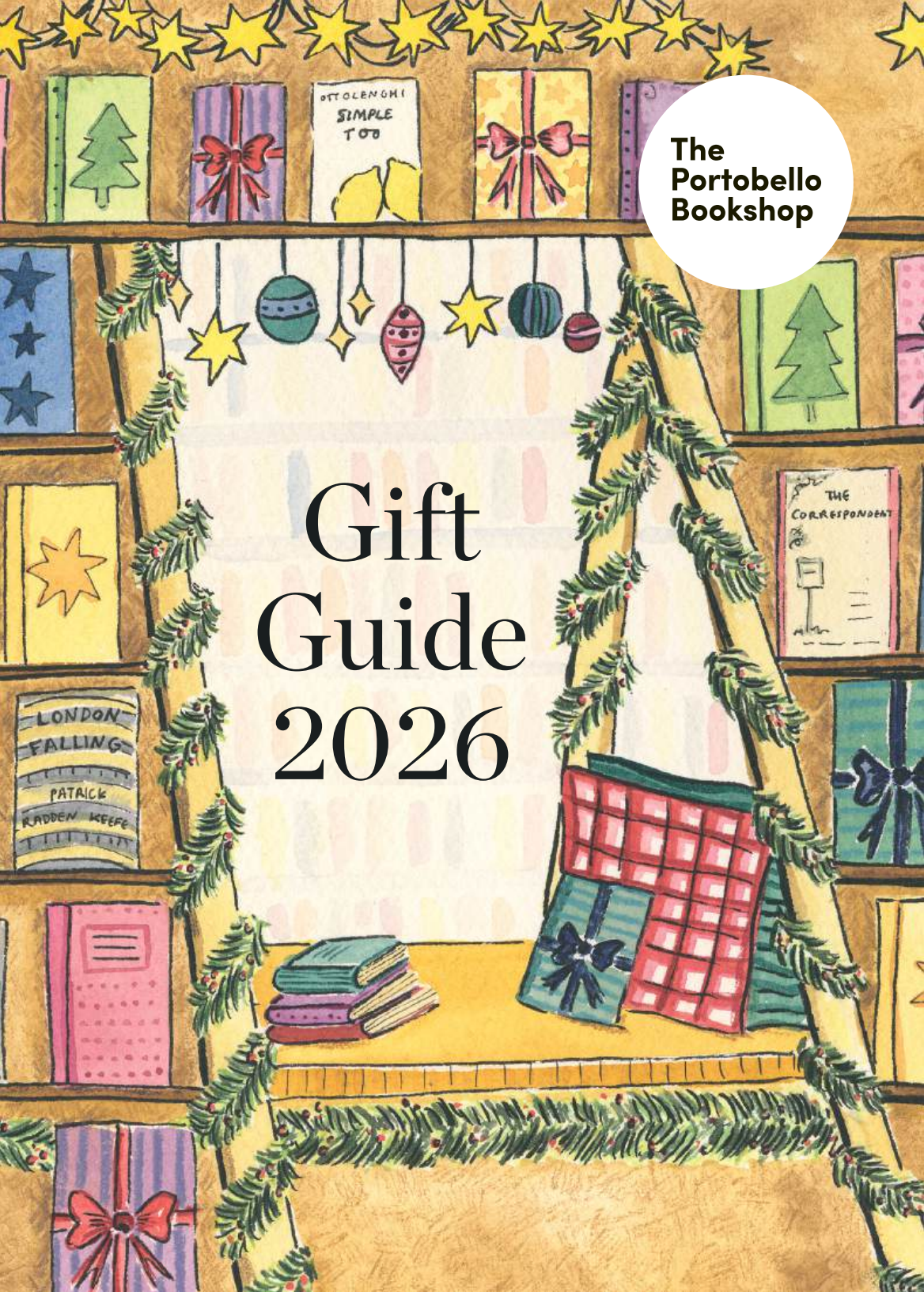
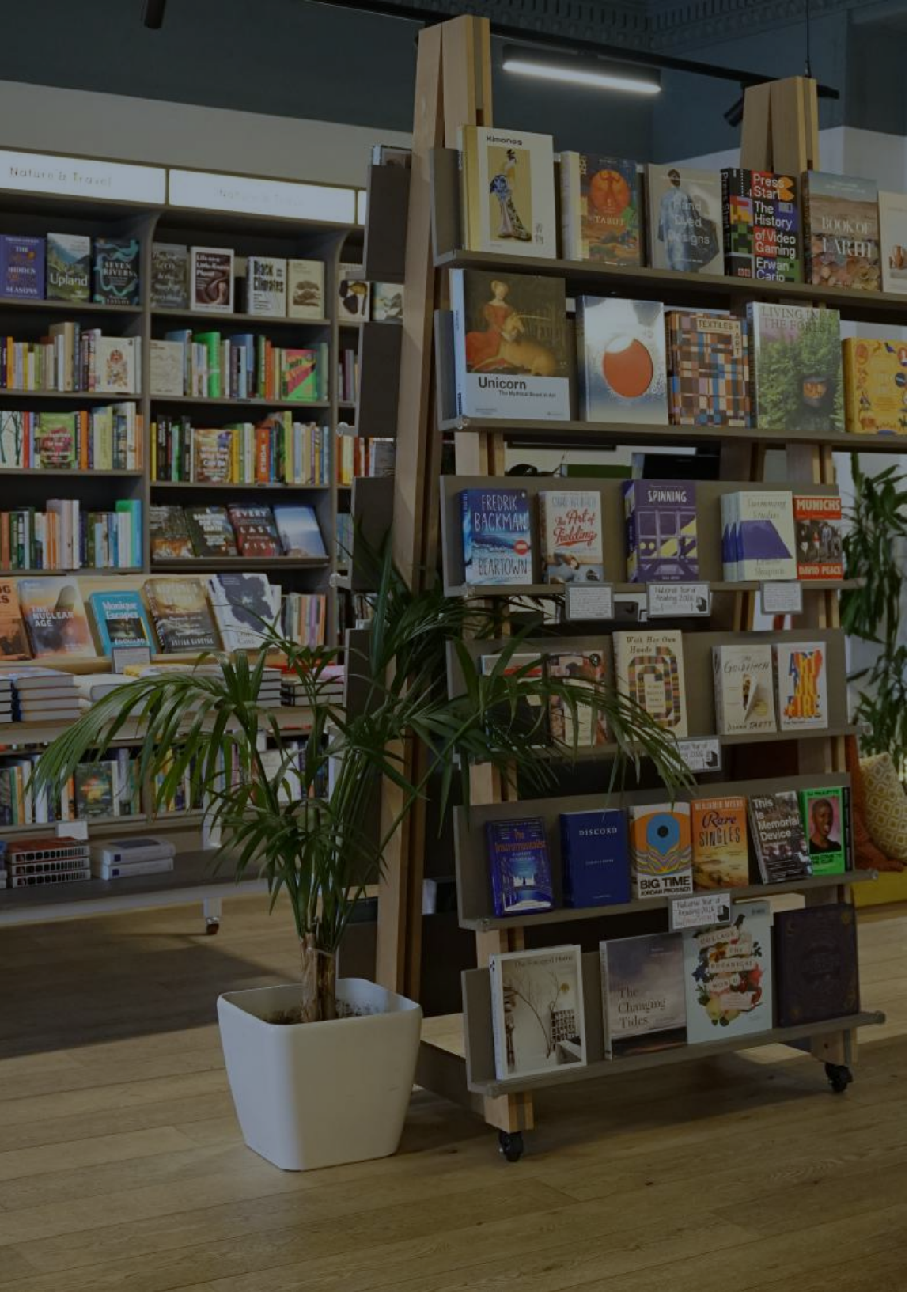


The Portobello Bookshop

Gift Guide 2026


Nature & Travel
Kimonos
Unicorn
The Mythical Beast in Art
Press Start
The History of Video Gaming
Book of Tarot
Upland
Seven Rivers
Back to Cherries
Living in the Forest
Textiles
Fredrik Backman
Beartown
The Art of Fielding
Spinning
Munichs
David Peace
Every Last Fish
The Nuclear Age
Monique Encaoua
Embodied
With Her Own Hands
The Gentlemen
Diana Athill
Discord
Big Time
Rare Singles
This Is Memorial Device
The Changing Tides

Welcome to
The Portobello Bookshop 2026 Gift Guide!

And just like that another year is almost over. As always, it's been a pleasure to welcome readers from far and wide to the bookshop, to recommend and sell books throughout the seasons, to have conversations with the lovely people who come through our doors and who, like us, believe that reading improves our lives – and that readers have the potential to make the world better, too!

In 2026 we welcomed more brilliant authors to the bookshop for events and signings, and hosted events at some of Edinburgh's largest venues. There are too many (107 to be precise) to name, but what a privilege it is to organise events with some of the best contemporary writers. Alongside this, we've started a new book club, and have loved the discussions it has led to.

Another aspect of the shop that's kept us busy this year is our website, as we sent out thousands of books to readers all over the world. And if you hadn't heard yet, we've also launched our podcast, where you can find author and bookseller conversations!

A highlight of the year has been running our Kids' Summer Book Club for the second year, and launching our Teen & YA Summer Book Club. Both aim to encourage children to read during the summer holidays, with prizes to win including free books – it was lovely to see many children telling us about their summer reads!

There has been no shortage of great books published this year. As is now customary, we've asked our team for their top 5 and compiled our recommendations, and are delighted to present to you our favourite books from 2026! We hope you enjoy looking through our Gift Guide and that a book (or two) catches your eye.

We're very lucky to be located on a buzzing high street full of independent shops and, as we enter the gifting season, we thank you for shopping locally. We wish you a peaceful and lovely winter – one filled with great books, always.



