

2024 Gift Guide

For the Reader:

Book Light: I like this [one](#) (\$13) because it has multiple settings and a bendy arm. I have this [one](#) (\$11) for travel. It folds down to nothing. It's not great with hardbacks, but who travels with those, anyway?

Book Page Holder: I read constantly, especially while eating, and I can't hold my book open. I got this [little guy](#) (\$10) to hold my books when I need to be hands free. It'd also be great for cookbooks (if you don't want the commitment below).

Book Stand: I like this [one](#) (\$40) if you need more than just a hands free page holder, and want an *experience* on your counter, or for [bath time](#) (\$60).

Book Box Subscription: Over the years I've had tons of Book Box Subscriptions (prices vary) where I received special editions and goodies of mostly books I'd never heard of. It's a fun way to experience new, especially indie authors. I've subscribed to [Bookish Box](#), [Book of the Month](#), and [Once Upon a Book Club](#). For teens and YA lovers, I'd recommend [Owl Crate](#) or [Illumicrate](#). I still have my BoM subscription and love it. It's more economical and has more book options than the others. The downside is, it's a book-only subscription, so no goodies and the books are plain: no special cover art, dust jackets or sprayed edges.

Signed Copies: Every reader wants a copy signed by their favorite author (prices vary). Many indie authors offer them for sale on their website (Or you can email them. They may add your loved one to their ARC list or sign one for you. I've been asked about and done both.). The larger retailers, especially [Barnes and Noble](#) and [Books A Million](#), carry signed copies.

Candles: This one is for Readers and Writers, but a good candle sets the mood. You can buy a scented candle anywhere, but my personal favorites are from [Old Soul](#) (\$10-\$35) a woman-owned small business in New Jersey. She has the most amazing combinations. When I wrote *The Wraith's Return*, I had [Kraken](#) burning constantly. It smells like pirate legends.

For the Writer:

Notebook: Writers need to write, and we need access to a beautiful notebook. You can't go wrong with tapping into your inner Hemingway and go with [Moleskin](#) (\$25 and up) and if you want to be fancy, you can personalize it. My beautiful bestie gave me one and I cherish it.

Pens: Writers need pens as much as paper. I love these [ones](#) (\$15).

Coffee Machine: My blood is 65% straight caffeine. I need coffee like I need air, and having the [single serve](#) (\$100 and up) [recyclable pods](#) (prices vary) makes my life easier.

Editing Program: I don't pretend to be good at spelling or grammar. I have to google the difference between "past" and "passed" and "then" and "than" all the time. Having an editor widget in my word processor is a godsend. You can even get a lifetime subscription. I like [ProWriting Aid](#) (\$10 p/m and up) a writing program for writers over [Grammarly](#), but that's my personal preference.

Noise Cancelling Headphones: Some of us write with playlists, others need quiet. When I'm not at home, I need my headphones. I love my [over-the-ear ones](#) (\$200 and up). Mine are in white to match my new laptop, but I'm bougie.

Premium Music Subscription: If they're still forced to listen to commercials they are suffering. I promise you. I use [Spotify](#) (\$12 p/m and up).

Laptop: If you're looking for a big, spendy gift, I live on my laptop. It goes almost everywhere with me. I've liked the [MacBook Air](#) (\$1,099 and up) for the past four years, and just replaced mine. If you prefer a PC, I trust [Wirecutter's reviews](#), but recommend you do your research.

A Boozy (Or Not) Excuse: Writing is hard work and it's not always rewarding. Sometimes it's downright exhausting. We live in our heads all the time and it can get lonely. Often the solitude is overwhelming, and we need a break. Give us an excuse to join the real world. Perhaps with a glass of something we love, whether it be wine or whisky, tea or cocoa (Mostly Free). It doesn't matter what you use to entice us. Just remind us that there are real people who love us and want to spend their time with us. It's the greatest gift we could receive.