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NEWSLETTER #87 · DECEMBER 11, 2015

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Here are three strong midlist titles readers will enjoy:

- [Missing Pieces](#) by Heather Gudenkauf coming February 2016
- [Gold Fame Citrus](#) by Claire Vayer Watkins coming January 2016
- [The Plague of Thieves Affair](#) by Marcia Muller and Bill Pronzini coming February 2016

[Explore more midlist titles!](#)

And these best-sellers will not disappoint:

- [Scandalous Behavior](#) by Stuart Woods coming January 2016
- [Find Her](#) by Lisa Gardner coming February 2016
- [The Bitter Season](#) by Tami Hoag coming January 2016

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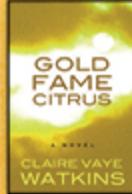


Missing Pieces

Heather Gudenkauf

February 2016

ISBN: 9781410486424



Gold Fame Citrus

Claire Vaye Watkins

January 2016

ISBN: 9781410486301



The Plague of Thieves Affair

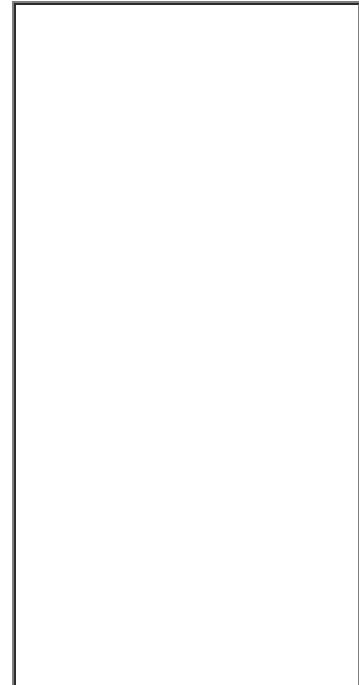
Marcia Muller and

Bill Pronzini

March 2016

ISBN: 9781410487223

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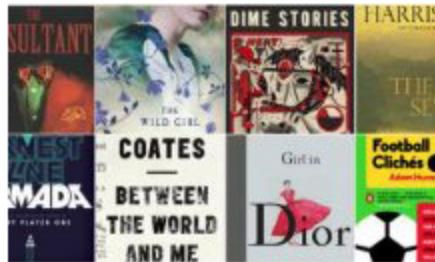
[The Booklist Reader's Oddly Specific Guide to Holiday Gift Giving](#)

By Keir Graff

If there's one thing we know about holiday gift-giving, it's that one size never fits all. Even those white cotton tube socks your uncle Buzz gave you each year—in the hope that you'd spend less time composing poetry and more time trying out for the basketball team—always fit funny, their lack of a fitted heel strangely symbolic of how you'd never find a place among the jocks. But we digress.

In our unceasing quest to find each book's perfect reader, we offer this perfectly specific gift-giving guide.

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[Holiday Romance: 'Tis the Season!](#)

By Ilene Lefkowitz & C. L. Quillen

Winter is the perfect time to snuggle up with a romance novel, as the holidays create a great backdrop for stories that will warm the heart. Holiday romance offers a little something for everyone, and we've selected a few titles and authors to highlight.

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Maeve Binchy
March 2016
ISBN: 9781410405188



HARLAN COBEN
Fool Me Once
Harlan Coben
March 2016
ISBN: 9781410423359



TAMI HOAG
The Bitter Season
Tami Hoag
January 2016
ISBN: 9781410404857

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NEWSMAKER

[The Wilderness: Deep inside the Republican Party's Combative, Contentious, Chaotic Quest to Take Back the White House](#), by McKay Coppins

"Coppins, a senior writer at BuzzFeed, takes readers on a journey with the Republican Party that begins after the 2012 defeat of Mitt Romney and follows the party's ongoing attempt to find the savior who will lead Republicans out of 'the wilderness.'" [>>read more](#)

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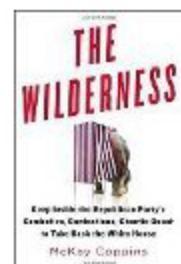
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Booklist Online Editor