Our **Christmas Gift Giving Tree** is a highlight of our festive calendar. Each year, with your help, we're able to put books into the hands of readers of all ages. **You can donate in store by choosing a tag from our tree and purchasing a book**, or online via our **Christmas Book Drive** page. All of the donations we receive go directly to our partner charities **Home-Start** and **Street Reads** and the people they support. **We're continually heartened by the generosity and kindness of our customers, but particularly at this time of year, so we thank you for your ongoing support.**

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The Portobello Bookshop



KATYA

A Short Stay in Hell, Steven L. Peck. £9.99
The Offing, Benjamin Myers. £9.99
The Fifth Season, N.K. Jemisin. £9.99
Country People, Daniel Mason. £20
Yesteryear, Caro Claire Burke. £16.99



It's been a whirlwind year for me, but luckily I've encountered some truly excellent reads. *Yesteryear* grabbed me by the ankles in April; by turns shocking and satirical, I was completely enthralled and gladly joined the ranks of booksellers raving about it. *A Short Stay in Hell* is probably one of the most mind-bending novellas I've read (still thinking about its unique depiction of the afterlife), and *The Fifth Season* was absolutely worth the hype; an action-packed fantasy with a magic system rooted in earthquakes! I've read some great books as part of the bookshop's brand new book club, but a special mention goes to *The Offing* by Benjamin Myers. A luscious summer in coastal England is the backdrop for this beautiful novel, with rich and sensorial descriptions of nature, and the transformative friendship between a young man and an older woman at the heart. Speaking of comforting novels, I have to mention *Country People*; I loved Daniel Mason's *North Woods* and I was happy to be swept into his folkloric depiction of small-town Vermont and the everyday wonders encountered by the central family (and their curious wee dog!).

The Portobello Bookshop



ELISE

American Hagwon, Min Jin Lee. £25
Is This a Cry for Help?, Emily Austin. £18.99
Bad Words, Ríoghnach Robinson. £14.99
A Guardian and A Thief, Megha Majumdar. £16.99
In Bloom, Liz Allan. £16.99



It was very hard to narrow things down this year; I tried to pick books that aren't featured elsewhere in the guide, but had to make an exception for *American Hagwon*, my favourite book of the year, maybe of all time. That said, I'm using this paragraph to mention even more books I adored (stealing the idea from our colleague Marc). Here we go! *New Skin* (Sarah Wang), *Honey* (Imani Thompson), *I Want You To Be Happy* (Jem Calder), *Half His Age* (Jennette McCurdy), *Yesteryear* (Caro Claire Burke), *Sandwich* and *Wreck* (Catherine Newman), *Heart the Lover* (Lily King), *Claws Out* (Bella Mackie), *Partita* (Barbara Kingsolver), *Taiwan Travelogue* (Yáng Shuāng-zǐ, tr. Lin King), *Earth 7* (Deb Olin Unferth), *The Things We Never Say* (Elizabeth Strout), *Whistler* (Ann Patchett), *John of John* (Douglas Stuart), *A Family Matter* (Claire Lynch), *Belgrave Road* (Manish Chauhan). I also read a few series from brilliant authors; I recommend everything by Shannon Chakraborty, Becky Chambers, and Pierce Brown.

The Portobello Bookshop



SELENA

Cathedrals, Claudia Piñeiro (tr. Frances Riddle). £11.99

La Lucha, Edited by Carolina Orloff. £14.99

I Am, I Am, I Am, Maggie O'Farrell. £12.99

The Sleep Thief, Ibtisam Azem (tr. Sinan Antoon). £14.99

Depraved: The Story of Dangerous Art, Daisy Dixon. £20



I've said it before and I'll say it again, a reading year for me is not complete without a Charco title. This year was no exception with *Cathedrals*, a thrilling page-turner that explores family dynamics, religious fanaticism and female bodily autonomy; and *La Lucha*, an incredible essay collection that gathers writers from across Latin America to discuss issues such as environmentalism and anti-colonialism. Another non-fiction highlight this year was *Depraved: The Story of Dangerous Art* which explores contentious art throughout history from paintings to video games and how we can engage with it. One of my favourite books of last year was Ibtisam Azem's *The Book of Disappearance* so I was very excited to get my hands on her first novel, *The Sleep Thief*, which in such few pages, deftly captures the coming of age of a young man trying to live in an occupied Palestine. Finally, my favourite book of the year has to go to Maggie O'Farrell's *I Am, I Am, I Am* which is a memoir about her many brushes with death. It was profound and moving and I just can't stop thinking about it.

The Portobello Bookshop



MOLLY

Pachinko, Min Jin Lee. £9.99
Said the Dead, Doireann Ní Ghríofa. £18.99
Taiwan Travelogue, Yáng Shuāng-zǐ (tr. Lin King). £14.99
How to End a Story: Collected Diaries, Helen Garner. £20
A Family Matter, Claire Lynch . £9.99



This year, I seem to have picked up books mainly set in the twentieth century, perhaps in an attempt to understand the chaos of the twenty-first. *Said the Dead* is a moving portrait of the women who lived and worked in an asylum in Cork at the turn of the last century. *Taiwan Travelogue*, the winner of this year's International Booker Prize and a novel about food and love in Taiwan in 1938, masquerades as a translation of a rediscovered travel book. *A Family Matter* is a poignant tale of a family torn apart in 1982 by homophobia in the UK justice system; the image of matching slippers will stay with me forever. I adored two books by Min Jin Lee: *American Hagwon* and *Pachinko*, epic novels exploring the Korean diaspora so thoughtfully and thoroughly. And finally, Helen Garner's diaries: a chronicle of her life in Melbourne that accompanied me through a year of big decisions and change. Whether directed at the mundane or dramatic, Garner's attention is scrutinising and unflinching but always fair. If you've never read her, I recommend *This House of Grief* and *The Children's Bach* too.

The Portobello Bookshop



AMOS

The Green Month, Matthew Francis. £14.99

Hot Water, Bhavika Govil. £20

The Glass Pearls, Emeric Pressburger. £9.99

Swann's Way, Marcel Proust. £9.99

I Want You to Be Happy, Jem Calder. £14.99



I've had a weird year of reading one long medieval poem over and over again for my degree. It's made me feel crazy, and hasn't been helped by the rest of my year's reading, which was characterised by an unfortunate spree of troubling books by mostly dead men. I'm grateful for two standout debuts that disrupted this spree, briefly: *Hot Water* by Bhavika Govil and *I Want You to Be Happy* by Jem Calder – rich, thorny, contemporary stories that came as a much-needed escape from the past. Other highlights: I read *Swann's Way* for Lent, expecting to suffer, and enjoyed it so much that for 40 days everyone around me suffered instead; Emeric Pressburger's thriller *The Glass Pearls*, which I read after a month of hyper-fixation on Powell and Pressburger's films; and *The Green Month*, Matthew Francis's whimsical translations of the poems of Dafydd ap Gwilym, which was put in my hands at just the right time.

The Portobello Bookshop



ZOË

American Hagwon, Min Jin Lee. £25
As You Wake, Break the Shell, Becky Chambers. £22
Cash Cow, Alev Scott. £22
The Shadow Prince, Helen Scheuerer. £22
Love Machines, James Muldoon. £12.99



My 2026 reading was more weighted towards fiction than usual, but two non-fictions stand out: *Love Machines* has only become more relevant; it horrified/intrigued me in equal measure and I've been shoehorning it into conversations all year. Similarly, I've loved the discussions I've had around *Cash Cow*, an exploration of the fertility industry. It's an eye-opening, thought-provoking, sometimes uncomfortable read that flipped any preconceived notions I had on their head. On the fiction front, *As You Wake, Break the Shell* has all the traits of a Becky Chambers novel that I love but felt new and interesting. To honour the two weeks spent in a Helen Scheuerer phase, I'm cheating and using *The Shadow Prince* to represent her entire backlist. She writes exactly the kind of romantasy I love, where the fantasy elements are balanced and enhanced by - rather than in competition with - the romance at its centre. Finally, it's rare I have a single favourite book of the year, but as soon as I finished *American Hagwon* I knew it would win this accolade. An extraordinarily well-crafted novel, I'll be singing its praises for months to come.

The Portobello Bookshop



BETH

Yesteryear, Caro Claire Burke. £16.99

John of John, Douglas Stuart. £20

Medea Sang Me a Corrido, Dahlia de la Cerda (tr. Julia Sanches & Heather Cleary). £10.99

Hafni Says, Helle Helle (tr. Martin Aitken). £12.99

The Body of the Thing, Karishma Jobanputra. £14.99



This year I've journeyed around the world through my reading, but perhaps the only throughline of this 2026 selection could be books that have elicited strong emotions! *John of John* tugged at my heartstrings, taking me into the rugged beauty of the Outer Hebrides for an intimate and epic family tale. *Yesteryear* made me squirm and cringe and gasp in equal measure as I raced through this satirical book, and I've not been able to stop talking about it since! *The Body of The Thing* is a beautiful debut collection that left me feeling raw and awed, each story vivid and lyrical, exploring the female body in unexpected, visceral ways. Another short story collection, *Medea Sang Me a Corrido*, is also a gripping, uncomfortable read. I love modern-day mythical tales, and this collection brilliantly turns Medea into an avenging goddess of northern Mexico, overseeing women fighting for justice in unjust systems. Finally, *Hafni Says* made me laugh, which we all need! This clever novel tells the story of Hafni's smörgåsbord road-trip tour of Denmark via a charming and funny phone call with a friend.

The Portobello Bookshop



EUAN

Whistler, Ann Patchett. £20

Exit Party, Emily St. John Mandel. £18.99

An Army of Lovers Cannot Fail,
Hélène Giannecchini (tr. Anna Moschovakis). £14.99

Helm, Sarah Hall. £9.99

Switzy, Emma Cline. £18.99



This year, as in any other, I've enjoyed being transported by fiction. To parallel lives and worlds by Emily St. John Mandel in *Exit Party*, which I think could be her best and most gripping novel yet. Slightly closer to home yet still playing with timelines in a most engaging fashion, to Cumbria in *Helm* in which Sarah Hall gives voice to the UK's only named wind. If you like your climate fiction with a side of wry humour, it's a must. As for *Whistler* – what's not to love about Ann Patchett being at her finest, most conscientious, storytelling best? I sobbed (complimentary). Emma Cline's *Switzy* is the compelling portrait of a life as painted by a protagonist who is gradually losing his access to the memories of it and it's worth the hype. For a hint of non-fiction, *An Army of Lovers Cannot Fail* (that title alone!) is an energising read about queer friendship, heritage and activism in the twentieth century – it's the book I've bought as a gift most often in 2026!

