphaned young girl aboard *Batavia*, one of the greatest ships of the Dutch Golden Age, is shipwrecked on an island off Western Australia on her way to the Netherlands East Indies. Three hundred years later—in 1989—a lonely boy named Gil finds a home with his grandfather on the same island, where his late mother once lived, and unearths Mayken's story. Weaving a captivating tale of friendship, loss, cruelty, and absolution, Kidd does not disappoint.



NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO PANIC *BY KEVIN WILSON*

One momentous summer. Two teenage rebels. And the art that indelibly alters their lives. These are the ingredients that comprise this boisterous novel by the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Nothing to See Here*. When sixteen-year-old aspiring writer and loner Frankie Budge meets Zeke, a gifted artist who's just moved into his grandmother's unhappy home in Coalfield, Tennessee, romance and creativity abound. The enigmatic and anonymous posters they craft together immediately become memorable and people begin to wonder whom to attribute them to—a mystery that breeds perilous consequences and jeopardizes their close connection. Two decades later, Frances Eleanor Budge—a distinguished author, mom and wife—is informed that journalist Mazzy Brower is penning a story about the Coalfield Panic of 1996 and she realizes that the secrets she's kept hidden will either come back to haunt her or set her free.



BAD GIRL REPUTATION
BY ELLE KENNEDY

When one-time bad girl Genevieve West revisits her small coastal hometown for her mother's funeral, her goal is to avoid her sexy ex-boyfriend Evan Hartley. She's not interested in resuming their once tempestuous relationship and vows not to make any more imprudent decisions. Instead, she plans to temporarily help run her father's business until he can find a replacement. Unbeknownst to Genevieve, Evan intends to win her back. That is, if second chances are really possible. And if a bad reputation can become a thing of the past.



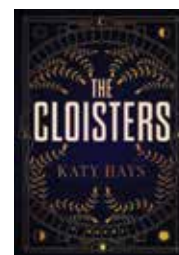
THE HERO OF THIS BOOK
BY ELIZABETH MCCrackEN

Nearly a year after her larger-than-life mother passed away, the book's narrator travels to London, her mom's favorite city, to reflect on her life and their relationship. The woman, who's a writer, muses about her mother's unrivaled determination, her will to carry on despite physical challenges, her munificence and her vivid sense of humor. In doing so, she begins to wonder if chronicling this grandeur will be an act of love or infidelity. Through McCracken's intense analysis of both grief and rejuvenation, the tenderness of the child-parent bond is revealed and we're reminded that the beauty in art and writing is continuous.



THE CHRISTMAS CLASH
BY SUZANNE PARK

If you're searching for a sidesplitting rom-com, look no further than Park's new YA novel about two rivals who join forces to save their families' livelihoods and Christmas, too! Chloe Kwon and Peter Li do not get along. Their parents operate competing restaurants in the Riverwood Mall food court and they try to avoid each other at all costs. But when the mall is about to be purchased and demolished by an incoming developer and eviction notices are being dispersed right before the holidays, Chloe and Peter have to set aside their dislike for one another and work as a team. In doing so, they discover that the Kwon and Li vendetta is much graver than either of them had ever known.



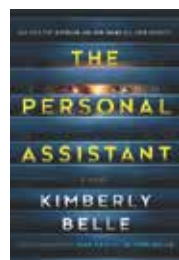
THE CLOISTERS
BY KATY HAYS

In this stirring debut, Ann Stilwell is looking forward to her summer working as a curatorial associate at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, but instead she's assigned to The Cloisters—a gothic museum and garden devoted to medieval art and the tradition of divination. As a means of avoiding her painful past, Ann involves herself with a group of researchers and their peculiar notions about the history of fortune telling. But what begins as scholarly inquisitiveness rapidly turns into a profound fixation when Ann uncovers a cryptic fifteenth-century deck of tarot cards that might determine the future. Soon enough, she finds herself engaged in a precarious game of authority and seduction that becomes deadly and her desperate pursuit for answers will keep you in suspense.



THE PRISONER
BY B.A. PARIS

From *The New York Times* bestselling author of *Behind Closed Doors*, comes this heart-pounding novel about a woman who marries into a family with deadly objectives. When Amelie awakes in a pitch-black room, unaware of her surroundings and how she ended up there, she's forced to ask herself if being imprisoned is safer than the glamorous life she'd become accustomed to. And she may not like the answer.



THE PERSONAL ASSISTANT
BY KIMBERLY BELLE

This entrancing thriller exposes the dark underbelly of the digital universe when a mommy blogger's assistant disappears. Alex never imagined that her penchant for sharing family photos and motivational messages online would transform from a hobby into a full-time career as an influencer. Or that one contentious post could turn toxic. To make matters much worse, when she contacts her trusty assistant A.C. to help remedy the situation, she's met with radio silence, a police investigation, and a woman found murdered.



OCCASIONS TO CELEBRATE
BY ALEX HITZ

Brimming with over 100 recipes inspired by "traditional Southern fare and French culinary flair," along with cooking, serving and entertaining secrets, this exquisite anthology is perfect for the gourmand in your life. Hitz, a recognized chef and expert host, believes that every day should be a culinary celebration and he expresses this through the style and sophistication of his mouthwatering food—from mini crab cakes with mango chutney and mustard-crust rack of lamb to lemon pecan shortbread cookies. Bon appétit!



HER HIDDEN GENIUS
BY MARIE BENEDICT

Rosalind Franklin has always been eccentric and a bit of a genius. She adores working in the field of science and using the static laws of physics and chemistry to lead her experiments. And she truly believes she can reveal enigmas behind the double helix structure of DNA, which means she'll never have to listen to her colleagues gripe about her again. Regrettably, once she's achieved her lofty goal, three men take credit for her brilliant discovery—one that advanced the world's perception of humankind.