

IN TODAY'S
EASY SECTION

Impress the one you love with our Valentine's Day gift ideas, from quirky to romantic to downright cathartic (like the Ex knife set, at right).



SHOPPING

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Sweet deals

The best **VALENTINE'S DAY** sales at local boutiques, whether you're shopping for yourself or the one you love

Ever hit on a store employee just to try and get a discount? If the answer is "yes," I like your style. If the answer's "no," well, now is your chance. Anyone who utters the words "kiss me" when checking out at Wolfbait & B-Girls, 3131 W. Logan, will get 20 percent off their order between now and Sunday.

And the Logan Square store isn't the only one sweetening the pot this weekend. Several locally owned boutiques are offering major markdowns in honor of Valentine's Day. Here are the city's best sales, whether you're shopping for your significant other or looking to treat yourself:

SPECIALS JUST
FOR SUN-TIMES
READERS!

• Stop by high-end boutique **Lissa on Maxwell, 729 W. Maxwell**, let them know you're a Sun-Times reader and you'll get 25 percent off all jewelry from Chicago designer Winifred Grace (see below). Also, all winter items at the store are 30 to 70 percent off.

• You can probably guess by the studio's name — **Gallery Provocateur** — that the art here leans toward the erotic. This Saturday the studio at **2125 N. Rockwell** will launch its latest exhibition, "Femme Divine," which explores "the nude in all its incarnations." Stop the Artist Cocktail Reception at 8 p.m. Saturday, and if you mention the Sun-Times, you'll get 15 percent off your favorite artwork. Creative attire is encouraged; admission is a \$1 donation to charity.



Winifred Grace uses Swarovski crystals and oxidized metals to create feminine but edgy looks.

BUCKTOWN/WICKER PARK

Clever Alice, 1920 N. Damen, www.cleveralice.com: All one-of-kind necklaces from Chicago designer Veronica Martens Riley will be 20 percent off. Also, all Italian boots and French dresses and sweaters are up to 75 percent off. Sales from now until Feb. 21.

Grasshopper 510, 1944 N. Damen, www.grasshopper510.com: Get 15 percent off all jewelry at this eco boutique for women, men and children. Prices range from \$22 to \$395 for earrings, necklaces, rings and bracelets. Baseball and golf ball designer cuff links for men are \$123.25 (originally \$145). Sale runs through Sunday.

Pump Shoes Chicago, 1659 W. Division, www.pumpshoeschicago.com: Sorry guys, but sometimes a gift certificate is best, especially if your partner loves the shoes. Stop in and get your sweetheart a \$100 gift certificate for just \$75.

le Dress, 1741 W. Division, ledress-chicago.com: At checkout you'll receive a chocolate heart good for either 10, 20 or 30 percent off at the dress-only boutique's J'Adore Valentine's Day Weekend Sale, which runs Friday through Sunday.

LAKE VIEW

Hubba-Hubba, 3309 N. Clark, www.hubbahubbachicago.com: Need a new outfit for this weekend? Stop by and get 25 percent off all full-priced dresses, tops and bottoms, between now and Sunday.



Wildflowers Lingerie

Spare Parts, 2947 N. Broadway, www.shopspareparts.com: All bags and jewelry are 25 percent off, and all artwork is 30 percent of at this quaint little East Lake View storefront shop for men's and women's accessories. Sales run through Sunday.

vfish Designs, 2937 N. Clark, www.vfishdesigns.com: Stop by this warehouse Dot Sale, where everything in the store — dresses, tops, jackets, skirts and accessories — will have a colored sticker, priced between \$25 and \$65. Sale runs through Feb. 19.

LINCOLN PARK

Cynthia Rowley, 810 W. Armitage, www.cynthiarowley.com: Stop in either at this location or at 553 N. Damen and get 10 percent off any purchase between now and Sunday. Sale also available online — use the promo code CRbemine.

LOOP

Ellie Thompson + Co., 8 S. Michigan Suite 2203, www.ellienco.com: All jewelry will be 10 percent off from



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SOUTH LOOP

House of Sole, 1237 S. Michigan, www.houseofsole.net: Handbags and jewelry are on sale up to 50 percent off at this shoes and accessories boutique. In addition, you will get \$10 off a \$50 purchase, \$20 off a \$100 purchase and \$30 off a \$130 purchase. Owner Tiffany Bullock (above) likes to include prices for every pocketbook, so some non-sale jewelry goes as low as \$15. And just in time for Valentine's Day, Bullock's offering fun spa products from Sol Food Soaps (shown on the middle shelf), which range from \$5 to \$30 and include lip scrubs, body scrubs, oils, body creams and soaps.

now until Sunday. If you stop by the high-end boutique between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Saturday, you can get 20 percent off select heart-shaped pendants. Sale also offered online; shop is closed Sunday.

OLD TOWN

Wildflowers Lingerie, 1407 N. Wells, www.shopwildflowers.com: Anything pink, red or black will be 20 percent off from now until Sunday at this adorable courtyard boutique. Bring along your partner

for a second opinion. Owner Gretchen Reachmack has even supplied a leather "man chair" near the dressing room for, um, optimal viewing.

SOUTH SIDE

Sensual Steps, 4518 S. Cottage Grove, www.sensualstepsinc.com: Stop by from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday for its Shoes, Scents and Sexy Apparel event. The free event will feature discounts, chocolates, wine and a live fashion show.