The Portobello Bookshop



HELENA

Sunset Song, Lewis Grassic Gibbon. £7.99
Things in Nature Merely Grow, Yiyun Li. £10.99
Shorelines, Alycia Pirmohamed. £18.99
The Correspondent, Virginia Evans. £9.99
Even the Trees, Roshni Gallagher. £12.99



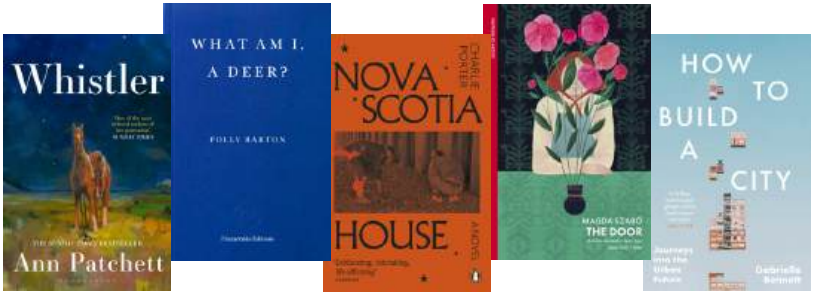
This has been an enjoyable reading year, in which I liked some books so much that I read quicker than my usual painfully slow pace. I've been drawn to family sagas and what we inherit through generations. I finally read *Sunset Song*, and was taken with the characters, the landscapes, and Grassic Gibbon's mesmerising prose – I'll agree with the general opinion that it's one of the best Scottish novels ever written. My other fiction pick is *The Correspondent*, which I read compulsively, drawn by its eccentric protagonist, a woman in the later decades of her life, grieving, growing, and learning from her slightly seclusive, letter-writing life. I read two memoirs that gripped my heart: Yiyun Li's *Things In Nature Merely Grow*, her devastating and clearheaded mediations after the death of her second son; and Alycia Pirmohamed's *Shorelines*, a nuanced account of the complexity of a self shaped by migration, faith, and different landscapes, languages and cultures. For poetry, I loved Roshni Gallagher's *Even the Trees*; the poet's quiet perceptiveness dissects the richness of mixed heritages, and balances difficult experiences with moments of lively joy at a life well lived.

The Portobello Bookshop



NIAMH

Whistler, Ann Patchett. £20
What Am I, A Deer?, Polly Barton. £14.99
Nova Scotia House, Charlie Porter. £10.99
The Door, Magda Szabó (tr. Len Rix). £9.99
How to Build a City, Gabriella Bennett. £25



Several of my favourite reads this year were gifted to me, which means they hold a particularly special place in my heart and on my shelf. Is there anything better than a thoughtfully chosen book? *Nova Scotia House* was my first read of the year. It is a beautiful, sorrowful story of love and home amidst the AIDS crisis and in its aftermath. I was absorbed in the narrator's expansive interior world in *What Am I, A Deer?* It is both witty and poignant when it comes to matters of the heart and finding a place to belong. Magda Szabó's *The Door* features one of the most vivid and memorable characters I've encountered for a long time and I savoured every detail. I won't be alone in declaring *Whistler* a highlight of 2026. I feel a big swell of emotion just thinking about it! Lastly, if you're fascinated by what makes cities meaningful, resilient places to live and urbanity in the face of the climate crisis then *How to Build a City* is an ideal book. It's well researched, engaging and thoughtful.

The Portobello Bookshop



FAYE

A Truce That Is Not Peace, Miriam Toews. £10.99

Venus, Vanishing, Rebecca Birrell. £16.99

Modern Poetry, Diane Seuss. £12.99

The Things We Never Say, Elizabeth Strout. £18.99

Out There, William Keohane. £14.99



A return to academia this year meant that my reading was skewed slightly more in the non-fiction direction, with Miriam Toews' memoir *A Truce That is Not Peace* taking the top spot for me, and solidifying Toews as one of my favourite authors of all time. It grapples with the question of why we write, of honing a craft rooted in grief, and is an audiobook to bump to the top of your list. Keeping in line with beautiful memoirs, William Keohane's *Out There* is expertly done: at times beautiful, heartbreaking, and insightful. A reread of Diane Seuss' *Modern Poetry* was exactly what I needed this year; she ingeniously reimagines various traditional poetic forms, all of which are suitably vicious and raw. On the fiction front, Rebecca Birrell's *Venus, Vanishing* is a brilliant novel that I absolutely could not put down, and Elizabeth Strout's *The Things We Never Say* is a real soul-warmer of a novel, one that I think will stay with me for a while.

The Portobello Bookshop



ALICE

The Shadow of the Object, Chloe Aridjis. £16.99

Beginning Middle End, Valeria Luiselli. 18.99

The Past Pursues Us Like Detectives, Debt Collectors, Thieves, Juan Pablo Villalobos (tr. Daniel Hahn). £14.99

Fierceland, Omar Musa. £16.99

Childhood, Youth, Dependency, Tove Ditlevsen (tr. Tiina Nunnally & Michael Favala Goldman). £12.99



Another year of living and reading has passed and the time comes to reflect on it. This year I've been reunited with authors I already know and love: Valeria Luiselli's 2019 novel *Lost Children Archive* being one of my favourite books, *Beginning Middle End* was one of my most awaited novels of the year and didn't disappoint; it's tender and beautiful. I was thrilled to be back in the world of Juan Pablo Villalobos, whose comic whodunit *The Past Pursues Us Like Detectives, Debt Collectors, Thieves* kept me endlessly entertained. Chloe Aridjis' *The Shadow of the Object* was full of vivid imagery and infused with charm and mystery – I loved it. Time for some discoveries: *Fierceland* by Malaysian-Australian author Omar Musa is a powerful anticolonial novel about greed and inheritance, and an elegy for the natural world. *Childhood, Youth, Dependency* by Danish writer Tove Ditlevsen has been on my shelf for a few years and I finally picked it up – my only regret is that I didn't read it earlier; it's a phenomenal work of autofiction.

The Portobello Bookshop



MARC

Rhapsody, Alice Oswald. £20
Night Night Fawn, Jordy Rosenberg. £24
This Poor Book, Fanny Howe. £11.99
Transfigurations, Jay Wright. £14.99
Driftwork, John Burnside. £16



I'm incapable of listing only five, so here goes: *Big Kiss, Bye-Bye* (Claire-Louise Bennett), *Love's Labour* (Stepehn Grosz), *feeld* (Jos Charles), *The Oak and the Larch* (Sophie Pinkham), *The Shortest History of the Soviet Union* (Sheila Fitzpatrick), *Selected Poems* (A.R. Ammons), *Jack the Modernist* (Robert Gluck), *Selected Poems* (Zbigniew Herbert, ed. Coetzee & Valles), *The Pink Trance Notebook Trilogy* (Wayne Koestenbaum), *The Palm House* (Gwendoline Riley), *The Green Month* (Matthew Francis), *Selected Poems* (Catullus, tr. Stephen Mitchell), *Migrations* (Gloria Gerwitz, tr. Mark Schafer), *Gilgamesh* (tr. David Ferry), *A Dialogue on Love* (Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick), *Crossing the Wine-Dark Sea* (Emily Wilson), *The Narrow Road to the Deep North* (Bashō, tr. Nobuyuki Yuasa), *The Word for World is Forest* (Ursula K. Le Guin), *The Other Love* (Henri Cole), *The Door* (Magda Szabó, tr. Len Rix), *Birds Through a Ceiling of Alabaster* (tr. al-Udhari & Wightman), *Fish Tales* (Nettie Jones), *Homer-Haunted* (Henry Power), *In Deadly Embrace* (Ibn al-Mu'Tazz, tr. James E. Montgomery), *Peach Machine* (Imogen Cassels), *Selected Poems* (Linton Kwesi Johnson), Noopiming (Leanne Betasamosake Simpson), *Classicism & Other Phobias* (Dan-el Padilla Peralta), and *Masqueraders* (Anthony V. Capildeo).

The Portobello Bookshop



GRACE

Earth 7, Deb Olin Unferth. £10.99

Etna, Paul Yoon. £14.99

Mother Mary Comes To Me, Arundhati Roy. £12.99

Tipping the Velvet, Sarah Waters. £10.99

North of the Winter Sun,
Veronica Skotnes (tr. Diane Oatley). £14.99



I've had the joy of being introduced to new favourite authors this year born out of many great reading streaks! Though hard to whittle down, my first mention is the beautiful novel *Etna* by Paul Yoon, a story of repair and return after wartime with a canine protagonist, it is introspective and quiet with lines that cut. My second pick, *Tipping the Velvet*, was my first introduction to Sarah Waters, and let me tell you, I will be back again. I was drawn into the theatre of Dickensian England and wanted to stay thereafter. Deb Olin Unferth blew me away with *Earth 7* – her world-building is brilliantly expansive and with such special characters that had my heart. I also found solace in reading memoirs this year, speeding through Arundhati Roy's memoir, where her literary brilliance brings the twists of her own story to life and finally, *North of the Winter Sun* which tells of Veronica Skotnes' time sailing around the northern isles of Norway. A historical and personal account of the environmental and cultural changes affecting these communities, I found this such an inspiring read.

The Portobello Bookshop



LEO

Yap! A Short History of Small Dogs, Stephanie Howard-Smith. £16.99

Dog Songs, Mary Oliver. £12.99

The Happiness of Dogs, Mark Rowlands. £10.99

Dog Hearted, Ed. Rowan Hisayo Buchanan & Jessica J. Lee. £9.99

Renaissance Dogs, Professor Taylor Wagmore. £14.99



Meet Leo! He's the newest member we've welcomed into the Porty team, and he's fitting in quite seamlessly. A master of quality control, he's fond of sniffing around the shelves to make sure that all of our books are in good condition; nibbling on the cardboard to reduce our waste; and exploring the offices to ensure that we're all working hard! He's still a wee puppy, but as he gets older you may begin to see him roaming the shop a lot more. Here he is with his top 5 picks of the year, and even though he's not had a huge amount of time to read in the past 8 months, we think he's off to a great start and has something for everyone!



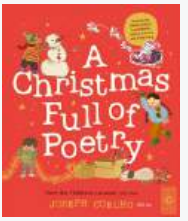
We love playing host to an incredible line-up of authors at the bookshop and at larger venues across Edinburgh, as well as running our monthly book club. Just a few of our highlights from the year include **Rebecca F. Kuang**, **Ali Smith**, **Marlon James**, **Alice Oseman**, **Jennette McCurdy**, and more!

