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Lakes: A Memoir Of Love,  
Melancholy And Magical  
Thinking

## Staring At Lakes: A Memoir Of Love, Melancholy And Magical Thinking

Portia and her cousin Julian discover adventure in a hidden colony of forgotten summer houses on the shores of a swampy lake.

A heartfelt account of poverty in Ireland and emigration to America. -- back cover.

Bestselling author Pat Conroy acknowledges the books that have shaped him and celebrates the profound effect reading has had on his life. Pat

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Conroy, the beloved American storyteller, is a voracious reader. Starting as a childhood passion that bloomed into a life-long companion, reading has been Conroy's portal to the world, both to the farthest corners of the globe and to the deepest chambers of the human soul. His interests range widely, from Milton to Tolkien, Philip Roth to Thucydides, encompassing poetry, history, philosophy, and any mesmerizing tale of his native South. He has for years kept notebooks in which he records words and expressions, over time

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creating a vast reservoir of playful turns of phrase, dazzling flashes of description, and snippets of delightful sound, all just for his love of language. But for Conroy reading is not simply a pleasure to be enjoyed in off-hours or a source of inspiration for his own writing. It would hardly be an exaggeration to claim that reading has saved his life, and if not his life then surely his sanity. In *My Reading Life*, Conroy revisits a life of reading through an array of wonderful and often surprising anecdotes: sharing the

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pleasures of the local library's vast cache with his mother when he was a boy, recounting his decades-long relationship with the English teacher who pointed him onto the path of letters, and describing a profoundly influential period he spent in Paris, as well as reflecting on other pivotal people, places, and experiences. His story is a moving and personal one, girded by wisdom and an undeniable honesty. Anyone who not only enjoys the pleasures of reading but also believes in the power of books to shape a life will find here

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the greatest defense of that credo. BONUS: This ebook edition includes an excerpt from Pat Conroy's *The Death of Santini*.

Everything about Angela "Big Ang" Raiola is larger than life: her lips, her 36JJ breasts, and especially her personality! In a lifestyle guide as genuine and fun as Big Ang herself, the star of VH1's *Mob Wives*, called the show's "den mother" by the *New York Times*, serves up the hilarious and poignant wisdom she's learned while running her bar, raising her family, and dating made men. Big Ang has rules

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to live by for beauty, food,  
family, friendship, and more.

Here she is... ON HER KILLER

BOOBS: I was on vacation

with my family in the Catskills

when out of nowhere, this bat

flies right into my chest and

then falls splat on the ground.

Turned out, he died on impact.

ON FAMILY TRADITIONS:

Every Sunday, we do a feast

for fifteen to twenty-five

people. Last week, we went

through seventy-five

meatballs. Even by my

family's standards, that's a

lot of balls. ON DIETING:

Swearing off lasagna to lose

weight? You might fit into

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smaller jeans. But you're still the same person— except hungrier and bitchier. ON HOBBIES: Would I rather cook for people or have sex? No hard-and-fast rule there. But I will say this: Cooking is always satisfying.

Three Things You Need to Know About Rockets

A Story of Love, Loss and Meditation

Reckoning with What Remains

Summer on the Lakes. With autobiography. And memoir,

by R.W. Emerson, W.H.

Channing, and others

Bigger Is Better

It's How We Play the Game

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On the eve of burying her only son, she stays awake all night, examining old photographs, cherishing warm memories, and sometimes disturbed by uneasy ghosts from the past. She recalls her son's tragic death, his failed romance, and Louise, who for a short while looked like the partner that might make her son happy.

Dancing with Butterflies uses the alternating voices of four very different women whose lives interconnect through a common passion for their Mexican heritage and a dance company called Alegría. Yesenia, who founded Alegría with her husband, Eduardo, sabotages her own efforts to remain a vital, vibrant woman when she travels back and forth across the Mexican border for cheap plastic surgery. Elena, grief stricken by the death of her only child and the end of



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her marriage, finds herself falling dangerously in love with one of her underage students. Elena's sister, Adriana, wears the wounds of abandonment by a dys-functional family and becomes unable to discern love from abuse. Soledad, the sweet-tempered illegal immigrant who designs costumes for Alegría, finds herself stuck back in Mexico, where she returns to see her dying grandmother. Reyna Grande has brought these fictional characters so convincingly to life that readers will imagine they know them.

With a high-stress job at NASA, Jessica Fox found herself looking for a break and promptly arrived in Scotland, where she would spend the next month living above a bookshop, and taking the path less traveled. God only knows what possessed Bill

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Bryson, a reluctant adventurer if ever there was one, to undertake a gruelling hike along the world's longest continuous footpath—The Appalachian Trail. The 2,000-plus-mile trail winds through 14 states, stretching along the east coast of the United States, from Georgia to Maine. It snakes through some of the wildest and most spectacular landscapes in North America, as well as through some of its most poverty-stricken and primitive backwoods areas. With his offbeat sensibility, his eye for the absurd, and his laugh-out-loud sense of humour, Bryson recounts his confrontations with nature at its most uncompromising over his five-month journey. An instant classic, riotously funny, *A Walk in the Woods* will add a whole new audience to the legions of Bill Bryson fans.

