

DESIGN & DETAILS

Encyclopedia of the Exquisite: An Anecdotal History of Elegant Delights

Jessica Kerwin Jenkins

Doubleday, \$15.97

This gilded, graceful book is nothing less than a miniature encyclopedia of style, exploring everything from the origins of badminton to the art of origami to Louis XIV's love of the Baroque year.

I Wonder

Marian Bantjes

The Monacelli Press, \$26.40 In this sumptuous little book—its covers encrusted with gold and silver embossing—Bantjes, a visual artist, riffs on the things that inspire us, managing to be

simultaneously playful, provocative, and funny.

Paper Blossoms: A Book of Beautiful Bouquets for the Table

Ray Marshall
Chronicle Books, \$23.10 Real flowers wilt, so this eye-catching display of pop-up floral extravagance

comes with a built-in advantage. Five bouquets, featuring roses, lilies, lily even a lotus water garden* are ready to be arranged as a centerpiece (aroma not included).

Pattern

Oriol Kieley
Corbis, \$23.09 Fans of the European designer will

cheer for this handsome tome, flaunting Kieley's signature prints—sunny, bold, and bright—alongside explanations of her methods and inspirations.

A Perfectly Kept House Is the Sign of a Misspent Life
Marly Randolph-Carter

Rizzoli, \$34.65 Messy people, rejoice! Finally, here's a book made expressly for you—a lavishly photographed design bible that celebrates living stylishly, creatively, and, above all else, happily without fretting about whether everything is in its proper place.



HISTORY REVISITED

Pride and Prejudice: An Annotated Edition
Jane Austen

Balknap Press, \$29.10 Austen's most famous novel needs no introduction, but it does benefit from the hundreds of loving notes—historical references, vocab tips, and more—provided by Austen scholar Patricia Meyer Spacks.

The New York Times Complete Civil War 1861-1865
Edited by Harold Holzer & Craig L. Symonds
Black Dog & Leventhal, \$24 The book and accompanying DVD-ROM overflow with 100,000 documents from the Times archive chronicling the war that Bill Clinton, in the foreword, calls the "most transformative conflict in our history."

ART & FILM

Frida Kahlo: Face to Face
Judy Chicago & Frances Borgello

Prestel, \$40.95 Fittingly, the cover of this retrospective, which examines Kahlo's work from a feminist perspective, evokes a Silver-tooled Mexican *retablo*.

Designs on Film: A Century of Hollywood Art Direction
Carly Whitlock
It Books, \$47.25



This lush book of pictures and drawings showcases big-screen glamour over the decades, from the opulence of *Casablanca* to the more modern majesty of *Batman Begins*.

The Sounds of Star Wars
IW Ringler
Chronicle Books, \$37.80 What would *Sar* *Wag*

be without the whoosh of a lightsaber or the howl of Chewbacca? This interactive book not only categorizes the familiar sounds from the beloved universe but can actually play more than 250 of them thanks to an attached exterior speaker.

Islamic Art
Luca Mozzati
Prestel, \$61.67 Fourteen centuries' worth of glorious mosaics, carpets, paintings, and more—many off-limits in places like Iran and Iraq—adorn these pages.