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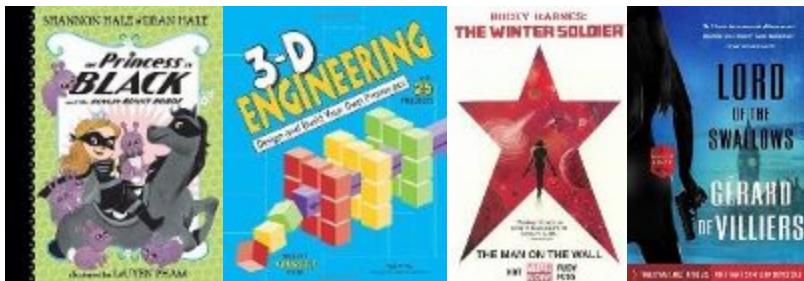
Rebecca Vnuk,
Collection Management Editor

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BOOKLIST ONLINE EXCLUSIVE REVIEWS



Adult - Nonfiction

Journalism & Publishing

[**So as I Was Saying . . . : My Somewhat Eventful Life**](#), by Frank Mankiewicz and Joel Swerdlow

Health & Medicine

[**The Dirt Cure: Growing Healthy Kids with Foods Straight from the Soil**](#), by Maya Shetreat-Klein

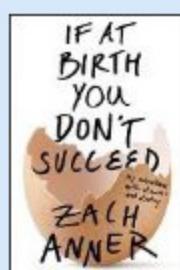
Cookery

[**Cooking like a Master Chef: 100 Recipes to Make the Everyday Extraordinary**](#), by Graham Elliot

Arts

[**If at Birth You Don't Succeed: My Adventures with Disaster and Destiny**](#), by Zach Anner

"Anner was born with cerebral palsy, and this entertaining book is a sort of a dual memoir: the story of a young man making his way in the competitive world of comedy, and the story of a boy who was determined not to let a potentially crippling physiological disorder keep him from doing whatever he wanted to do in life."



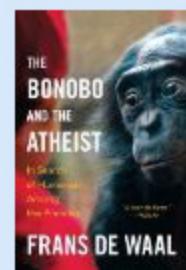
Sports & Recreation

[**The Ugly Game: How Football Lost Its Magic and What It Could Learn from the NFL**](#), by Martin Calladine

History

★ The Bonobo and the Atheist: In Search of Humanism among the Primates, by Frans de Waal

"Instead of a top-down approach, where some entity (be it God, science, or human reason) creates the moral laws that govern a society, de Waal favors the bottom-up idea that emotions are the grounding for morality and that social animals such as ourselves and our primate kin develop a society based on empathy."



[**Destiny and Power: The American Odyssey of George Herbert Walker Bush**](#),
by Jon Meacham

[**Osceola and the Great Seminole War: A Struggle for Justice and Freedom**](#),
by Thom Hatch

★ [**The Statue of Liberty: A Transatlantic Story**](#), by Edward Berenson

"Berenson, a cultural historian and specialist in French history, covers this saga from both the French and American perspectives in a compact, interesting, and often surprising chronicle."



Adult - Fiction

Crime Fiction

★ [**Bloodline**](#), by Warren Murphy

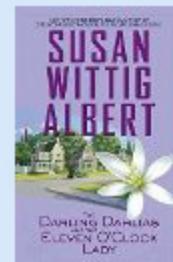
"The book is full of real people with famous last names like Luciano, Capone, and Siegel, and although the story is fiction, it has the feel of genuine history."



[**Crimson Shore**](#), by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child

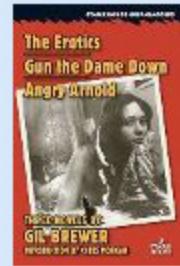
★ [**The Darling Dahlias and the Eleven O'Clock Lady**](#), by Susan Wittig Albert

"The tension driven by a murder to be solved and the impending storm is heightened by Albert's delightful use of suspense and shifting perspectives, as she weaves well-researched bits of history, gardening lore, and developments in the lives of the Dahlias and their families into the mystery plot."



[**The Erotics / Gun the Dame Down / Angry Arnold**](#), by Gil Brewer

"These three previously unpublished novels offer a more complete picture of an author who never really fit in, despite years of success on the spinner racks."



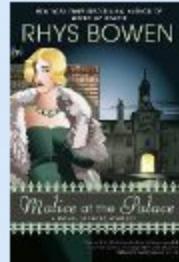
[**Flambé in Armagnac**](#), by Jean-Pierre Alaux and Noël Balen

[**Killing Pilgrim**](#), by Alen Mattich

[**Lord of the Swallows**](#), by Gérard de Villiers

[**Malice at the Palace**](#), by Rhys Bowen

"This entry in the Royal Spyness series is as delightful as the previous books, which are built around Georgie's need for cash, her penchant for becoming embroiled in mystery, and her affection for the dashing Lord Darcy, who seems slightly closer to settling down than he did in previous books."