# Download Free Staring At Lakes: A Memoir Of Love, Melancholy And Magical Stray

Thinking  
Bad Call

A Memoir of a Childhood

My Reading Life

More Than a Memoir

The Autobiography of Nelson Mandela

“Kevin Connolly has used an unusual physical circumstance to create a gripping work of art.

This deeply affecting memoir will place him in the company of Jeanette Walls and Augusten Burroughs.” — Sara

Gruen, author of Water for Elephants “Charming ... Connolly recounts growing up a scrappy

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Montana kid—one who happened to be born without legs... [Double Take] makes for an empowering read.” — People As featured on 20/20, NPR, and in the Washington Post: Kevin Connolly is a young man born without legs who travels the world—by skateboard, with his camera—on his “Rolling Exhibition,” snapping pictures of peoples’ reactions to him... and finds out along the way what it truly means to be human.

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Winner of the 2021

Rachel Carson

Environmental Book Award

Winner of the 2021 Maine

Literary Award for

Nonfiction Finalist for

the 2020 National Book

Critics John Leonard

Prize for Best First

Book Finalist for the

2021 New England Society

Book Award Finalist for

the 2021 New England

Independent Booksellers

Association Award A New

York Times Editors'

Choice and Chicago

Tribune top book for

2020 "Mill Town is the

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book of a lifetime; a deep-drilling, quick-moving, heartbreaking story. Scathing and tender, it lifts often into poetry, but comes down hard when it must. Through it all runs the river: sluggish, ancient, dangerous, freighted with America's sins." —Robert Macfarlane, author of *Underland*

Kerri Arsenault grew up in the small, rural town of Mexico, Maine, where for over 100 years the community orbited around

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a paper mill that provided jobs for nearly everyone in town, including three generations of her family. Kerri had a happy childhood, but years after she moved away, she realized the price she paid for that childhood. The price everyone paid. The mill, while providing the social and economic cohesion for the community, also contributed to its demise. Mill Town is a book of narrative

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nonfiction,  
Thinking

investigative memoir,  
and cultural criticism  
that illuminates the  
rise and collapse of the  
working-class, the  
hazards of loving and  
leaving home, and the  
ambiguous nature of  
toxics and disease with  
the central question;  
Who or what are we  
willing to sacrifice for  
our own survival?  
For fans of Cheryl  
Strayed, the gripping  
story of a biologist's  
human-powered journey  
from the Pacific



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Northwest to the Arctic to rediscover her love of birds, nature, and adventure. During graduate school, as she conducted experiments on the peculiarly misshapen beaks of chickadees, ornithologist Caroline Van Hemert began to feel stifled in the isolated, sterile environment of the lab. Worried that she was losing her passion for the scientific research she once loved, she was compelled to experience wildness again, to be

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guided by the sounds of birds and to follow the trails of animals. In March of 2012, she and her husband set off on a 4,000-mile wilderness journey from the Pacific rainforest to the Alaskan Arctic, traveling by rowboat, ski, foot, raft, and canoe. Together, they survived harrowing dangers while also experiencing incredible moments of joy and grace -- migrating birds silhouetted against the moon, the steamy breath

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of caribou, and the bond that comes from sharing such experiences. A unique blend of science, adventure, and personal narrative, *The Sun is a Compass* explores the bounds of the physical body and the tenuousness of life in the company of the creatures who make their homes in the wildest places left in North America. Inspiring and beautifully written, this love letter to nature is a lyrical testament to the resilience of the human

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spirit. Winner of the  
2019 Banff Mountain Book  
Competition: Adventure  
Travel

The Rough Guide to  
Ireland Make the most of  
your time on Earth with  
the ultimate travel  
guides. Discover Ireland  
with this comprehensive  
and entertaining travel  
guide, packed with  
practical information  
and honest  
recommendations by our  
independent experts.  
Whether you plan to  
drive the scenic Wild  
Atlantic Way, explore

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the delights of Dublin's architecture and dance along to traditional Irish music in one of the plethora of pubs in the country, Rough Guide Ireland will help you discover the best places to explore, eat, drink, shop and sleep along the way. Features of this travel guide to Ireland:

- Detailed regional coverage: provides practical information for every kind of trip, from off-the-beaten-track adventures to chilled-out breaks in

