

More gift book suggestions

IF YOU haven't yet finished that holiday shopping, take heart. The following books may be just what you're looking for:

• **"Good Will"** (Knopf, \$16.95). This is not a novel, but two memorable novels by the author of the critically acclaimed "The Age of Grief."

In "Ordinary Love," a middle-aged, divorced mother tells her grown children of the "ancient agonies" of her divorce from their father and, as a result, learns something about their sibling pain.

In "Good Will," a young farmer and woodworker happily isolates himself and his family on a small, self-sufficient farm in Pennsylvania, only to recognize the futility of imposing one's dreams on others. If you're looking for a strong and moving story of contemporary familial relationships, look no further.

• **"African Rainbow: Across Africa by Boat"** (William Morrow, \$40) by Lorenzo and Mirilla Ricciardi. From Tanzania to the Dark Continent, to the Atlantic Ocean, the Ricciardis trekked 3,700 miles, making the first known crossing of Africa via waterways between the Indian and Atlantic oceans. Lucky for all of us armchair travelers, they recorded their amazing adventure through fine writing — and photography that is absolutely first-rate.

• **"Heartlands: An American Odyssey"** (Simon & Schuster, \$29.95) by Jane Sobel and Arthur Klonisky will delight the heart of anyone who grew up in a small town (plus all of those who wish they had). Sobel and Klonisky traveled 57,000 miles across the back roads of this country to capture the spirit of small-town America. Here, via interviews with people in places like Panacea, Fla.; Granbury, Tex.; and Mackinaw City, Mich., is what they found. Splendid photography completes the picture.

• **"Holyhocks and Radishes"** (Pickle Point Publishing, \$19.95), compiled by Bonnie Stewart Mickelson. This utterly charming, unpretentious little cookbook is comprised of plenty of recipes, thus letters to "Grandma" from "Grandson" Judy Chard, who runs a fruit and vegetable stand in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. In addition to recipes for such dishes as rhubarb bundt cake, fried green tomatoes with cheese, and corn apple hotcakes, "Holyhocks and Radishes" contains observations from "Grandma" on a mélange of Midwestern foods.

• **"John Updike's 'Just Looking: Essays on Art' (Knopf, \$35).** In 23 richly-illustrated essays, this prize-winning author (and sometimes artist) discusses in his own inimitable style, such diverse works as John Singer Sargent's portraits, Modigliani's "Reclining Nude," and Johannes Vermeer's "View of Delft." Candid and engaging, Updike's observations are consistently accessible to non-artists.

• **"Double Exposure, Take Two,"** (William Morrow, \$40). This is a collection of 125 black-and-white and 19 color portraits of famous entertainers, taken by McDowell. Among those captured on film by the actor-photographer are



book break Victoria Diaz

youngful Elizabeth Taylor, a melancholy Vivien Leigh, and a quintessentially-British Alec Guinness.

Accompanying each photo is a commentary written by a celebrity-friend of those pictured. Isaac Stern writes of Agnes DeMille, Dirk Bogarde of Ava Gardner ("Her presence is a reminder that beauty still walks the land"), Walter Matthau of Charlie Chaplin, James Stewart of Marlene Dietrich. This big, beautiful book can be great fun for anyone who has ever gone to the movies. If he ever runs out of roles to play, McDowell (who published a first photo collection, "Double Exposure," in 1966), definitely has something to fall back on.

• **"Crazy English"** (Pocket Books, \$16.95) by Richard Lederer. On these pages, readers can peruse such chapters as "A Hymn to Heronyms," "Tease Times with Verbs," and "The Strange Case of the English Language." Lederer also deals with tantalizing questions why we drive on parkways and why we park on driveways.

• **"Tracy Kidder's 'Among Schoolchildren'"** (Houghton Mifflin, \$19.95). Named one of the most notable books of 1989 by the New York Times Book Review, this is an exciting, thought-provoking account of a year the author spent "among schoolchildren" in a fifth-grade Massachusetts classroom. Kidder, whose previous works include "House" and "The Soul of the New Machine," possesses an astonishing gift for conveying the inherent drama of everyday occurrences.

If you're looking for something a little different:

• **"Born to be Bad"** (Pantheon, \$8.95), a rare collection of bound postcards, depicting advertising posters from some of the most "notorious" B-movies of the '40s and '50s. Selected by Michael Barton, the tear-out cards will bring memories of such old favorites as "High School Hellcats," "Larceny," and "Cry Baby Killer" for long-time movie buffs.