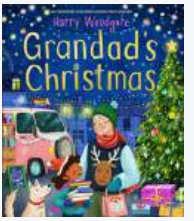
theportobellobookshop.com/events

Children's Festive Reads

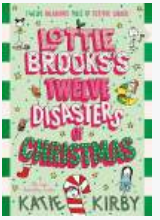
Hank our favourite goose returns, there's disaster aplenty at Christmastime in the world of Lottie Brooks, *Grandad's Christmas* celebrates the power of community via a flooded bookshop, and in *The Captain's Christmas* we spend the festive season in a picturesque seaside town. Our picks also include beautiful poetry and festive stories!













The Christmas Book, Katherine Woodfine. £10.00

A Christmas Full of Poetry, Joseph Coelho. £12.99

Grandad's Christmas, Harry Woodgate. £12.99

Hank Goes Ho Ho Honk, Maudie Powell-Tuck & Duncan Beedie. £12.99

Lottie Brooks's Twelve Disasters of Christmas, Katie Kirby. £14.99

The Captain's Christmas, Mathilde Tourbillon & Beatrice Cerocchi. £12.99

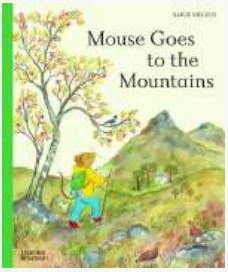
This year saw the return of our **Kids' Summer Book Club**, as well as the introduction of our **Teen** version, too. It was a huge success, and a real highlight of our summer. **Thank you to everybody who took part** in our book clubs this year, **we can't wait to do it all again in 2027!**





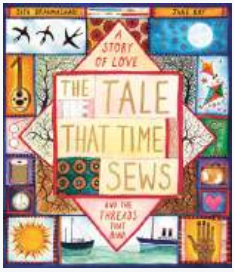
Children's Picture Books

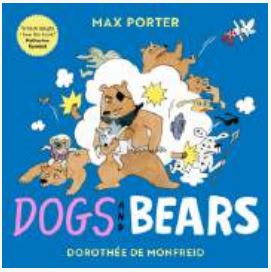
Dogs (and bears), the return of the Gruffalo, books about books and the enlightening journey of a light bulb... our selection of children's picture books is sure to keep any young reader enchanted this festive season.

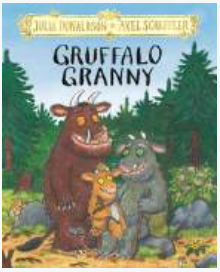




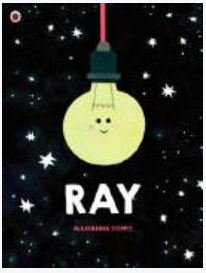










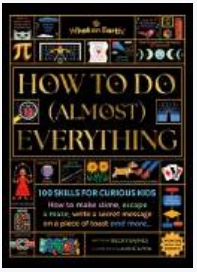


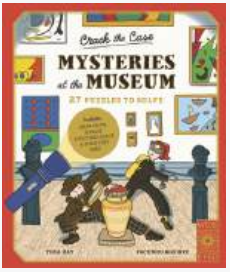


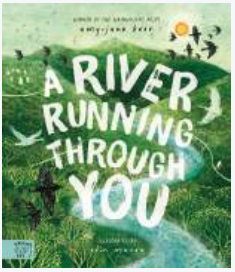
Mouse Goes to the Mountains, Alice Melvin. £14.99 **Luna Loves Sport,** Joseph Coelho & Fiona Lumbers. £12.99
The Thieves Beneath the Floorboards, Mikey Please. £14.99 **The Tale that Time Sews,** Sita Brahmachari & Jane Ray. £12.99
Dogs and Bears, Max Porter & Dorothée de Monfreid. £7.99 **Gruffalo Granny,** Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler. £14.99
Our Islands, Phoebe Roze. £12.99 **Ray,** Marianna Coppo. £8.99 **A House Made of Books,** Frankie Gritton. £12.99

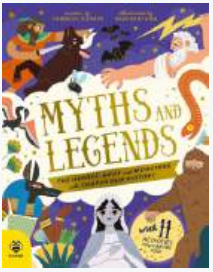
Children's Reference

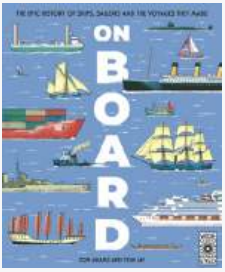
For the children in your life who like to keep their lists of fun facts long, here's a selection of reference titles from 2026 that covers everything from geology and marine history, to the ancient world and classic fables.

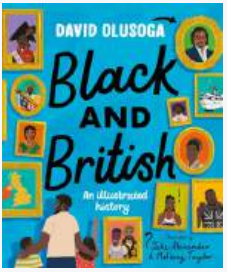




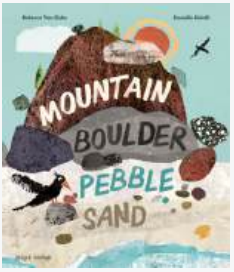


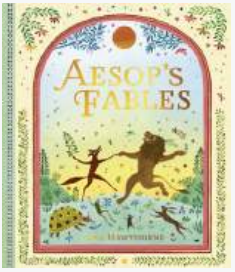












How to Do (Almost) Everything, Becky Baines and Laurie Avon. £25
Crack the Case: Mysteries at the Museum, Thea Hay & Facundo Aguirre. £16.99
A River Running Through You, Amy-Jane Beer & Elin Manon. £12.99 **Myths and Legends,** Frances Durkin & Nur Ventura. £14.99
On Board, Tom Adams & Tom Jay. £20 **Black and British,** David Olusoga, Jake Alexander & Melleny Taylor. £12.99
Honey, I Ate the Kids!, Mike Hills & Kerry Hyndman. £9.99
Mountain, Boulder, Pebble, Sand, Rebecca Van Slyke & Danielle Ridolfi. £12.99 **Aesop's Fables,** Lara Hawthorne. £16.99

Children's Fiction

Some of our favourite children's fiction titles of 2026 for ages 5-8 and 9-12 include local authors like Alastair Chisholm and Abi Elphinstone, and feature stories all about dragons and birds, families and friendships.



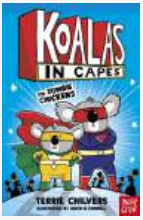




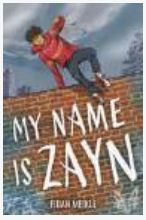














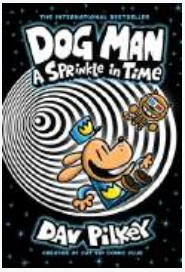




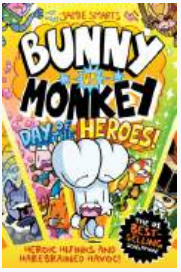
Girl with a Sabretooth Tiger, Jasbinder Bilan. £7.99 **The Neverfear,** Katherine Rundell. £16.99
Goodnight Silver, Abi Elphinstone. £8.99 **The Children of Wolf Rock,** Natasha Farrant. £7.99
Bim Blake's Hot Takes: My Pencil Case Doesn't Define Me, Tọlá Okogwu. £8.99 **The Blitz Sisters,** Judith Eagle. £7.99
Koalas in Capes: The Zombie Chickens, Terrie Chilvers. £7.99 **The Haunting of Old Splinter,** Jack Mackay. £8.99
My Name is Zayn, Fidan Meikle. £7.99 **We Are Dragon,** Alastair Chisholm. £7.99
The Game Changers, Helen Rutter. £7.99 **Birdlands,** Anthony McGowan. £7.99

Children's Graphic Novels

Graphic novels continue to soar in popularity, and 2026 saw the return of comic book favourites *Bunny vs Monkey*, *Dog Man*, and *Donut Squad*! Some extra bookseller recommendations include the latest *Rune* installment and Shaun Tan's beautiful tale of belonging.



















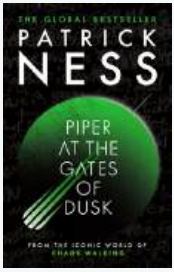
Dog Man 15: A Sprinkle in Time, Dave Pilkey. £14.99 **Squid Bit: That's a Nice Hat!,** Jess Bradley. £9.99
Bunny vs Monkey: Day of the Heroes, Jamie Smart. £12.99 **Windrush Child,** Benjamin Zephaniah & Markia Jenai. £10.99
Rune: The Tale of the Winged Sorceress, Carlos Sánchez. £10.99
Wilomina: The Land of Dreams and Nightmares, John Chalmers & Sandra Marrs. £9.99 **Hometown,** Shaun Tan. £25
Donut Squad: Destiny of the Donuts, Neill Cameron. £9.99 **Don't Be Scared,** Saadia Faruqi & Shadia Amin. £12.99

Young Adult

For the young adults and teens in your life, we've chosen some of our favourite books of the year spanning multiple genres, including the much-anticipated final installment of *Heartstopper*! Thrillers, adventures, mysteries, and more, there's something here for all.















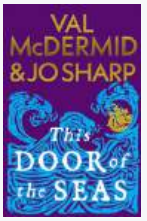


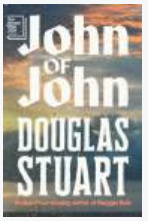


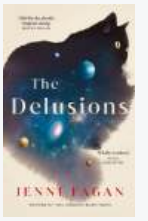
Heartstopper Vol. 6, Alice Oseman. £14.99 **Anger Is Only a Shadow,** Elizabeth Acevedo. £8.99
Piper at the Gates of Dusk, Patrick Ness. £16.99 **Marionetta,** Miriam Bonastre Tur. £12.99
Empire, Sabaa Tahir. £22 **Are You Still Watching?,** Kelechi Okafor. £8.99 **Traitors' Nest,** Frances Hardinge. £16.99
Hell to Pay, Lora Beth Johnson. £8.99 **Bridget and Gabe Are Not Okay,** Lex Croucher. £8.99

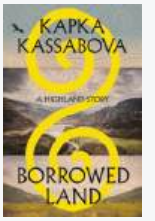
Picks from Scotland

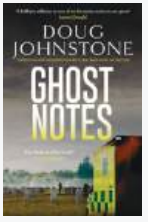
Highlighting the incredible Scottish literary scene is something we're always keen to do, and this year is no exception! Here's a wonderful list of books from some of the best Scotland-based authors writing today (or in the last century, in the case of Agnes Owens, whose books we were thrilled to see re-issued this year).