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popular tourist areas -  
Honest and independent  
reviews: written with  
Rough Guides' trademark  
blend of humour, honesty  
and expertise, our  
writers will help you  
make the most from your  
trip to Ireland -  
Meticulous mapping:  
practical full-colour  
maps, with clearly  
numbered, colour-coded  
keys. Find your way  
around Dublin, Belfast  
and many more locations  
without needing to get  
online - Fabulous full-  
colour photography:

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features inspirational  
colour photography,  
including the historic  
campus of Trinity  
College and Glendalough  
Scenic Park - Time-  
saving itineraries:  
carefully planned routes  
will help inspire and  
inform your on-the-road  
experiences - Things not  
to miss: Rough Guides'  
rundown of the best  
sights and top  
experiences to be found  
in Cork, Kerry and Sligo  
- Travel tips and info:  
packed with essential  
pre-departure

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information including  
getting around,  
accommodation, food and  
drink, health, the  
media, festivals, sports  
and outdoor activities,  
culture and etiquette,  
shopping and more -  
Background information:  
comprehensive 'Contexts'  
chapter provides  
fascinating insights  
into Ireland with  
coverage of history,  
religion, ethnic groups,  
environment, wildlife  
and books, plus a handy  
language section and  
glossary - Covers:



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Dublin; Around Dublin:  
Wicklow, Kildare and  
Meath, Louth, Monaghan  
and Cavan, The Midlands:  
Westmeath, Longford,  
Offaly and Laois,  
Kilkenny, Carlow and  
Wexford, Waterford and  
Tipperary, Cork, Kerry,  
Limerick and Clare,  
Galway and Mayo, Sligo,  
Leitrim and Roscommon,  
Donegal, Belfast, Antrim  
and Derry, Down and  
Armagh, Tyrone and  
Fermanagh You may also  
be interested in: Rough  
Guide to Scotland About  
Rough Guides: Rough

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Guides have been inspiring travellers for over 35 years, with over 30 million copies sold globally. Synonymous with practical travel tips, quality writing and a trustworthy 'tell it like it is' ethos, the Rough Guides list includes more than 260 travel guides to 120+ destinations, gift-books and phrasebooks.

Let's Pretend This Never Happened  
Angela's Ashes  
Long Walk to Freedom  
Mill Town

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A Summer Job on a New  
York Ambulance

Build a Business. Take a  
Stand. Make a  
Difference.

**THE AUTHOR OF THE INVISIBLE  
EAR KEEPS A PROMISE BY  
REVEALING A DARK AND DEEPLY  
HIDDEN SECRET...Michael Harding  
was a glass half full kind of guy  
until glass-shattering sounds that  
only he could hear broke him. Just  
as his goals and dreams were  
becoming a reality, his once  
promising life became a nightmare.  
In a matter of months, he went from  
being screened for a prestigious  
internship at the White House to  
being patted down and locked up in  
a jail cell. Not even the never-  
ending screaming and wailing he**

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heard while being wrongfully detained in a jail psych ward muffled the horrifying sounds he heard deep inside his invisible ear. Set in Chicago, Cook County Jail, San Francisco, and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, this masterful work of literary nonfiction is a thought-provoking and inspirational personal narrative that proves love trumps hate and good always triumphs over evil. Written with deep-seated conviction, courage, steadfast determination, and love, the author sheds light on darkness and unveils the truth about frequently told lies that affect everyone's life; carefully guarded and well-orchestrated lies that nearly destroyed his life. While dramatic and tragic in parts, *The Invisible Ear* has an uplifting and

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**happy ending that is sure to enlighten the mind, touch the heart, and enrich the life of everyone who reads it. From the Author: The Invisible Ear is based upon real-life events that I personally experienced and survived. This book is a story about my life, but I wrote it for you, and if you read it you will understand exactly why. For more information please visit: <https://outshinedark.wordpress.com>**

**A History of Irish Autobiography is the first ever critical survey of autobiographical self-representation in Ireland from its recoverable beginnings to the twenty-first century. The book draws on a wealth of original scholarship by leading experts to provide an authoritative**

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**examination of autobiographical writing in the English and Irish languages. Beginning with a comprehensive overview of autobiography theory and criticism in Ireland, the History guides the reader through seventeen centuries of Irish achievement in autobiography, a category that incorporates diverse literary forms, from religious tracts and travelogues to letters, diaries, and online journals. This ambitious book is rich in insight. Chapters are structured around key subgenres, themes, texts, and practitioners, each featuring a guide to recommended further reading. The volume's extensive coverage is complemented by a detailed chronology of Irish autobiography from the fifth century to the**

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contemporary era, the first of its kind to be published.