• **"Happy Origami"** (Kodansha International, \$17.95) by Toshie Takahama includes a lively introduction to the art of origami, plus paper and instructions on how to create flowers, stars, and other projects for holiday celebrations.

• **"United States Power Squadrons' Boating Court for Power and Sail"** (William Morrow, \$39.95) is a combination book-and-video set designed as an introductory course for beginners.

Try gold and white Christmas

Q. Ever since we decorated our living and dining rooms in coral red and hunter green, it has become apparent to our family that the traditional red and green Christmas decorations will blend in too much. What suggestions do you have in an alternate color scheme that maintains a traditional feeling?

A. Build all of your Christmas decorations around a white tree, using gold as the only major color statement. Reserve red for the smallest of accents to help coordinate with your coral red and hunter green harmony. A white tree will look less artificial if it ties in with other decorations throughout the house, such as white poinsettias set into brass pots.

White lends itself to certain subtleties often lost on a natural green tree. For example: instead of heavy metallic swags, use garlands of small gold ornaments and intertwine them with tiny yellow lights. Vary the hue and size of the tree ornaments by combining the bright, shiny gold ones with others in a matte or dull finish. Also consider using the transparent and flange ornaments decorated in both gold and silver. Soften the overall effect with angel and Santa faces set into the branches.

Be assured that gold and white's symbolic meaning is very appropriate for the holiday season, and as much part of it as red and green. These are the colors of glory and transcendent power; they exude affirmation, joy, and splendor. Your home will be all the more attractive for gold and white.

Q. I'm recently widowed and about to move from a home my



all about
color
Helen Diane
Vincent

husband and I shared for many years to a smaller condominium. For reasons of sentiment and practicality, I want to bring with me as many furnishings from the old home as possible. Could you give me some helpful hints on how I should approach this situation without making my new place look cluttered?

A. You can accommodate much of your furnishings as long as you pay attention to underlying conditions that influence perception. These have been confirmed by researchers and exercised by some of the best interior designers.

Because of their high reflectivity, whites and pale colors do increase a sense of openness. However, it is important to recognize that a well-worked out color harmony, using easy transitions from light to dark, from color to color is equally important. This means you can use a very wide range of favorite colors as long as they are carefully coordinated and allow your eye to scan without too many abrupt adjustments.

THOMPSON-BROWN

LIVONIA - Four bedroom, 3 1/2 bath Colonial. Neutral decor, fireplace, tile floor in family room, rec. room, sun. Fenced yard, amenity free exterior, attached garage. \$154,900 642-0703

8275 GOLFVIEW DR., UNION LAKE (N. of Commerce Rd./W. of Union Lk. Rd. ACROSS FROM GOLF COURSE. Just listed. Three bedroom, 1 1/2 bath Ranch with new kitchen, new complete bath, fabulous 27x24 family room with custom wet bar. New cedar shake roof & cedar decking, new landscaping & lawn, 2 car attached garage. \$127,500. 553-8700

FARMINGTON HILLS - SUPER FLOOR PLAN In this lovely 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home. Over 3,300 sq. ft. with family room, library, spacious foyer, first floor laundry, full basement. Very private deck, beautiful treed yard. \$224,900 553-8700

FARMINGTON HILLS - Ideal family home on a beautifully treed cul-de-sac. Very private deck and patio overlooking main commons with tennis courts and walking/jogging trails. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, library, family room, finished lower level. \$214,900 553-8700

FARMINGTON HILLS RANCH - A bit of country, custom area. Spacious, like new condition with 3 (or 4) bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, family room, basement, 2 1/2 car garage, possible 1st floor laundry. \$129,900. 553-8700

WEST BLOOMFIELD - New construction with lake privileges. Contemporary 2 story. Kitchen has European style cabinets, ceramic floor, high efficiency furnace. Large wood deck overlooking extra deep lot. Side entrance garage. \$198,900 642-0703

FARMINGTON HILLS
553-8700

BIRMINGHAM/BLOOMFIELD
642-0703

LIVONIA
261-5080

Save energy

Join a car pool. If just one more passenger climbed into each car for each trip, enough gasoline would be saved daily to power 67,000 cars traveling from San Francisco to New York and back again.

UPPER STRAITS LAKEFRONT



BREATHTAKING VIEW - all rooms overlook lake. Designed by Carl Luckenbach, this exquisite home blends with nature in a professionally landscaped setting. Eighty-five foot of skylights, soaring ceilings highlight this stunning ranch with decks and lower level walkout. Premium location.

