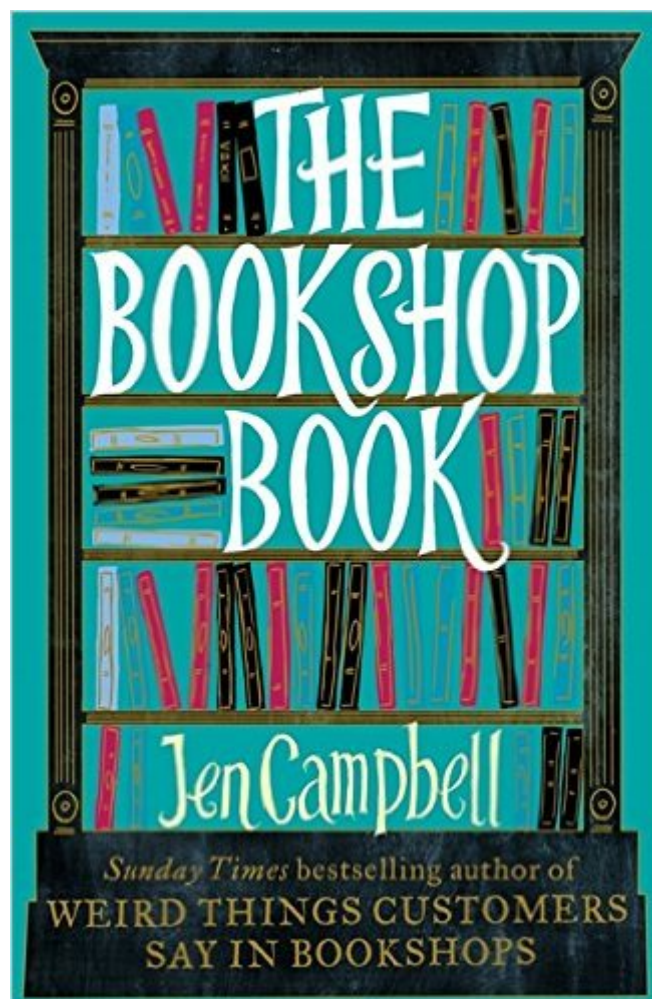


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Bookshop Book



Synopsis

We're not talking about rooms that are just full of books. We're talking about bookshops in barns, disused factories, converted churches and underground car parks. Bookshops on boats, on buses, and in old run-down train stations. Fold-out bookshops, undercover bookshops, this-is-the-best-place-I've-ever-been-to-bookshops. Meet Sarah and her Book Barge sailing across the sea to France; meet Sebastien, in Mongolia, who sells books to herders of the Altai mountains; meet the bookshop in Canada that's invented the world's first antiquarian book vending machine. And that's just the beginning. From the oldest bookshop in the world, to the smallest you could imagine, *The Bookshop Book* examines the history of books, talks to authors about their favourite places, and looks at over three hundred weirdly wonderful bookshops across six continents (sadly, we've yet to build a bookshop down in the South Pole). *The Bookshop Book* is a love letter to bookshops all around the world. --"A good bookshop is not just about selling books from shelves, but reaching out into the world and making a difference." David Almond (*The Bookshop Book* includes interviews and quotes from David Almond, Ian Rankin, Tracy Chevalier, Audrey Niffenegger, Jacqueline Wilson, Jeanette Winterson and many, many others.)

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Customer Reviews

This book is literally packed with anecdotes, interviews and stories about readers love affair with bookshops. Although much of the book (approximately half) deals with the UK, this is also a worldwide tour â “ from Africa, South America, Australasia, Asia, there are countless examples of how the bookshop is flourishing. There are Camel Library Services for nomadic communities,

bookshops in barns, stations, piers and on board boats. There are even books about bookshops, such as "The Bookshop that Floated Away," plus countless stories of people who followed their dream "and it is a brave dream in these uncertain times" of opening a bookshop. Many have pets, including my favourite, the rabbit, Napoleon Bunnyparte, and others even have book bands. As there are countless examples of people falling in love with various bookshops "and, of those who own them, having love stories of their own" this is very much a book about the people involved in the selling and reading as much as the books themselves. You have to say, though, that obviously reading is very much a human story and without people the books cannot come alive. There would be nobody to write them for, nobody to read them, or to dream up lovely names for bookshops, such as "Elvis Shakespeare" (a music and bookstore), to organise events and book festivals and reading groups. If you are a reader then you will be intrigued, fascinated and delighted by this volume. It is packed with interviews, with booksellers as well as authors, such as Emma Donoghue, Joanne Harris, Bill Bryson and Jacqueline Wilson contributing, as well as wonderful bookish facts. Did you know that Shakespeare wrote a curse for his headstone, should anyone move his body? Or that for the last thirteen years of his life, Casanova was a librarian?

Squee! A book about books and bookshops, and bookshop owners, and books and bookshops, and bookshops, and bookshops. Freaking fantabulous! (Yes, I made up a new word). I absolutely had a blast reading this book, my dear husband was worried as I talked of packing a small bag and starting my tour of the six continents covered in this book on a pilgrimage to visit every single one mentioned (and buy a book from each one). Much to his relief, I am still here, and writing this review instead. I was super excited reading this book! For the book lover and the bookshop addict, this is THE book to get to fill up on the wonders of bookshops of all shapes and sizes. What was really exciting is some of the bookshops featured I have been to! One of them is one of my favourite places to go now, Barter Books in Alnwick in the North East of England is a huge second-hand bookshop with scrummy cafe food and coffee housed in an old Victorian Railway station, the history of it was fascinating in this book! With background stories from bookshop owners, descriptions of unusual and wacky bookshop themes, "Bookish" quotes and facts about books and tales about their favourite bookshops from known authors, this book is a gem for the bibliophile who still gets excited at walking into an independent book store. It was a lot of fun reading it. AND it's a book that shows that good independent bookstores are thriving, even in the midst of the gloom and doom that the digital age will be the end of bookshops and their lovely smells and personal service offered. It seems that the bookshops in this book are not only surviving but thriving and customers are loving

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