Elizabeth Gilbert, author of *The Signature of All Things* and *Eat, Pray, Love* “What a cool and fascinating ride. Leigh Ann Henion has tackled one of the great questions of contemporary, intelligent, adventurous women: Is it possible to be a wife and mother and still explore the world? Her answer seems to be that this is not only possible, but essential. This story shows how. I think it will open doors for many.” Heartfelt and awe-inspiring, Leigh Ann Henion’s *Phenomenal* is a moving tale of physical grandeur and emotional transformation, a journey around the world that ultimately explores the depths of the human heart. A journalist and young mother,

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Henion combines her own varied experiences as a parent with a panoramic tour of the world's most extraordinary natural wonders. Phenomenal begins in hardship: with Henion deeply shaken by the birth of her beloved son, shocked at the adversity a young mother faces with a newborn. The lack of sleep, the shrinking social circle, the health difficulties all collide and force Henion to ask hard questions about our accepted wisdom on parenting and the lives of women. Convinced that the greatest key to happiness—both her own and that of her family—lies in periodically venturing into the wider world beyond home, Henion sets out on a global trek to rekindle her sense of wonder. Henion's quest takes her far afield, but it swiftly teaches her



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that freedom is its own form of parenting—one that ultimately allows her to meet her son on his own terms with a visceral understanding of the awe he experiences every day at the fresh new world. Whether standing on the still-burning volcanoes of Hawai'i or in the fearsome lightning storms of Venezuela, amid the vast animal movements of Tanzania or the elegant butterfly migrations of Mexico, Henion relates a world of sublimity and revelation. Henion's spiritual wanderlust puts her in the path of modern-day shamans, reindeer herders, and astrophysicists. She meets laypeople from all over the world, from all walks of life, going to great lengths to chase migrations, auroras, eclipses, and other

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**phenomena. These seekers trust their instincts, follow their passions, shape their days into the lives they most want to lead. And, somewhere along the way, Leigh Ann Henion becomes one of them. A breathtaking memoir, Phenomenal reveals unforgettable truths about motherhood, spirituality, and the beauty of nature. Oprah.com "Part travel memoir, part parenting manifesto and part inquiry into those 'fleeting, extraordinary glimpses of something that left us groping for rational explanations in the quicksand of all-encompassing wonder.'"**

**Porchlight's Best Leadership & Strategy Book of The Year An inspiring memoir from the CEO of DICK's Sporting Goods that is "not**

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only entertaining but will be of great value to any entrepreneur” (Phil Knight, New York Times bestselling author of *Shoe Dog*), this book shows how a trailblazing business was created by giving back to the community and by taking principled, and sometimes controversial, stands—including against the type of weapons that are too often used in mass shootings and other tragedies. *How We Play the Game* tells the story of a complicated founder and an ambitious son—one who transformed a business by making it about more than business, conceiving it as a force for good in the communities it serves. In 1948, Ed Stack’s father started Dick’s Bait and Tackle in Binghamton, New York. Ed Stack bought the business

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from his father in 1984, and grew it into the largest sporting goods retailer in the country, with 800 locations and close to \$9 billion in sales. The transformation Ed wrought wasn't easy: economic headwinds nearly toppled the chain twice. But DICK's support for embattled youth sports programs earned the stores surprising loyalty, and the company won even more attention when, in the wake of yet another school shooting—at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida—it chose to become the first major retailer to pull all semi-automatic weapons from its shelves, raise the age of gun purchase to twenty-one, and, most strikingly, destroy the assault-style-type rifles then in its inventory. With vital lessons for

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anyone running a business and eye-opening reflections about what a company owes the people it serves, *It's How We Play the Game* is “a compelling narrative...In a genre that can frequently be staid, Mr. Stack’s corporate biography is deeply personal...[Features] surprising openness [and] interesting and humorous anecdotes” (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette).

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Talking to Strangers**

**From Broke to Badass on a  
Northern Michigan Farm**

**What Is Beautiful in the Sky  
Bootstrapper**

**A Memoir of Endings and  
Beginnings**

'A compelling memoir. Absorbing and graced with a deceptive

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lightness of touch, [Hanging with the Elephant] is clever and brilliantly pieced together.

Harding writes like an angel' Sunday Times From the No.1 bestselling author of Staring at Lakes, Talking to Strangers and On Tuesdays I'm A Buddhist 'In public or on stage, it's different. I'm fine. I have no bother talking to three hundred people, and sharing my feelings. But when I'm in a room on a one-to-one basis, I get lost. I can never find the right word. Except for that phrase - hold me.' Michael Harding's wife has departed for a six-week trip, and he has been left alone in their home in Leitrim. Faced with the realities of caring for himself for the first time since his illness two years

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before, Harding endeavours to tame the 'elephant' - an Asian metaphor for the unruly mind. As he does, he finds himself finally coming to terms with the death of his mother - a loss that has changed him more than he knows. Funny, searingly honest and profound, *Hanging with the Elephant* pulls back the curtain and reveals what it is really like to be alive.