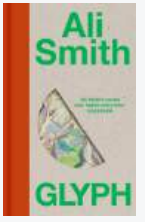






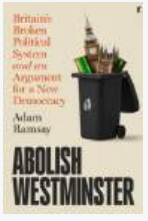


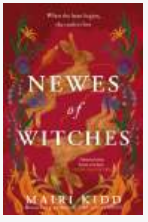


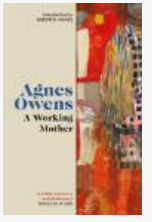






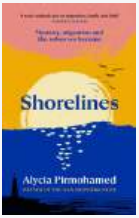




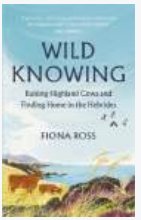




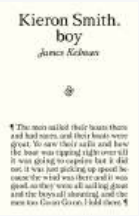
This Door of the Seas, Val McDermid & Jo Sharp. £12 **John of John,** Douglas Stuart. £20 **The Delusions,** Jenni Fagan. £18.99
Borrowed Land: A Highland Story, Kapka Kassabova. £22 **Ghost Notes,** Doug Johnstone. £9.99 **Glyph,** Ali Smith. £20
With My Own Hand, Ashley Douglas. £22 **The Cromarty Library Circle,** Shona Maclean. £22
Abolish Westminster, Adam Ramsay. £20 **Newes of Witches,** Mairi Kidd. £16.99 **A Working Mother,** Agnes Owens. £8.99
The Bone Cave, Dougie Strang. £10.99





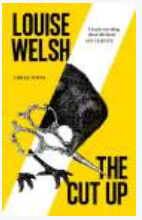








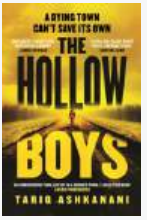




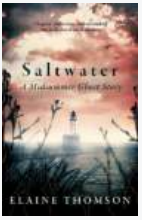












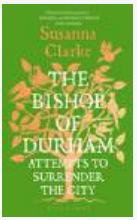


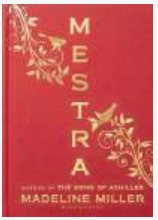


Shorelines, Alycia Pirmohamed. £18.99 **Boyhood,** David Keenan. £23 **Wild Knowing,** Fiona Ross. £16.99
Raveheart, Graeme Armstrong. £16.99 **Kieron Smith, boy,** James Kelman. £16.99
Three Brothers in a Boat, The Maclean Brothers. £22 **The Repentants,** Kate Foster. £18.99
The Cut Up, Louise Welsh. £16.99 **A Bad, Bad Place,** Frances Crawford. £16.99 **Quite Ugly One Evening,** Chris Brookmyre. £22
Awake Awake, Fiona Mozley. £20 **The Hollow Boys,** Tariq Ashkanani. £18.99 **My Death,** Lisa Tuttle. £9.99
Saltwater, Elaine Thomson. £18.99 **Everything Everyday,** Hannah Lavery. £10.99
Publisher Not Found, Heather McDaid & Laura Jones-Rivera. £7.50

Stocking Fillers

We all know the struggle of choosing gifts during the festive season, so we've chosen some lovely giftable books from the year that are perfect stocking fillers for all of the book-loving people in your life!





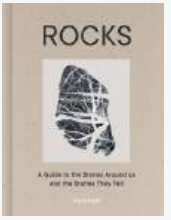




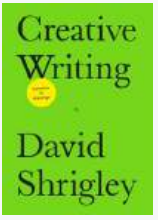




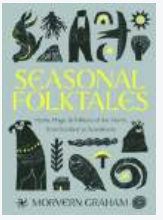










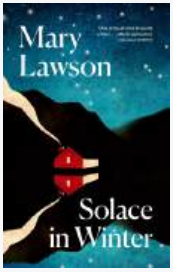


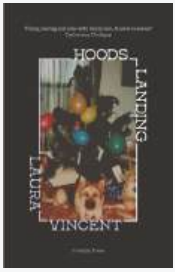
The Bishop of Durham Attempts to Surrender the City, Susanna Clarke. £10.99 **Mestra,** Madeline Miller. £9.99
The Bridge, Colm Tóibín. £12.99 **On Difficulty (and Poetry),** Lavinia Greenlaw. £12.99
Postcards That Tell a Story, Various. £25 **Phenomenal Woman and Other Poems,** Maya Angelou. £10
Tree, Aya Kōda (tr. Charlotte Goff). £11.99 **Rocks,** Vojta Hybl. £15.99 **Napoleon's Orangutan,** Katherine Rundell. £10
Creative Writing, David Shrigley. £20 **We Need to Tax Billionaires,** Gabriel Zucman. £9.99
Seasonal Folktales, Morvern Graham. £16.99

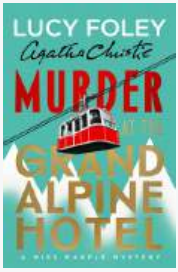
Festive Reads

If you're someone who loves to lean into the Christmas spirit then check out our selection of festive reads to truly get you in the mood this winter. There's plenty of crime, a sprinkle of baking, some family drama, and even an exploration of Christmas No.1 singles.

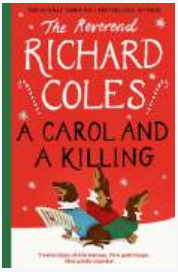




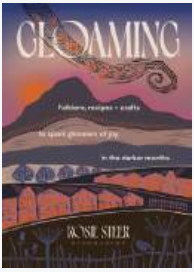


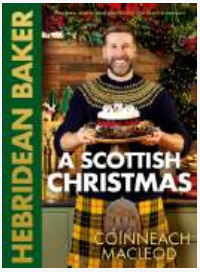












The Winter Guest, Sarah Moss. £12.99 **Solace in Winter,** Mary Lawson. £18.99
Hoods Landing, Laura Vincent. £12.99 **Murder at the Grand Alpine Hotel,** Lucy Foley. £22
Do You See What I See?, Peter Swanson. £10 **A Carol and a Killing,** Reverend Richard Coles. £14.99
The Twelve Songs of Christmas, Bob Stanley. £14.99 **Gloaming,** Rosie Steer. £18.99
Hebridean Baker: A Scottish Christmas, Coinneach MacLeod. £26

Games & Puzzles

Looking for a new board game to bring out after Christmas dinner? Look no further! We've compiled a list of some of our favourite games and puzzles that are sure to keep spirits high (and competitive) on those cold, wintry nights.

























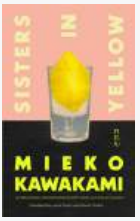
The World of the Odyssey & Other Greek Myths. £18.99 **Flip 7**. £9.99 **Azul**. £42.99 **Seaside**. £25 **Mysterium**. £36.99 **Happy Little Dinosaurs**. £19.99 **Spots**. £12.50 **Taco Cat Goat Cheese Pizza**. £11.99 **Fungi**. £13.99 **Root,** £59.99 **Mythologies,** £35 **Happy Salmon,** £12.99



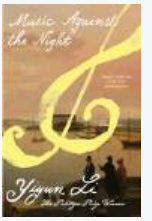
Our website offers **millions of titles**, including many **signed and exclusive editions** that are available to order for **delivery or collection**. You can browse our **bookseller picks**, sign up to and rewatch our **events**, purchase and use **gift cards**, and find our **special merch** too! **Shipping is available worldwide, we offer gift wrapping and will add a bookmark to every order.**

Fiction

Novels take up a huge part of our staff picks, but for good reason! So many incredible literary titles were published this year, here's a look into some of the ones we highly recommend checking out.

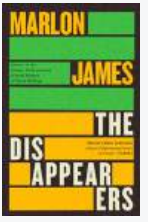






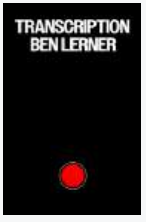


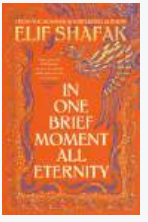




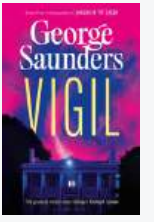




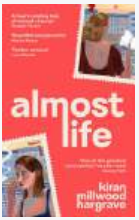




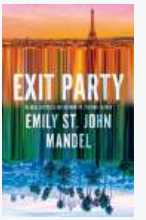




Sisters in Yellow, Mieko Kawakami (tr. Hitomi Yoshio & Laurel Taylor). £16.99 **Partita,** Barbara Kingsolver. £20
Music Against the Night, Yiyun Li. £20 **Land,** Maggie O'Farrell. £25 **Taipei Story,** Rebecca F Kuang. £22
The Disappearers, Marlon James. £20 **Ply,** Hernan Diaz. £20 **The Typing Lady and Other Stories,** Ruth Ozeki. £18.99
Transcription, Ben Lerner. £14.99 **In One Brief Moment All Eternity,** Elif Shafak. £20 **Cool Machine,** Colson Whitehead. £22
Vigil, George Saunders. £18.99







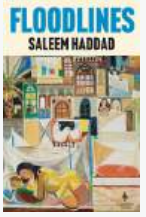


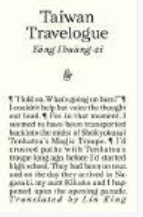




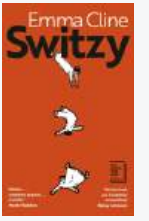


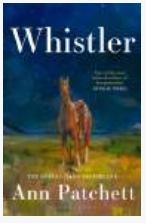






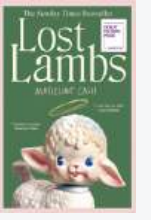








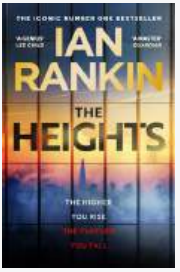




Almost Life, Kiran Millwood Hargrave. £16.99 **Yesteryear,** Caro Claire Burke. £16.99 **Exit Party,** Emily St. John Mandel. £18.99
American Hagwon, Min Jin Lee. £25 **Black Bag,** Luke Kennard. £18.99 **A Real Piece of Work,** Freya Bromley. £16.99
The Midnight Train, Matt Haig. £20 **I Want You to Be Happy,** Jem Calder. £14.99 **Floodlines,** Saleem Haddad. £14.99
Taiwan Travelogue, Yáng Shuāng-zǐ (tr. Lin King). £14.99 **The Things We Never Say,** Elizabeth Strout. £18.99
Switzy, Emma Cline. £18.99 **Whistler,** Ann Patchett. £20 **May We Feed the King,** Rebecca Perry. £14.99
Kin, Tayari Jones. £18.99 **Lost Lambs,** Madeline Cash. £16.99

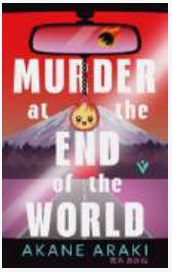
Crime & Thriller

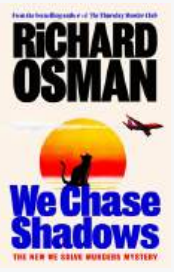
The mystery of Evelyn Clarke took the literary crime scene by storm this year, and we were sucked into it too! Not to mention the latest from the likes of Ian Rankin, Abir Mukherjee and Kim Sherwood that have been keeping us hooked throughout 2026.