[**Night Music: Nocturnes, Volume 2**](#), by John Connolly

[**Strange Bodies**](#), by Marcel Theroux

[**The Third Place**](#), by J. Sydney Jones

[**You Are Dead**](#), by Peter James

[**Violent Crimes**](#), by Phillip Margolin

Romance

[**Bitter Springs**](#), by Laura Stone

[**Cam Girl**](#), by Leah Raeder

[**In the Company of Wolves**](#), by Paige Tyler

[**November 9**](#), by Colleen Hoover

Graphic Novels

Adult Books

[**Bucky Barnes: The Winter Soldier; The Man on the Wall**](#), by Ales Kot and illustrated by Marco Rudy

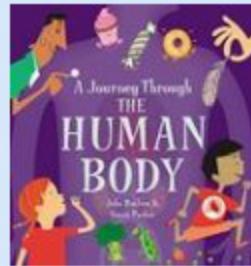
Youth - Nonfiction

Science

[**Friend or Foe: The Whole Truth about Animals People Love to Hate**](#), by Etta Kaner and illustrated by David Anderson

[**A Journey through the Human Body**](#), by Steve Parker and illustrated by John Haslam

"By using plenty of relatable examples and appealing images, Parker and Haslam have created a winning introduction to human biology and confirm that, if delivered in a kid-friendly manner, no topic is too complex."



Technology

[**3-D Engineering: Design and Build Your Own Prototypes**](#), by Vicki V. May and illustrated by Andrew Christensen

[**How to Build a Plane: A Soaring Adventure of Mechanics, Teamwork, and Friendship**](#), by Saskia Lacey and illustrated by Martin Sodomka

[**Robots in Law Enforcement**](#), by Louis Spilsbury and Richard Spilsbury

[**Robots in Medicine**](#), by Louis Spilsbury and Richard Spilsbury

[**Robots in Space**](#), by Louis Spilsbury and Richard Spilsbury

[**Stuff You Need to Know!**](#), by John Farndorn and Rob Beattie

Arts

[**Beatrix Potter and Her Paint Box**](#), written and illustrated by David McPhail



"McPhail's signature pen-and-ink and watercolors mirror Potter's detailed style for both nature motifs and human subjects."

Folklore & Fairy Tales

[**Myths and Legends of Scandinavia**](#), by Scott A. Leonard

Geography, Travel, & Culture

[**10 True Tales: Heroes of Hurricane Katrina**](#), by Allan Zullo

[**The Colors of Israel**](#), by Rachel Raz



"Beginning with red's presence on a mail truck, stoplight, and train, and moving along through orange, yellow, green, blue, gray, brown, black, white, and pink, the spreads show each color's name in large type, both in English and Hebrew, with the latter's pronunciation also provided in roman letters."

History

[**Martin Luther King, Jr.: Civil Rights Leader**](#), by Grace Hansen

Youth - Fiction

General Fiction

[**Angelina's Cinderella**](#), by Katharine Holabird and illustrated by Helen Craig

[**Animal Supermarket**](#), by Giovanna Zoboli and illustrated by Simona Mulazzani

[**The Curvy Tree**](#), by Chris Colfer and illustrated by Brandon Dorman

[**Don't Feed the Geckos!**](#), by Karen English and illustrated by Laura Freeman

"With wide-spaced lines and plenty of appealing grayscale illustrations, this accessible chapter book offers a story with realistic school and home settings as well as a well-drawn protagonist who gradually changes his point of view."



[**Ed & Bo Try to Graduate**](#), by Laura McGehee

[**A Fighting Chance**](#), by Claudia Melendez Salinas

[**The Full Moon at the Napping House**](#), by Audrey Wood and illustrated by Don Wood

[**I Hear a Pickle**](#), written and illustrated by Rachel Isadora

[**I See Reality**](#), by Grace Kendall

[**Joey Daring Caring and Curious**](#), by Marcella Marino Craver and illustrated by Joanne Lew-Vriethoff

[**Leroy**](#), by Sylvia Aguilar-Zeleny

"Though he slowly begins to adjust after starting work at the local coffee shop with brown-skinned, openly gay Martin, Leroy still has a lot on his plate: community intolerance, his absent father's wish for reconciliation, and the fact he still hasn't confided in his mother, who he knows won't accept his sexuality."



