

## Gifts with Story

A holiday guide to gifts made all the more meaningful for their amazing backstories

November 21, 2018 by Nick Veronin, Jennifer Wadsworth & Julia Baum

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Flying off the shelves at purveyor of fine menswear, Hapertas & Company, are tins of Bawston & Tucker's shea butter-based solid colognes.

## BOOKS

### Ara the Star Engineer

[arastarengineer.com](http://arastarengineer.com)

Thanks to many brave women sharing their stories of men behaving horribly, young girls everywhere have reason to believe they'll be treated better than their mothers in the workforce. *Ara the Star Engineer* is a children's book that aims to reinforce that message. Written by a Googler Komal Singh, the illustrated story tells the tale of a young girl who is seriously into math, robots and all things tech—and makes it clear that computer science isn't just some boys club.

### For the Love of Apricots

[fortheloveofapricots.com](http://fortheloveofapricots.com)

For the avid baker on your gift list, *For the Love of Apricots* by local author Lisa Prince Newman shares recipes and remembrances of the fruit that made this region famous long before the tech boom. The Valley of Heart's Delight flourished for 100 years, from the California Gold Rush until World War II, with family farms spreading across 125 square miles. Then, as now, the area enjoys coastal cooling through its northern border with the San Francisco Bay and inland warmth from the protective Coast Range Mountains that frame it to the east and west. Blessed with some of the richest topsoil in the world and a nearly year-round growing season, the Valley of Heart's Delight was unique for its agricultural productivity and fruit orchard production. Featuring 129 full-color photographs, the book is one part historical document, one part cookbook.