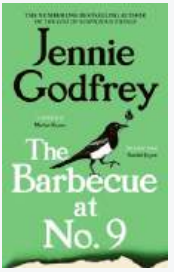


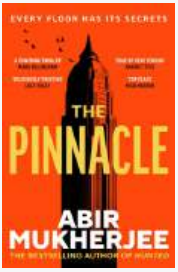














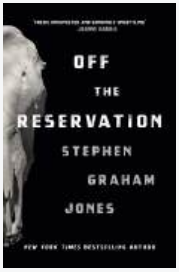


The Heights, Ian Rankin. £25 **The Ending Writes Itself,** Evelyn Clarke. £16.99 **Hurricane Room,** Kim Sherwood. £18.99
Murder at the End of the World, Akane Araki (tr. Jesse Kirkwood). £14.99 **We Chase Shadows,** Richard Osman. £25
The Barbecue at No.9, Jennie Godfrey. £16.99 **The Pinnacle,** Abir Mukherjee. £16.99 **Honey,** Imani Thompson. £16.99
Astronaut!, Oana Aristide. £14.99

Gothic & Horror

Our Gothic & Horror section has grown this year, and with it our recommendations! Here's a few highlights if you're someone who likes to carry the spooky vibes throughout winter.

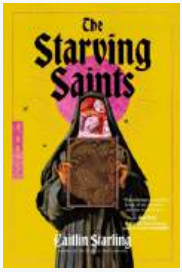


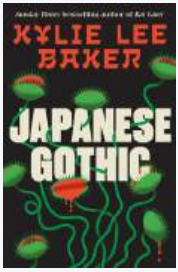












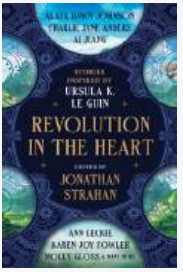




Between Two Fires, Christophe Buehlman. £22 **Off the Reservation,** Stephen Graham Jones. £19.99
Bury Your Dead, Ana Paula Maia (tr. Padma Viswanathan). £11.99 **The Hill in the Dark Grove,** Liam Higginson. £9.99
Home Sick, Rhiannon Grist. £9.99 **Starving Saints,** Caitlin Starling. £10.99 **Japanese Gothic,** Kylie Lee Baker. £22
Night Babies, Lucie McKnight Hardy. £10.99 **Headlights,** CJ Leede. £22

Sci-fi

Space operas, UFO cults, and post-apocalyptic adventures, our Science Fiction picks this year are equal parts unsettling and thrilling, and all of them are sure to leave you wanting more.



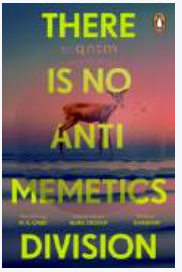




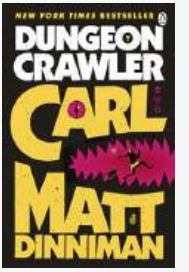








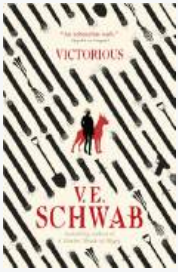


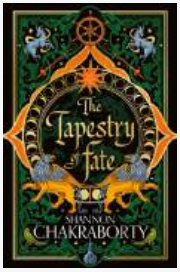


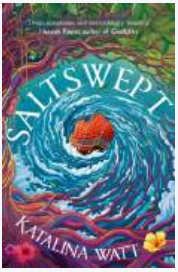
Revolution in the Heart, Jonathan Strahan (ed.). £22 **The End of Everything,** M. John Harrison. £16.99
Public Access Afterworld, Jane Schoenbrun. £20 **Not With a Bang,** Temi Oh. £20 **Massif,** Garth Nix. £25
As You Wake, Break The Shell, Becky Chambers. £22 **There Is No Antimemetics Division,** qntm. £9.99
The Last Contract of Isako, Fonda Lee. £22 **Dungeon Crawler Carl,** Matt Dinniman. £9.99

Fantasy

A dose of escapism, these fantasy titles are the perfect way to transport yourself to alternate worlds this festive season. They include the latest releases from Edinburgh-based authors V. E. Schwab, Katalina Watt and Hannah Kaner!







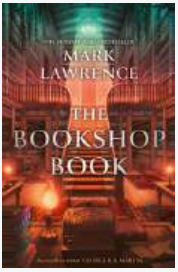








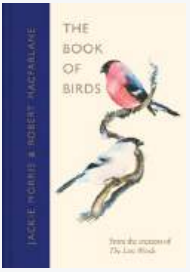




Victorious, V.E. Schwab. £20 **The Tapestry of Fate,** Shannon Chakraborty. £18.99 **Saltswept,** Katalina Watt. £20
A Snake Among Swans, Hannah Kaner. £20 **The Rainshadow Orphans,** Naomi Ishiguro. £22
A Beast Slinks Towards Beijing, Alice Evelyn Yang. £11.99 **Styx,** Nikita Gill. £20 **I Hear A New World,** Alan Moore. £22
The Bookshop Book, Mark Lawrence. £18.99

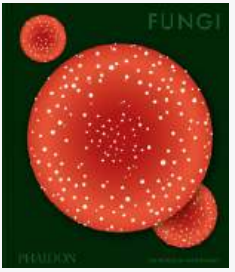
Beautiful Books

Coffee table books are a staple of gift-giving at this time of year and there's plenty of beautiful choices out there. We've chosen nine of our favourites from 2026 to help you find the perfect present for your loved ones!

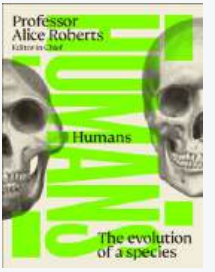




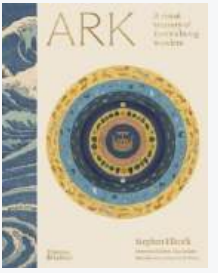










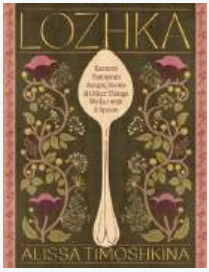


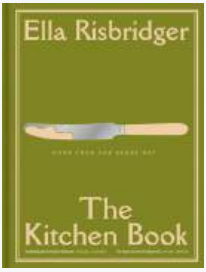


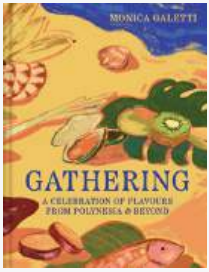
The Book of Birds, Robert Macfarlane & Jackie Morris. £35 **Fire Island Art,** John Dempsey (ed.). £49.95
The Hobbit illustrated edition, J.R.R. Tolkien & Tove Jansson. £25 **Fungi,** Various. £34.95
The Coastal Forager, Mark Williams. £28 **Humans: The Evolution of a Species,** Alice Roberts (ed.). £25
Palestine Mapped, Thomas Suarez. £40.99 **Ark,** Stephen Ellcock. £40 **Cat,** Various. £34.95

Cookery

You can never have too many cookbooks, and this year sure wasn't short of them! Whether you're looking to spice up your home cooking or eager to learn more about food origins, our picks have got you covered.

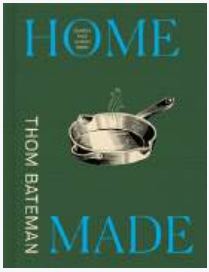




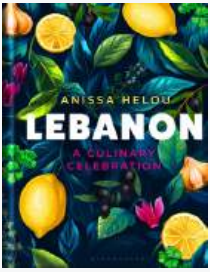










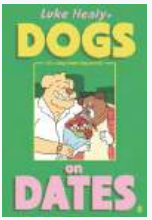




Lozhka, Alissa Timoshkina. £28 **The Kitchen Book,** Ella Risbridger. £26 **Gathering,** Monica Galetti. £26
Simple Too, Yotam Ottolenghi & Verena Lochmuller. £30 **Scran,** Ali Stoner. £27 **Home Made,** Thom Bateman. £26
Vegetable Recipes, Jess Elliott Dennison. £23.50 **Lebanon,** Anissa Helou. £30 **The Spinster Cookbook,** Eli Davies. £14.99

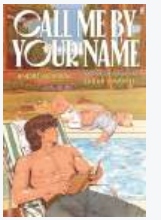
Graphic Novels & Comics

Graphic novels make the perfect gift! Some staff favourites from this year include Lizzy Stewart's beautiful book *The Wreck*, Tilly Walden's queer romance *Charity and Sylvia*, and Luke Healy's laugh-out-loud *Dogs on Dates*, to name but a few.

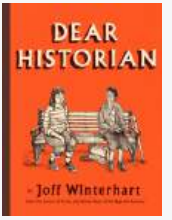


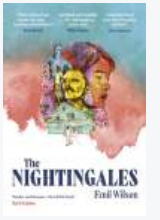




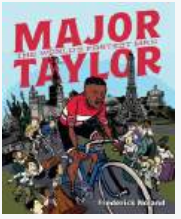


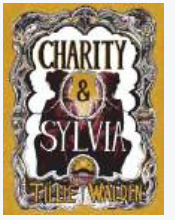


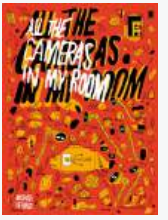










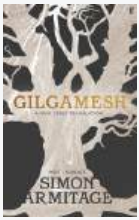




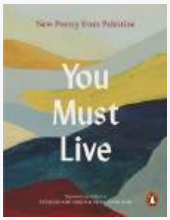
Dogs on Dates, Luke Healy. £16.99 **The Wreck,** Lizzy Stewart. £25 **The Book of Murmurs,** Candice Purwin. £16.99
Call Me By Your Name, André Aciman & Sarah Maxwell. £16.99 **Anxietyland,** Gemma Correll. £25
Dear Historian, Joff Winterhart. £20 **The Nightingales,** Emil Wilson. £25 **Gigs,** Mark Mosedale & Si Smith. £23
Major Taylor, Frederick Noland. £25 **Charity and Sylvia,** Tillie Walden. £25
All the Cameras in my Room, Michael de Forge. £20 **The Jellyfish King,** Brecht Evens. £30

Poetry

Brilliant new collections from Peter Scalpello, Roshni Gallagher, and Victoria Chang hit our shelves this year, as well as many more incredible works that are the ideal gift for well-versed poetry readers and newcomers alike.