In this unusual autobiography you will find the full story of a life spanning much of the twentieth century. Selective reading will disclose How a teacher/scientist may develop The importance of focus and integrity The fascination of doing chemical and biochemical research with students and colleagues The

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excitement of discovery and of facing new challenges Personal details about family life and friendships Career choices and diversions Plus In the 23 (!) appendices, you will find details concerning Other activities attendant upon a career in science The influence of conferences, symposia, and international scientific connections The coworkers who built the reputation of the author The book that inspired the major new motion picture Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom. Nelson Mandela is one of the great moral and political leaders of our time: an international hero whose lifelong dedication to the fight against racial oppression in South Africa won him the Nobel



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Peace Prize and the presidency of his country. Since his triumphant release in 1990 from more than a quarter-century of imprisonment, Mandela has been at the center of the most compelling and inspiring political drama in the world. As president of the African National Congress and head of South Africa's antiapartheid movement, he was instrumental in moving the nation toward multiracial government and majority rule. He is revered everywhere as a vital force in the fight for human rights and racial equality. **LONG WALK TO FREEDOM** is his moving and exhilarating autobiography, destined to take its place among the finest memoirs of history's greatest figures. Here for the

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first time, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela tells the extraordinary story of his life--an epic of struggle, setback, renewed hope, and ultimate triumph.

Drawing upon his own powerful personal story, Zachary R. Wood shares his perspective on free speech, race, and dissenting opinions—in a world that sorely needs to learn to listen. As the former president of the student group Uncomfortable Learning at his alma mater, Williams College, Zachary Wood knows from experience about intellectual controversy. At school and beyond, there's no one Zach refuses to engage with simply because he disagrees with their beliefs—sometimes vehemently so—and this view has given him a

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unique platform in the media. But Zach has never shared the details of his own personal story. In *Uncensored*, he reveals for the first time how he grew up poor and black in Washington, DC, where the only way to survive was by resisting the urge to write people off because of their backgrounds and perspectives.

By sharing his troubled upbringing—from a difficult early childhood to the struggles of code switching between his home and his elite private school—Zach makes a compelling argument for a new way of interacting with others and presents a new outlook on society's most difficult conversations.

And Other Ways of Being Human  
A Memoir

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Staring at the Sun

A Hesitant Adventurer's Search  
for Wonder in the Natural World  
A Built-It-Myself Memoir

Overcoming the Terror of Death

*In this raw, searingly honest debut young adult novel, a former aspiring ballerina must confront her past in order to move forward from a devastating fall that leaves her without the use of her legs. Genie used to fouetté across the stage. Now the only thing she's turning are the wheels to her wheelchair. Genie was the star pupil at her exclusive New York dance school, with a bright future and endless possibilities before her. Now that the*

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future she's spent years building toward has been snatched away, she can't stand to be reminded of it—even if it means isolating herself from her best friends and her mother. The only wish this Genie has is to be left alone. But then she meets Kyle, who also has a “used to be.” Kyle used to tumble and flip on a gymnastics mat, but a traumatic brain injury has sent him to the same physical therapist that Genie sees. With Kyle's support, along with her best friend's insistence that Genie's time at the barre isn't over yet, Genie starts to see a new path—one where

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she doesn't have to be alone and she finally has the strength to heal from the past. But healing also means confronting. Confronting the booze her mother, a recovering alcoholic, has been hiding under the kitchen sink; the ex-boyfriend who was there the night of the fall and won't leave her alone; and Genie's biggest, most terrifying secret: the fact that the accident may not have been so accidental after all. In late 2018, Michael Harding was in a hotel room in Blanchardstown experiencing severe pains in his chest. He eventually phoned an ambulance and was

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admitted to hospital,  
suffering from an acute  
heart attack. Here, in *Chest  
Pain*, he looks at the months  
before the heart attack when  
he kept the signs of failing  
health from his beloved and  
instead retreated into  
solitude -- and with his own  
inimitable style and humour  
takes us with him through  
the months after a stent had  
been inserted in his heart,  
where he travels the roads  
of Donegal in a camper van  
in a journey back to the  
beloved, and to himself.  
*Chest Pain* is a thought-  
provoking, spell-binding  
memoir about togetherness  
and what it means to be  
alive.

