

Book 'Em, Dano

Now's the time for beautiful books for your coffee tables, stockings, and travel bags.

Extreme Entertaining Made Simple by Eduardo Xol (Celebra Hardcover; \$27.95). Author and home-revamp magician Xol (of ABC's *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*) takes a sensorial approach to DIY extravaganzas in this sunny offering for hot-shot hosts. It comes complete with savvy decorating tips and recipes, plus a CD for those uninterested in creating their own party playlists.

Gilding Lily by Tatiana Boncompagni (Avon A; \$13.95). If you adore watching socials climb over one another to get to the top—and you enjoy the idea of an insider disguised as an outsider disguised as an insider—this clever offering from the wry-minded Boncompagni fits the bill (and fits nicely in your standard-size stocking). You may be saying to yourself, “*Gossip Girl*,” but *Gossip Girl* wishes.

Hollywood Pinups by Timothy White (Collins Design; \$39.95). Pin-ups are an American institution, a little hot-blooded inspiration to get you through the day. Now, legendary photographer Timothy White has coaxed top actresses into naughty get-ups and out in front of his lens. Kate Hudson, Téa Leoni, Susan Sarandon, and the Olsen double threat are all in on the cheesecake-y fun.

L.A. Modern with introduction by Nicolai Ouroussoff and photographs by Tim Street-Porter (Rizzoli; \$75). Up the chic factor of your sitting room with this sublime look at the modern architectural marvels around our beautiful burg. Street-Porter immortalizes LA's most influential houses—think Koenig, Lautner, Eames, and Gehry—while *New York Times* architecture critic Ouroussoff extols these buildings' boundary-defying virtues.

Narciso Rodriguez by Narciso Rodriguez and Betsy Berne (Rizzoli; \$75). The Narciso Rodriguez aesthetic looks perfect in LA, with its unfussy silhouettes, forward-thinking construction, and impeccable color palette. This glossy coffee-table tome is complete with gorgeous full-page looks, inspiring images, and firsthand insight into this master's creative process. If you've loved him from afar, now's your chance to get up close and personal.