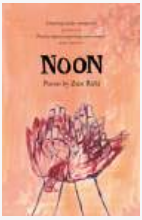




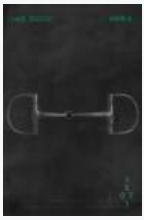


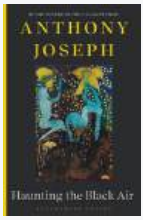












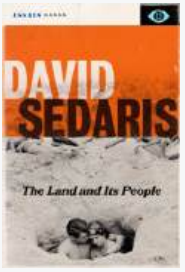




Gilgamesh, Simon Armitage. £14.99 **Perennial Counterpart,** Yongyu Chen. £12.99
You Must Live, Tayseer Abu Odeh & Sherah Bloor (eds.). £12.99 **Fetch,** Colin Bramwell. £14.99
Even the Trees, Roshni Gallagher. £12.99 **Mirrorstage,** Peter Scalpello. £11.99 **Noon,** Zain Rishi. £7.99
Belling the Leopard, Clementine Ewokolo Burnley. £14 **Horses,** Jake Skeets. £16.99
Haunting the Black Air, Anthony Joseph. £12.99 **Tree of Knowledge,** Victoria Chang. £14.99
Girling, Eve Esfandiari-Denney. £12.99

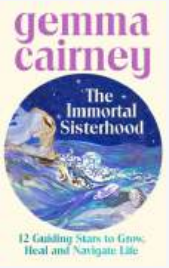
Essays & Memoir

Here at the shop we love a good memoir or essay collection. This year, we particularly enjoyed spending time with David Sedaris' and Courttia Newland's new books, being guided by Gemma Cairney's constellation of twelve inspirational women, and Doireann Ní Ghríofa's spellbinding *Said the Dead*.



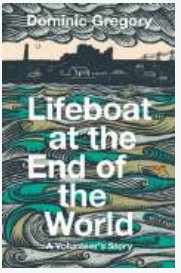


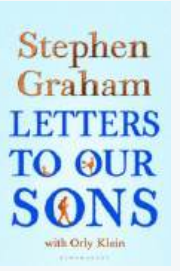


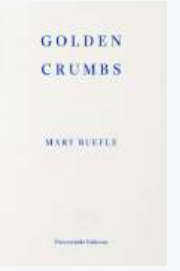










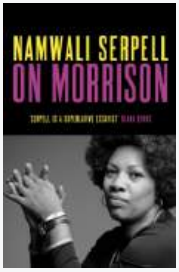


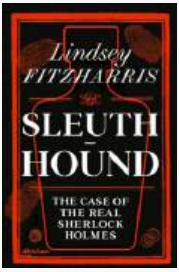
The Land and Its People, David Sedaris. £20 **The Art of Opposition,** Courttia Newland. £16.99
Terrestrial, Cristina Rivera Garza (tr. Christina MacSweeney). £16.99 **The Immortal Sisterhood,** Gemma Cairney. £16.99
Said the Dead, Doireann Ní Ghríofa. £18.99 **North of the Winter Sun,** Veronica Skotnes (tr. Diane Oatley). £14.99
Lifeboat at the End of the World, Dominic Gregory. £18.99 **Letters to Our Sons,** Stephen Graham & Orly Klein. £22
Golden Crumbs, Mary Ruefle. £14.99

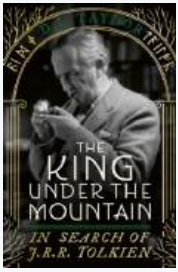
Biography & Performing Arts

Discover all about the life and work of literary greats J.R.R. Tolkien, Toni Morrison and Muriel Spark with these brand new biographies. This year, some beloved cultural figures have also treated us to new autobiographies – featured below!

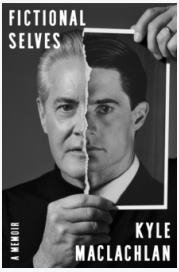














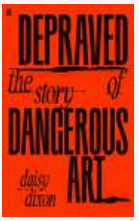




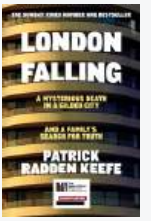
Like a Cat Loves a Bird, James Bailey. £20 **On Morrison,** Namwali Serpell. £25 **Sleuth-Hound,** Lindsey Fitzharris. £25
The King Under the Mountain, D.J. Taylor. £25 **Vilgilauntie,** Meera Syal. £22 **Fictional Selves,** Kyle MacLachlan. £25
Things I Took from the Dark: The Museum of Me, Reece Shearsmith. £22 **Kids, Wait Till You Hear This!,** Liza Minnelli. £25
We Were Here, Stephanie Phillips. £20

Culture & Society

We love curating our 'best of' list for Culture & Society titles, as we always end up with a brilliantly eclectic collection. Aliens, football fanzines, folklore, suburban life and gender myths... we guarantee there's a book for you among our selection.

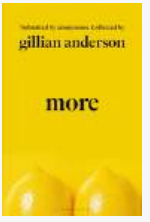








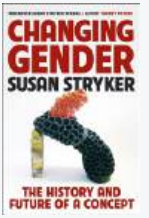




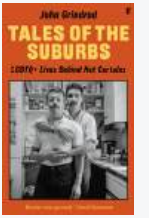








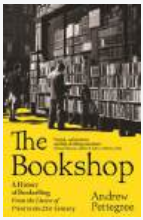




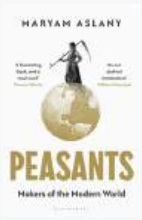
Depraved: The Story of Dangerous Art, Daisy Dixon. £20 **Vocal Break: On Women, Music & Power,** Lauren Elkin. £22
London Falling, Patrick Radden Keefe. £22 **Finding Albion,** Zakia Sewell. £26 **Sleeping Beauties,** David Byrne. £26
more, Gillian Anderson (ed.). £22 **The Castle,** Jon Ronson. £20 **Chasing Aliens,** Daniel Lavelle. £20
Nation of Strangers, Ece Temelkuran. £11.99 **Changing Gender,** Susan Stryker. £25 **Fanzine,** Daniel Gray. £20
Tales of the Suburbs: LGBTQ+ Lives Behind Net Curtains, John Grindrod. £18.99

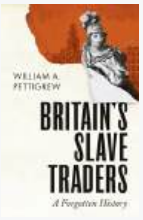
History & Politics

Featured here are books exploring the history of bookshops, cinnamon and peasantry. If our selection of political books seems a little heavy, do not blame us – they are only a reflection of the times we live in. They all offer a thorough analysis of our contemporary crises and a way forward.

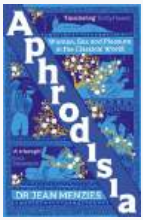




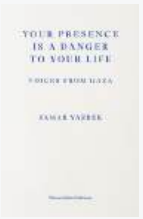




















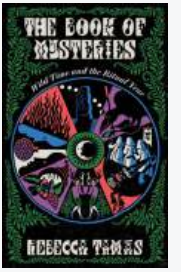
The Bookshop, Andrew Pettegree. £25
Stolen Revolution: Betrayal and Hope in Modern Iran, Bozorgmehr Sharafedin & Yeganeh Torbati. £22
Peasants: Makers of the Modern World, Maryam Aslany. £25 **Britain's Slave Traders,** William A. Pettigrew. £25
Weimar, Katja Hoyer. £30 **Aphrodisia,** Jean Menzies. £20
Cinnamon: A History of Taste and Empire, Nira Wickramasinghe. £25
Your Presence Is a Danger to Your Life, Samar Yazbek (ed.). £14.99 **End Times Fascism,** Naomi Klein & Astra Taylor. £25
Hyperpolitics, Anton Jager. £11.99 **The Common Good Economy,** Mariana Mazzucato. £25
The Beginning Comes After the End, Rebecca Solnit. £14.99

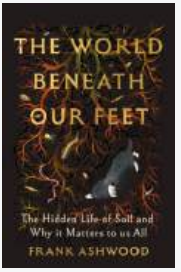
Nature & Travel

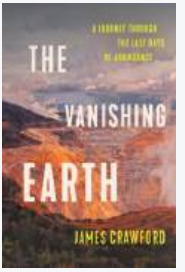
Our selection aims to give a panoramic view of the world's most remote places, to rekindle our relationship with the natural world and to deepen our understanding of the ecological crisis. It'll also make you look at trees, soil, and bogs in a completely new light.

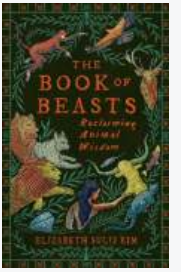






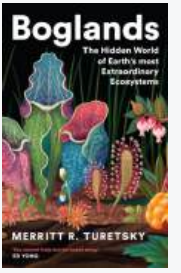








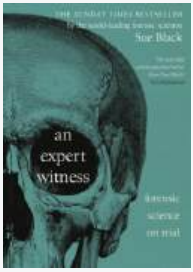




The Savage Landscape, Cal Flyn. £20 **Love is a Toad,** Lucy Lapwing. £18.99 **The Book of Mysteries,** Rebecca Tamás. £16.99
The World Beneath Our Feet, Frank Ashwood. £25 **The Vanishing Earth,** James Crawford. £25
The Book of Beasts, Elizabeth Sulis Kim. £22 **When the Forest Breathes,** Suzanne Simard. £25
Called by the Hills, Anuradha Roy. £12.99 **Boglands,** Merritt Turetsky. £20

Science & Tech

Following his bestselling book *Enshittification*, Cory Doctorow turns his attention to AI. Other topics explored in this selection of more brilliant books include forensics, human evolution, physics, the connection between art and health, and everyone's favourite Japanese company.





