

# #Trending Now

#culture

## Dates With A Difference

Cut out the following and leave on your partner's pillow for a Valentine's Day you'll never forget

### 1 Chocoholics Anonymous

Forget exchanging boxes of chocolates – it's time to up the ante and pop along to Hotel Chocolat in Leeds instead. For £50 per person, you'll learn to make your own truffles, sip on Prosecco and receive a goodie bag each.

■ [Hotelchocolat.com](http://Hotelchocolat.com)



### 2 For Star-Crossed Lovers

Grab your telescope (we all have one, right?) and head to the National Space Centre for an 'out of this world' date. Cocktails and dinner are followed by a tour of the night sky in the planetarium. £80 per couple.

■ [Spacecentre.co.uk/special-events/valentine](http://Spacecentre.co.uk/special-events/valentine)



### 3 Romance On The Horizon

Forget B&Bs and book a night on a huge boat on the Thames. Indulge in a relaxing Elemis Face and Body Sensation (£85 for 55 mins), then admire the skyline from your suite at The Sunborn London, a yacht/hotel. Prices from £120 per night.

■ [Sunbornhotels.com/london](http://Sunbornhotels.com/london)



### 4 And If You're Single...

Want to avoid Valentine's Day like the plague? Head to ping-pong cocktail bar Bounce in London, where you can join in round-table tournaments called 'Single and Proud' and 'Cupid's Day Off'. Slow dancing is strictly forbidden.

■ [Bouncepingpong.com](http://Bouncepingpong.com)



'We only called for a plumber but, hey, you three can come in!'

WORDS: JO USHAR PHOTOS: TRUNK ARCHIVE

#books



### Second Life

by SJ Watson (£14.99, Doubleday)

This much-anticipated second novel by the author of *Before I Go To Sleep* (which was made into a blockbuster movie) is about a wife and mother who becomes obsessed with a stranger. Read now before the inevitable film release.

Out 12 February

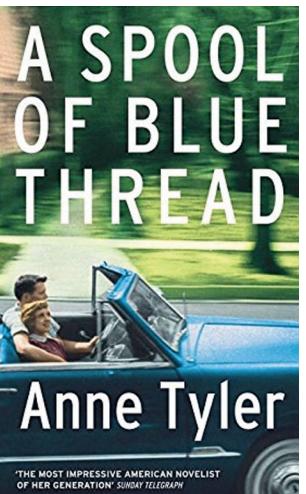


### The Glam Guide

by Fleur De Force (£14.99, Headline)

The YouTube generation continue to dominate, and vlogger Fleur is the latest to publish a book based on her online profile. The Glam Guide covers make-up tips, wardrobe cheats and first-date pointers.

Out 10 February



### A Spool Of Blue Thread

by Anne Tyler (£18.99, Chatto & Windus)

This new book from the Pulitzer Prize-winning author delves deep into family life, exploring the memories, hopes, fears, tensions and rivalries of the Whitshanks, the archetypal 'normal' family.

#apps

### Givvit

This app lets you buy vouchers for chocolates, pizzas, coffee, flowers, wine, beer or cinema tickets for your friends from afar. You buy the voucher, ping it to them via the app and they can cash it at various stores. Present buying has never been so easy.



### Down Dog

Absent dad Frank tries to reconnect with his dying teenage son, Sam, by teaching him how to pick up women and drink. The trouble is, Sam's not really dying. His mum only told him he was to kick some life into him. A brilliantly dark comedy.

Out 13 February