[**Libby of High Hopes: Project Blue Ribbon**](#), written and illustrated by Elise Primavera

[**Library Day**](#), by Anne Rockwell and illustrated by Lizzie Rockwell

[**Love Is My Favorite Thing**](#), written and illustrated by Emma Chichester Clark

[**Mother Bruce**](#), written and illustrated by Ryan T. Higgins

[**On the Run**](#), by Tristan Bancks

[**Operation Josh Taylor**](#), by Melody Fitzpatrick

[**Princess Posey and the Crazy, Lazy Vacation**](#), by Stephanie Greene and illustrated by Stephanie Roth Sisson

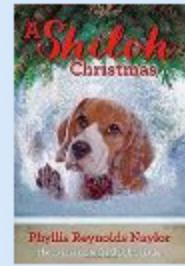
[**Race Car Count**](#), by Rebecca Kai Dotlich and illustrated by Michael Slack

[**Ragweed's Farm Dog Handbook**](#), written and illustrated by Anne Vittur Kennedy

[**Shh! Bears Sleeping**](#), by David Martin and illustrated by Steve Johnson

★ A Shiloh Christmas, by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

"Marty is growing into a responsible young man who learns from his errors but does not come across as preachy or self-righteous. Rather, he steers the simple plot and the quartet to its strong and satisfying conclusion."



[**Song for a Summer Night**](#), by Robert Heidbreder and illustrated by Qin Leng

[**Talia and the Very YUM Kippur**](#), by Linda Elovitz Marshall and illustrated by Francesca Sassi

[**The Three Little Pigs Count to 100**](#), by Grace Maccarone and illustrated by Pistacchio

[**Two Is Enough**](#), by Janna Matthies and illustrated by Tuesday Mourning

[**Violet and Victor Write the Most Fabulous Fairy Tale**](#), by Alice Kuipers and illustrated by Bethanie Deeney Murguia

Action/Adventure

[**The Conjuror's Riddle**](#), by Andrea Cremer

"This invigorating series neatly fits into the saga category, with loads of adventure, lots of explosions, plenty of pirates, and still some pages left for romance."



[**Poet Anderson . . . of Nightmares**](#), by Tom DeLonge and Suzanne Young

Mystery

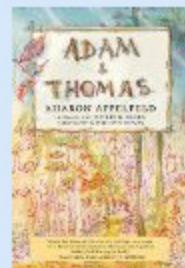
[**Andi Unstoppable**](#), by Amanda Flower

[**Nothing Bad Is Going to Happen**](#), by Kathleen Hale

Historical Fiction

[**Adam and Thomas**](#), by Aharon Appelfeld and illustrated by Philippe Dumas

"Translated from the original Hebrew text and accompanied by Dumas' moving illustrations, the story is one of quiet perseverance and growing friendship between two very different boys experiencing the world together in a horrific time and place."



[**The Crocodile Tomb**](#), by Michelle Paver

Romance

[**Arrows**](#), by Melissa Gorzelanczyk

[**Once upon a Kiss**](#), by Robin Palmer

SF/Fantasy

[**Alistair Grim's Odd Aquaticum**](#), by Gregory Funaro

[**The Forever Man**](#), by Eoin Colfer

[**Glass Sword**](#), by Victoria Aveyard

[**The Goblin's Puzzle: Being the Adventures of a Boy with No Name and Two Girls Called Alice**](#), by Andrew S. Chilton and illustrated by Jensine Eckwall

[**The Guardian Herd: Landfall**](#), by Jennifer Lynn Alvarez

[**The Isle**](#), by Jordana Frankel

[**Mouseheart: Return of the Forgotten**](#), by Lisa Fiedler and illustrated by Vivienne To

[**The Princess in Black and the Hungry Bunny Horde**](#), by Shannon Hale and Dean Hale and illustrated by LeUyen Pham

[**Quest Maker**](#), by Laurie McKay

[**Ravenous**](#), by MarcyKate Connolly

"A resourceful heroine, Greta is openly curious, careful and impulsive, guilty and grateful, and driven to save her family first and then her community."



[**Rise of the Wolf**](#), by Jennifer A. Nielsen

[**Space Hostages**](#), by Sophia McDougall

[**The Water and the Wild**](#), by K. E. Ormsbee

[**The World Forgot**](#), by Martin Leicht and Isla Neal

Scary Stories

[**The Suffering**](#), by Rin Chupeco

"Readers will be sucked into this twisted sequel of justice and terror, and they'll likely ache for more."



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