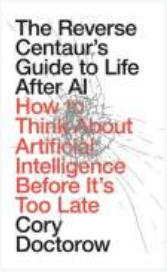


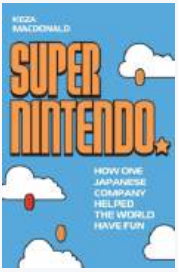










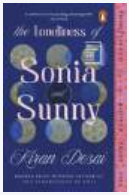


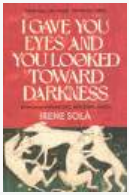
An Expert Witness, Professor Sue Black. £22 **The Unfragile Mind,** Gavin Francis. £18.99
The Age of Alchemy, Kit Chapman. £22 **On the Equality of All Things,** Carlo Rovelli (tr. Simon Carnell). £20
The Edge of Space-Time, Chanda Prescod-Weinstein. £25 **Art Cure,** Daisy Fancourt. £22
We are Not Machines, Sarah O'Connor. £20 **The Reverse Centaur's Guide to Life After AI,** Cory Doctorow. £16.99
Super Nintendo, Keza MacDonald. £20

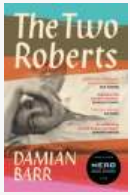
Paperbacks of the Year

For those who prefer their books in a slightly more portable format, behold our selection of paperback novels and non-fiction titles from 2026! From A (El Akkad) to W (Wynn-Williams), from queer love stories and a novel about the Minotaur as an outcast, to explorations of vanishing crafts and of our food culture, all of these books come heartily recommended by us.

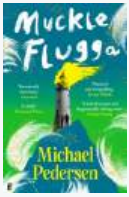






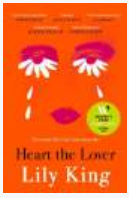




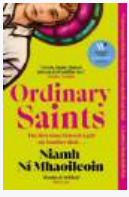


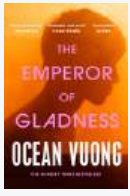








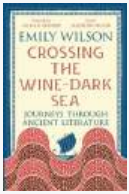


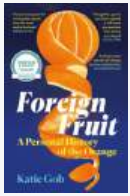


The Correspondent, Virginia Evans. £9.99 **The Loneliness of Sonia and Sunny,** Kiran Desai. £12.99
I Gave You Eyes and You Looked Toward Darkness, Irene Solà (tr. Mara Faye Lethem). £9.99
The Two Roberts, Damian Barr. £9.99 **Fundamentally,** Nussaibah Younis. £9.99 **Muckle Flugga,** Michael Pedersen. £9.99
Flesh, David Szalay. £9.99 **The Minotaur Takes A Cigarette Break,** Steven Sherrill. £9.99 **Heart the Lover,** Lily King. £9.99
A Short Stay in Hell, Steven L. Peck. £9.99 **Ordinary Saints,** Niamh Ní Mhaoileoin. £9.99
The Emperor of Gladness, Ocean Vuong. £9.99

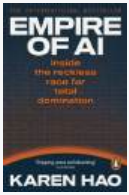














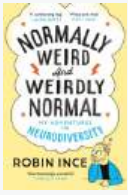


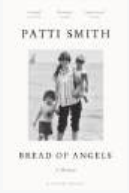


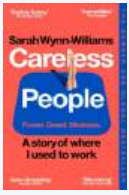


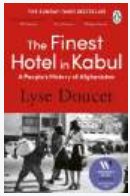












Rejection, Tony Tulathimutte. £9.99 **Beautiful Distance,** Nao-Cola Yamazaki (tr. Charlotte Goff). £9.99
Crossing the Wine-Dark Sea, Emily Wilson. £12.99 **Foreign Fruit,** Katie Goh. £10.99
One Day, Everyone Will Have Always Been Against This, Omar El Akkad. £10.99 **Empire of AI,** Karen Hao. £12.99
Legenda, Janina Ramirez. £12.99 **How to Kill A Witch,** Claire Mitchell & Zoe Venditozzi. £10.99 **Craftland,** James Fox. £12.99
Mother Mary Comes To Me, Arundhati Roy. £10.99 **Year of the Rat,** Harry Shukman. £12.99
All Consuming, Ruby Tandoh. £11.99 **Normally Weird and Weirdly Normal,** Robin Ince. £10.99
Bread of Angels, Patti Smith. £12.99 **Careless People,** Sarah Wynn-Williams. £10.99
The Finest Hotel in Kabul, Lyse Doucet. £11.99

Looking Ahead to 2027

We can't help looking ahead to the new year and to the new books it'll bring, and have selected a few to look forward to! Bookshop favourites Max Porter, Heather Parry, Martin MacInnes, Julia Armfield, Percival Everett – and more! – will all return in 2027.



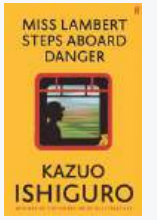








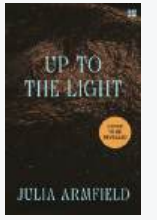


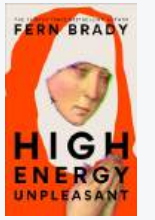












Serious Music, Percival Everett. £20 **Burn and Rave,** Max Porter. £16.99 **Song of Elyssa,** Irene Vallejo (tr. by Charlotte Whittle). £12
The Fields, Martin MacInnes. £18.99 **Irresistible Monsters,** Natalie Haynes. £20 **This Machine Feeds,** Heather Parry. £16.99
Miss Lambert Steps Aboard Danger, Kazuo Ishiguro. £18.99 **Tending,** Katherine May. £18.99
Eclipse and the Wolf, Akwaeke Emezi. £22 **The Last Days of Vic & Coco,** Taylor Jenkins Reid. £20
Up to the Light, Julia Armfield. £16.99 **High Energy Unpleasant,** Fern Brady. £20



This year we've upped our merch game and expanded our range beyond our **signature tote bags**... on top of our **small orange tote**, **large black tote** and **green weekender tote**, we're also offering **Portobello Bookshop notebooks** and **ceramic mugs**! They feature a brilliant illustration designed by one of our booksellers, **Amos O'Connor**. Find them in the bookshop and on our website.

Wishing you a Wonderful Festive Season from

The Portobello Bookshop Team!

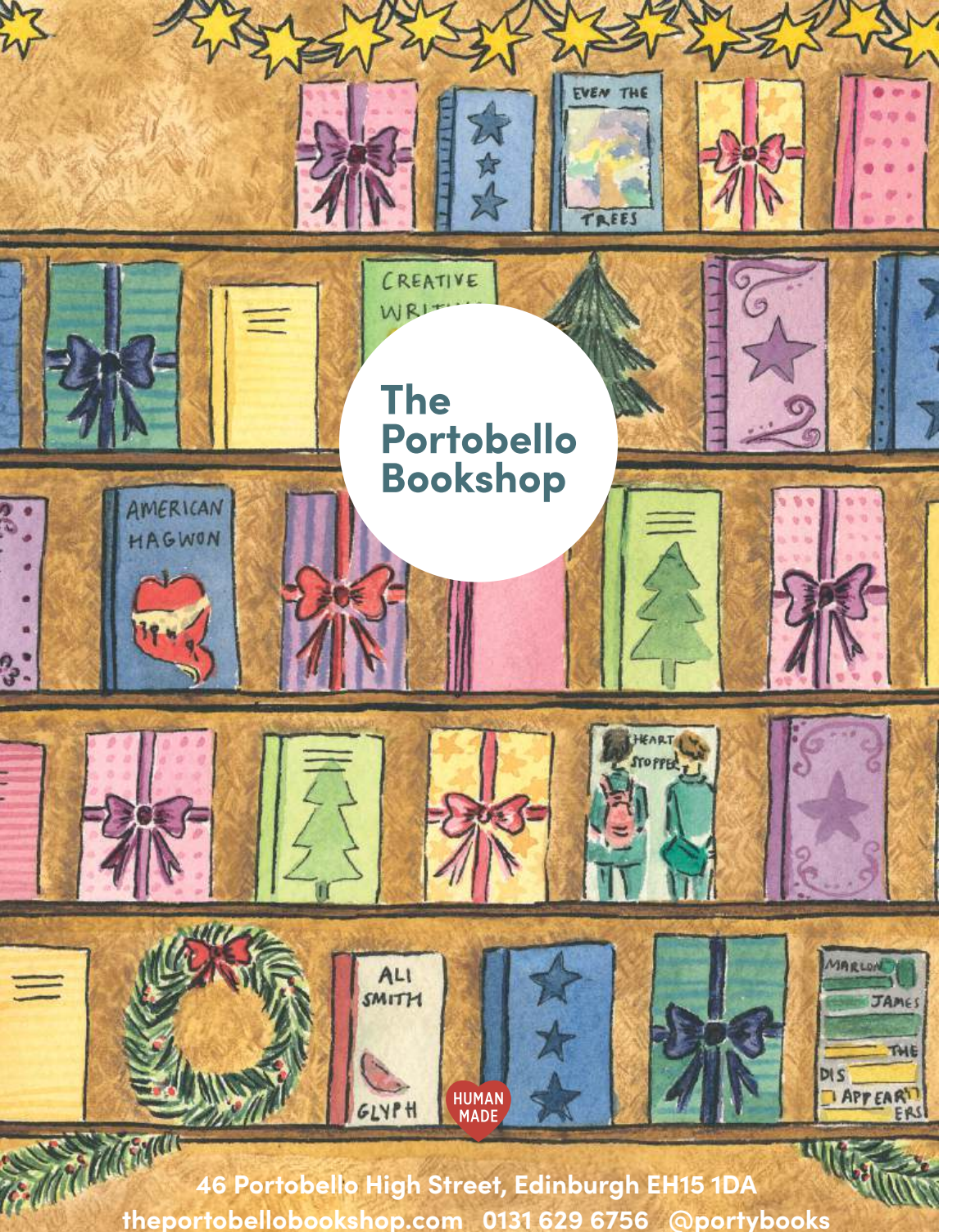


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The Portobello Bookshop

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Design: Esther Clayton, Vipond & Co.
Esther's book of 2026 is Rebecca, Daphne du Maurier.

Cover illustration: Eve Tong
Eve's book of 2026 is Dissection of a Murder, Jo Murray.