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*"After selling her first novel--a dream she'd worked long and hard for--Stephanie Danler knew she should be happy. Instead, she found herself driven to face the difficult past she'd left behind a decade ago: a mother disabled by years of alcoholism, further handicapped by a tragic brain aneurysm; a father who abandoned the family when she was three, now a meth addict in and out of recovery. After years in New York City she's pulled home to Southern California by forces she doesn't totally understand, haunted by questions of legacy and trauma. Here, she works*



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Melancholy And Magical

*toward answers, uncovering  
Thinking  
hard truths about her  
parents and herself as she  
explores whether it's  
possible to change the  
course of her history"--Back  
cover.*

*Part how-to, part personal  
memoir, The Big Tiny is an  
utterly seductive meditation  
on the benefits of slowing  
down, scaling back, and  
appreciating the truly  
important things in life.  
More than ten years ago, a  
near-death experience  
abruptly reminded  
sustainability advocate and  
pioneer Dee Williams that  
life is short. So, she sold  
her sprawling home and built  
an eighty-four-square-foot*

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house—on her own, from the ground up. Today, Williams can list everything she owns on one sheet of paper, her monthly housekeeping bills amount to about eight dollars, and it takes her about ten minutes to clean the entire house. Adapting a new lifestyle left her with the ultimate luxury—more time to spend with friends and family—and gave her the freedom to head out for adventure at a moment's notice, or watch the clouds and sunset while drinking a beer on her (yes, tiny) front porch.

*A Memoir by the Cofounder of  
Microsoft*

*A 4,000-Mile Journey into*

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*the Alaskan Wilds*

*My Story of Charles Manson,  
Life Inside His Cult, and  
the Darkness That Ended the  
Sixties*

*Member of the Family*

*Shroud Of The Gnome*

*My Life and Uncomfortable  
Conversations at the  
Intersection of Black and  
White America*

"A story of love, loss and meditation"

-- Cover.

'In public or on stage, it's different. I'm fine. I have no bother talking to three hundred people, and sharing my feelings. But when I'm in a room on a one-to-one basis, I get lost. I can never find the right word. Except for that phrase - hold me.' Michael Harding's wife has departed for a six-week trip,

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and he has been left alone in their home in Leitrim. Faced with the realities of caring for himself for the first time since his illness two years before, Harding endeavours to tame the 'elephant' - an Asian metaphor for the unruly mind. As he does, he finds himself finally coming to terms with the death of his mother - a loss that has changed him more than he knows. Funny, searingly honest and profound, *Hanging with the Elephant* pulls back the curtain and reveals what it is really like to be alive.

The #1 New York Times bestselling (mostly true) memoir from the hilarious author of *Furiously Happy*.

“ Gaspingly funny and wonderfully inappropriate. ” —O, The Oprah Magazine When Jenny Lawson was

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little, all she ever wanted was to fit in. That dream was cut short by her fantastically unbalanced father and a morbidly eccentric childhood. It did, however, open up an opportunity for Lawson to find the humor in the strange shame-spiral that is her life, and we are all the better for it. In the irreverent *Let 's Pretend This Never Happened*, Lawson ' s long-suffering husband and sweet daughter help her uncover the surprising discovery that the most terribly human moments—the ones we want to pretend never happened—are the very same moments that make us the people we are today. For every intellectual misfit who thought they were the only ones to think the things that Lawson dares to say out loud, this is a poignant

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and hysterical look at the dark, disturbing, yet wonderful moments of our lives. Readers Guide Inside  
The incredible true story of one woman's journey to relocate the place inside herself where strength, hope, and personal truth reside. After Hurricane Katrina, Alice Anderson has returned home to assess the damage to her beloved Mississippi coastline and the once-immaculate home she 'd carefully cultivated for her husband, Dr. Liam Rivers, one of the community's highly respected doctors. But in the wake of this natural disaster, a more terrifying challenge emerges as Liam 's mental health spirals out of control, culminating in a violent attack at knifepoint, from which Alice is saved by their three-year-old son. Afraid for

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her life, she flees with her children.

What ensues is an epic battle—emotional, psychological, spiritual, and legal—for her children ' s welfare, for self-preservation, and ultimately for redemption. It ' s an unrelenting battle that persists even as life goes on, finally coming full circle when the same son who saved Alice ten years before endures an eerily-familiar violent encounter at his father ' s hands. Yet even as she confronts the harsh realities of high-powered Southern lawyers and an inadequate legal system, Alice forges a new life with her blossoming children and an ultimate reclamation of her true self.

Double Take

A Real-Life Scottish Fairy Tale

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A History of Irish Autobiography

The Rough Guide to Ireland (Travel  
Guide eBook)

A Man, a Stent and a Camper Van

A Walk in the Woods

*An adrenaline-fueled  
read that will stay with  
you long after you turn  
the final page, Bad Call  
is a "compulsively  
readable, totally  
unforgettable" memoir  
about working on a New  
York City ambulance in  
the 1960s (James  
Patterson). Bad Call is  
Mike Scardino's  
visceral, fast-moving,  
and mordantly funny*



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account of the summers  
he spent working as an  
"ambulance attendant" on  
the mean streets of  
late-1960s New York.  
Fueled by adrenaline and  
Sabrett's hot dogs,  
young Mike spends his  
days speeding from one  
chaotic emergency to  
another. His adventures  
take him into the middle  
of incipient race riots,  
to the scene of a plane  
crash at JFK airport and  
into private lives all  
over Queens, where New  
Yorkers are suffering,  
and dying, in

