



# USA TODAY

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...feature Tree of Life, clover and Saint Christo- charms (\$43 for set of three pendants and three charms).

## shines through

With New Year's resolutions nearing, we all could use as much luck as we can get. And these days, enough karmic charms are out there to fill a jewelry box. A spiritually symbolic bauble "just has so much more strength to it," says **Carolyn Rafaelian**, founder/designer of the Alex and Ani jewelry line. "It just becomes so much more powerful than something pretty." USA TODAY's **Olivia Barker** checks out a few of the providential pieces:



### Lucky line

The sterling silver and gold-plated Fortune Cookie Necklace (\$89) at K-Haus.com is a lot less creepy than a rabbit's foot. By Amy Peters' Studio, the chain comes inscribed with one of six fortunes, including the popular "Expect miracles."

### Skulls redux

Re-imagine those ubiquitous skull necklaces (Roberto Coin Tiny Treasures pendant, \$780 at Nordstrom.com) as talismans. Before it was a symbol of punkdom and then prepdom, the skull warded off evil spirits, points out *Jane* magazine editor in chief Brandon Holley. So "it's not just an overused trend," she says. "It actually works as a charm." No word yet if its protective properties work like a charm.



Stephanie Obodda; clover necklace by Lizzie Scheck; fortune cookie necklace by Nordstrom.com; ladybug bracelet by RedEnvelope.com

### HOT GIFTS

#### If you pogo ...

Just as Razor transformed the scooter from kid toy to hipster vehicle a few years back, Vurtego is trying to rejigger the pogo stick from drive-way novelty to legitimate exercise tool. Made of plastic, steel and aircraft-grade aluminum, the Vurtego Pro pogo stick (\$349 at Vurtego.com) weighs half as much as any other pogo on the market, and patented "AirSpring" technology means bigger bounces, the company says. Pogoing burns up to 2,000 calories an hour, a great way to counter the effects of the holiday meal — if you can stay on, that is.

— Olivia Barker

#### Inspired tableware

Even if the ritual of saying grace has largely disappeared from the American dinner table, one day that many families do join in is Christmas. For those who haven't clasped their hands and bowed their heads in years, there are Grace Line dishes (\$49.95 for a set of four) from Anewyouworldwide.com.

Designed by Catherine Galasso-Vigorito, each porcelain dinner plate is a graceful cue card, rimmed with a sentence or two of inspirational verse. An example: "Hearts full of praise and hands held in prayer, we thank you, God, for being there." He must be listening, because when Galasso-Vigorito launched the line on QVC last month, she sold 1,600 sets in four minutes.

— O.B.



Anewyouworldwide.com

### When do we shop?

43%

FAST FACT

Percentage of adults who say they shop online between 9 p.m. and midnight

- • • What about picking up a few gifts between meetings or while scarfing down lunch at your desk? Only 22% said they shop online between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

— Mary Cadden

Source: Vendio