

### The Cabin at the End of the World: A Novel

By Paul Tremblay

"Wen and her dads are taking a break from everything by visiting a remote cabin for vacation. Wen is studying grasshoppers in their yard when a man comes up and warns her that she and her dads are going to have to make a decision. And that's about all I can tell you without spoiling the story. This book was so creepy, in a very good way. I'd classify this as horror, but very realistic."

-Jennifer Jones, Bookmiser, Roswell, GA



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### **Cherry: A Novel**

By Nico Walker

"Cherry is a book for our times, a bit like if Jim Carroll, Denis Johnson, and Tim O'Brien had conspired to break your heart. Walker's writing is bare and essential, direct and unforgiving. Whether or not the reader has any sense of war, PTSD, or addiction, they will have a clearer one by the end of this blistering debut. I can't wait for an encore."

-Mathew Clouser, BookPeople, Austin, TX



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### The Ensemble: A Novel

By Aja Gabel

"My goodness, I love the quartet of flawed and wonderful characters Aja Gabel brings to life. I felt the heartbreak and triumph each time the ensemble performed. The Ensemble captures everything from the relentless rehearsals to the particular hand injuries musicians worry over to the conflict within the group. Henry, Daniel, Jana, and Britt are each characters unto themselves, but together they create a fifth character: the quartet itself. An inventive novel about the lives of musicians and the world they inhabit, full of tension, ambition, confusion, and loyalty. The Ensemble is a remarkable achievement."

-Sarah Bagby, Watermark Books, Wichita, KS



### **French Exit: A Novel**

By Patrick deWitt

"Quirky, wry, darkly witty, strange, and absolutely laugh-out-loud hilarious, Patrick deWitt's *French Exit* is the perfect remedy for those seeking a respite from the plethora of WWII historical fiction and genre thrillers out there. In deWitt's depiction of dysfunctional families at their absolute oddest, Malcom Price, his doting mother, Frances, and their cat, Little Frank, abandon New York City practically penniless and scurry off to Paris, where things only get stranger. Every page turned leaves the reader wondering what in the world they will do next. What a breath of fresh air is *French Exit*! Keep them coming, Patrick deWitt!"

-Angie Tally, The Country Bookshop, Southern Pines, NC

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### If You See Me, Don't Say Hi: Stories

By Neel Patel

"Neel Patel's debut short story collection is filled with tales of imperfection and longing, of unfulfilled wishes that fight hard against expectations. His flawed characters know what they risk when their actions don't match the standard script of perfection they've been handed, but their need for love and acceptance always prevails, sometimes with heartbreaking results. Patel's empathy toward his characters is palpable, as is the effect of his gorgeously rendered sentences. A wonderful read: necessary, aching, and alive."

-Mo Daviau, Powell's Books for Home and Garden, Portland, OR

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### The Labyrinth of the Spirits: A Novel

By Carlos Ruiz Zafón

"Zafón is one of my favorite authors of all time. I found his first book in the series, *The Shadow of the Wind*, years ago at an airport and was entranced by the adventures of Daniel Sempere and Fermín and many others. In *The Labyrinth of the Spirits*, the horrors of the Spanish Civil War loom large over Daniel's family and those he loves. And Alicia Gris—what a story she has to tell. Through it all, Zafón shares magnificent tales about books, booksellers, authors, and life. This is a must-read!"

-Stephanie Crowe, Page and Palette, Fairhope, AL

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### **Lands of Lost Borders: A Journey on the Silk Road**

By Kate Harri

"What a terrific read! Kate Harris seamlessly intertwines science, history, geology, geography, and philosophy in this tale of her IO-month bike ride on the Silk Road. At times, this book reads more like a thriller than a memoir! Harris and her pal Melissa covered IO,000 kilometers and visited IO countries, and their endurance, exploits, and experiences will amaze you. Along the way, the author explores the nature of boundaries, both real and imagined, and the meaningfulness of exploration and wildness. Is it appropriate to use the term 'badass' in a book review? If so, these gals are it!"

-Sara Reinert, The Homer Bookstore, Homer, AK



### My Year of Rest and Relaxation: A Novel

By Ottessa Moshfegh

"At first, My Year of Rest and Relaxation feels like the end of something, like a novel about the end of someone's life. But Moshfegh has a way of affirming life unlike any other author. Repercussions of grief, emotional exhaustion, and the general anchors of life hurl a young woman into the warm embrace of the idea of hibernating for a year. Of course, this cannot be so simply done. In true Moshfegh fashion, this journey is brimming with laconic humor, her brand of ne'er-do-wells, and ample substance intake, which all lead to one of the most existentially satisfying reads in recent memory."

-Gregory Day, BookPeople, Austin, TX

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# **Night of Miracles: A Novel**

By Elizabeth Berg

"I loved everything about this book—I wanted to live next door to Lucille in Mason and take her baking classes. Berg brought this small town and the characters living there to life. Highly recommended."

-Sherry Fritzsche, Bank Square Books, Mystic, CT



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### **Once Upon a River: A Novel**

By Diane Setterfield

"Time to settle down for a story. It begins, as good stories should, with the rescue of a pair of strangers on a winter night. Though all is not as it seems in Diane Setterfield's latest, as *Once Upon a River* quickly delves into a mystery. The young girl was dead when she was pulled from the river, but hours later she begins to breathe. As the story of her revival spreads, more than one member of the village feels mysteriously drawn to her. Could she be their missing child, estranged granddaughter, long-lost sister? Setterfield's work is the closest an adult can come to settling down for story time, and *Once Upon a River* has the same magic, timeless, and cozy charm of a tale that has been told through the ages. Simply lovely."

-Molly Gillespie, Joseph-Beth Booksellers, Cincinnati, OH

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### The Secrets Between Us: A Novel

By Thrity Umrigar

"This wonderful novel—loosely a sequel to *The Spaces Between Us*—is the rich, moving story of an amazing friendship, one that would never have occurred under the old restrictions of India and in the new India feels its tentative way. The lives of Bhima and Parvati are ones of unbelievable poverty and struggle, but the dignity and richness their friendship manifests took my breath away. A bit Dickensian in the best ways, this novel had me in tears several times. These women are two I will not soon forget."

-Michael Coy, Third Place Books (Ravenna), Seattle, WA



## Whiskey When We're Dry: A Novel

By John Larison

"A haunting and remarkable debut, John Larison's *Whiskey When We're Dry* stays true to the western genre while subverting many common themes of the American West, producing a wholly original narrative that will linger in your mind for days. I have never encountered a protagonist quite like Jess; she embodies the incredible strength and resolve required to survive in the West, but also the vulnerability necessary to retain humanity in the face of so much violence and brutality. Larison's prose goes down as smooth as a glass of whiskey, and I didn't want to stop reading until I'd finished every last drop."

-Tori Odea, Politics and Prose Bookstore, Washington, DC

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