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*unimaginable ways.  
Learning on the job,  
Mike encounters all  
manner of freakish  
accidents (the man who  
drank Drano, the woman  
attacked by rats, the  
man who inflated like a  
balloon), meets  
countless unforgettable  
New York characters,  
falls in love, is nearly  
murdered, and gets an  
early and indelible  
education in the  
impermanence of life and  
the cruelty of chance.  
Action-packed, poignant,  
and rich with details*

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*that bring Mike's world to technicolor life, Bad Call is a gritty portrait of a bygone era as well as a bracing reminder that, though "life itself is a fatal condition," it's worth pausing to notice the moments of beauty, hope, and everyday heroism along the way.*

*Talking to Strangers, from the bestselling author of Staring at Lakes and Hanging with the Elephant, is a book about love, about the stories we share with*

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others, and the stories we leave behind us. Too much wine and a casual browse of an airline website - this is how Michael Harding found himself in a strange flat in Bucharest in early January, which set the tone for the rest of that year. After an intense stint in a high-profile production of *The Field*, Harding returned to the tranquil hills above Lough Allen and started to plan some dramatic changes to his little cottage. Surely

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an extension would give him a renewed sense of purpose in life as he approached old age. But as the walls of his home crumbled, so too did his mental health, and he fell, once again, into depression -- that great darkness where life feels like nothing more than a waste of time. And yet, it is in that great darkness that we discover what really makes us human. 'Michael Harding is no ordinary man or memoirist ... a book that champions the

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kindness (or at least company) of strangers as essential for that elusive state known as happiness' RT Guide

One day in the summer of 2016, Michael Harding's wife brought an unusual gift home from Warsaw. All of a sudden, he found himself falling back into the old religious devotions of an earlier time. The meaning he had found through years of engagement with therapy began to dissolve. Here, in *On Tuesdays I'm a*

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*Buddhist, Harding examines the search for meaning in life which keeps him fastened to the idea of god. After many therapy sessions focused on an effort to uncover personal truth, and long solitary months on the road with a one man show, Harding is finally led to an artists' retreat in the shadow of Skellig Michael. Mixing stories from the road with dispatches from his Irish Times columns, On Tuesdays I'm a Buddhist*

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*is a spell-binding and powerful book about the human condition, the narratives we weave around the self, and the ultimate bliss of living in the present moment.*

*'What happens between one story and the next? That's the really interesting part. That's the space where we find bliss; where we float sometimes, suspended, and only for a brief moment. Perhaps only for a few scarce moments in an entire life.'*

*Written in Irv Yalom's*



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Thinking  
inimitable story-telling  
style, *Staring at the  
Sun* is a profoundly  
encouraging approach to  
the universal issue of  
mortality. In this  
magisterial opus,  
capping a lifetime of  
work and personal  
experience, Dr. Yalom  
helps us recognize that  
the fear of death is at  
the heart of much of our  
anxiety. Such  
recognition is often  
catalyzed by an  
"awakening experience"—a  
dream, or loss (the  
death of a loved one,

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divorce, loss of a job  
or home), illness,  
trauma, or aging. Once  
we confront our own  
mortality, Dr. Yalom  
writes, we are inspired  
to rearrange our  
priorities, communicate  
more deeply with those  
we love, appreciate more  
keenly the beauty of  
life, and increase our  
willingness to take the  
risks necessary for  
personal fulfillment.

Walden

A Novel

Some Bright Morning,  
I'll Fly Away

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Thinking

**The Sun Is a Compass  
Gone-Away Lake  
Turning**

*Poignant, irreverent,  
and hilarious: a memoir  
about survival and self-  
discovery, by an  
indomitable woman who  
never loses sight of  
what matters most. It's  
the summer of 2005, and  
Mardi Jo Link's dream of  
living the simple life  
has unraveled into debt,  
heartbreak, and  
perpetually ragged  
cuticles. She and her  
husband of nineteen  
years have just called*

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it quits, leaving her with serious cash-flow problems and a looming divorce. More broke than ever, Link makes a seemingly impossible resolution: to hang on to her century-old farmhouse in northern Michigan and continue to raise her three boys on well water and wood chopping and dirt. Armed with an unfailing sense of humor and three resolute accomplices, Link confronts blizzards and foxes, learns about Zen divorce and the best

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way to butcher a hog,  
dominates a zucchini-  
growing contest and wins  
a year's supply of local  
bread, masters the art  
of bargain cooking,  
wrangles rampaging  
poultry, and withstands  
any blow to her pride in  
order to preserve the  
life she wants. With an  
infectious optimism that  
would put Rebecca of  
Sunnybrook Farm to shame  
and a deep appreciation  
of the natural world,  
Link tells the story of  
how, over the course of  
one long year, she holds

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on to her sons, saves  
the farm from  
foreclosure, and finds  
her way back to a life  
of richness and meaning  
on the land she loves.  
This ebook edition  
includes a Reading Group  
Guide.