ORCHARD LAKE ASSOCIATES

855-8600

Question:
Where is the Number One place to find the home of your dreams?

Answer:
You're Reading it! The Observer & Eccentric's Creative Living Section. Right here every Monday and Thursday!

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MOVE RIGHT IN! Sharp 4 bedroom Colonial with library or 5th bedroom on 1st floor. Cul-de-sac setting, C/A, deck and full basement. Immediate occupancy. \$184,900 851-1900 (BR)

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DELIGHTFUL DUTCH COLONIAL. Fantastic four bedroom in Farmington Hills. Large living and family rooms. Side entry garage, 3 bay windows, 10 years young! Front overlooks wooded commons. Only \$164,900 851-1900 (SC)

POPULAR KENDALLWOOD. Tri-level, 4 bedroom, 2 bath, updated kitchen and floor, steel exterior, 2 car garage door, thermal double pane windows, mint blinds, landscaping. Shows pride of ownership. \$136,900 477-1111

VALUE IN LAND - TWO AND A HALF ACRES. Prime area on Middlebelt Road, with a small home. Owner anxious for a cash deal. Check city for rezoning. Bring all offers \$139,900 477-1111

FOUR BEDROOM RANCH WITH FAMILY ROOM WITH FIREPLACE. This nice brick Ranch has in-law or guest suite, raised hearth fireplace. Has had some updating, needs carpeting. Appliances stay. \$67,500 477-1111

IDEAL LOCATION CONDO. Two bedroom end unit, easy access to 696 xway, shopping. Carpet throughout, laundry room same floor. Pool and tennis courts. \$81,900 477-1111

OPEN SUNDAY 2-5 P.M.

FARMINGTON HILLS
2255 Fox Creek, \$193,900 477-1111
31550 River Bend, \$218,000 477-1111
35710 Frederickburg, \$169,900 477-1111

GARDEN CITY
31561 Bridge St., \$81,900 326-2000

WESTLAND
31704 Ivoire, \$80,900 326-2000
6655 Wadwood, \$173,500 326-2000

BLOOMFIELD
1530 Gorton, \$219,000 644-4700

4531 River Trail, \$724,900 644-4700
1770 Alexander, \$285,000 644-4700
1766 Alexander, \$265,000 644-4700

SOUTHFIELD
28608 Red Leaf Lane, \$57,900 644-4700

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3672 Ridgegate, \$279,000 644-4700

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31951 Twelve Mile Road, \$61,500 477-1111

Real Estate One

Our 60th Year

VERY DESIRABLE THREE BEDROOM one and a half story home with basement, and Florida room connecting house and garage. Close to downtown Farmington, library, shopping, theatre. For starters or retirees. Fantastic location. \$96,900 477-1111

NEAT THREE BEDROOM RANCH. Close to town. Full semi-finished basement. Large garage, hardwood floors, fenced yard. Located in Plymouth. Just waiting for a new owner! \$79,900 348-6430

BEAUTIFUL 2 BEDROOM RANCH. Corner lot 2 car detached garage. Enclosed sun porch with sliding doors. Finished basement, wet bar, roof 1 year old. Fireplace in living room w/vertical blinds. Custom built seating & table breakfast area. \$49,900 553-2300

COLONIAL CHARM! Bloomfield Hills Schools. Central. Florida room with space for spa, appals, decking with panoramic view. Professionally landscaped corner lot. Kitchen has lovely terrarium. \$207,000 644-4700

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SOUTHFIELD SPECIAL. 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath center entrance Colonial. Family room w/fireplace, library, mudroom, 2 car attached garage. Cul-de-sac street. Needs TLC. Price right. \$105,000 559-2300

NOT A DRIVE BY! This 4 bedroom, contemporary offers many nice features. All newer vinyl windows, newer roof. Kitchen appliances stay. Lake access to all sports Walled Lake. \$79,900 348-6430

LOOKING FOR THE BEST? Southfield! Here's the sturdy stability of a fine Antonelli built home. 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths Ranch with finished deck. Magnificent large kitchen with custom cherry cupboards. \$129,600 (INI) 681-6700

HISTORICAL HOME W/CHARM. Fantastically updated home in Farmington. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Private inviting garden viewed from Womansland deck. Magnificent large kitchen with custom cherry cupboards. \$129,600 (INI) 681-6700

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WEST BLOOMFIELD 851-6000

LATHRUP VILLAGE 559-2300
BLOOMFIELD HILLS 644-4700

FARMINGTON 477-1111
COMMERCIAL 353-4400