

EDITOR'S LETTER

*Glenda Bailey
on gift giving*



AS VALENTINE'S DAY approaches, my thoughts have turned to gift giving, a subject I'm quite passionate about. No matter the present, the key is delivering it with love—I'm a firm believer that it truly is the thought that counts.

The most wonderful gift I ever received was from my beloved, Stephen Sumner. He knows how much I cherish books, so he took the time to make me a tape recording of himself reading aloud one of my favorite short stories, William Boyd's "The Care and Attention of Swimming Pools," to bring along to the collections in Europe. It really was a labor of love. (He later revealed that he'd recorded it twice, after he ran out of tape on his first attempt. He had to pick up the pace on his reading, but what's more touching than taking time?) Another great gifter, my friend Manfred Kuhnert, happens to be among the best-read people I know. He gave me a delivery subscription from London's legendary **Heywood Hill** bookstore. Every month I look forward to receiving those beautifully wrapped parcels finished with a signature grosgrain ribbon. The shop itself has a storied past: Novelist Nancy Mitford worked there during World War II, and it is owned by the 12th Duke of Devonshire. It's a true national treasure. Best of all, though, the store's expert staff custom-curates a selection of books to send monthly, based on your giftee's interests. As I made my lists this year, it struck me how perfect this service would be for *Bazaar* readers, who are smart, worldly, curious, and, most of all, thoughtful. So I'm excited to announce that ShopBAZAAR is venturing beyond fashion to offer an array of bespoke gift options in collaboration with my favorite London bookseller—with love, of course, from *Bazaar*.



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