Throughout his life,  
Michael Harding has  
lived with a sense of  
emptiness - through  
faith, marriage,  
fatherhood and his  
career as a writer, a  
pervading sense of  
darkness and unease  
remained. When he was

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fifty-eight, he became physically ill and found himself in the grip of a deep melancholy. Here, in this beautifully written memoir, he talks with openness and honesty about his journey: leaving the priesthood when he was in his thirties, settling in Leitrim with his artist wife, the depression that eventually overwhelmed him, and how, ultimately, he found a way out of the dark, by accepting the fragility

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of love and the  
importance of now.

*Staring at Lakes* started  
out as a book about  
depression. And then  
became a story about  
growing old, the essence  
of love and marriage -  
and sitting in cars,  
staring at lakes.

By his early thirties,  
Paul Allen was a world-  
famous billionaire-and  
that was just the  
beginning. In 2007 and  
2008, Time named Paul  
Allen, the cofounder of  
Microsoft, one of the  
hundred most influential



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people in the world. Since he made his fortune, his impact has been felt in science, technology, business, medicine, sports, music, and philanthropy. His passion, curiosity, and intellectual rigor—combined with the resources to launch and support new initiatives—have literally changed the world. In 2009 Allen discovered that he had lymphoma, lending urgency to his desire to share his story for the first time. In this

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*classic memoir, Allen explains how he has solved problems, what he's learned from his many endeavors-both the triumphs and the failures-and his compelling vision for the future. He reflects candidly on an extraordinary life. The book also features previously untold stories about everything from the true origins of Microsoft to Allen's role in the dawn of private space travel (with SpaceShipOne) and*

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*in discoveries at the  
frontiers of brain  
science. With honesty,  
humor, and insight,  
Allen tells the story of  
a life of ideas made  
real.*

*In this poignant and  
disturbing memoir of  
lost innocence,  
coercion, survival, and  
healing, Dianne Lake  
chronicles her years  
with Charles Manson,  
revealing for the first  
time how she became the  
youngest member of his  
Family and offering new  
insights into one of the*

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twentieth century's most  
notorious criminals and  
life as one of his  
"girls." At age fourteen  
Dianne Lake—with little  
more than a note in her  
pocket from her hippie  
parents granting her  
permission to leave  
them—became one of  
"Charlie's girls," a  
devoted acolyte of cult  
leader Charles Manson.  
Over the course of two  
years, the  
impressionable teenager  
endured manipulation,  
psychological control,  
and physical abuse as

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*the harsh realities and  
looming darkness of  
Charles Manson's true  
nature revealed itself.  
From Spahn ranch and the  
group acid trips, to the  
Beatles' White Album and  
Manson's dangerous  
messiah-complex, Dianne  
tells the riveting story  
of the group's descent  
into madness as she  
lived it. Though she  
never participated in  
any of the group's  
gruesome crimes and was  
purposely insulated from  
them, Dianne was  
arrested with the rest*

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of the Manson Family,  
and eventually learned  
enough to join the  
prosecution's case  
against them. With the  
help of good Samaritans,  
including the cop who  
first arrested her and  
later adopted her, the  
courageous young woman  
eventually found  
redemption and grew up  
to lead an ordinary  
life. While much has  
been written about  
Charles Manson, this  
riveting account from an  
actual Family member is  
a chilling portrait that

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*recreates in vivid  
detail one of the most  
horrifying and  
fascinating chapters in  
modern American history.  
Member of the Family  
includes 16 pages of  
photographs.*

*The Big Tiny*

*The Invisible Ear*

*Idea Man*

*Uncensored*

*On Tuesdays I'm a*

*Buddhist*

*Bird in the Snow*

Speakers in James Tate's poems  
are and are not like those we know:  
a man's meditation on gardening  
renders him witless; another man

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traps theories and then lets them loose in a city park; a nun confides that "it was her / cowboy pride that got her through"; a gnome's friend inhabits a world where "a great eschatological ferment is at work. "Shroud of the Gnome" is a bravura performance in Tate's signature style: playful, wicked, deliriously sober, charming, and dazzling. Here, once again, one of America's most masterful poets celebrates the inexplicable in his own strange tongue.

Dancing with Butterflies

Phenomenal

Hanging with the Elephant: A Story  
of Love, Loss and Meditation

Hanging with the Elephant  
Chest Pain



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Thinking  
Real Life Wisdom from the No-  
Drama Mama