

Cheryl Strayed Wild Book

With InstaRead Chapter-by-Chapter Summaries, you can get the essence of a book in 30 minutes or less. We read every chapter and summarize it in one or two paragraphs so you can get the information contained in the book at a much faster rate. This is an InstaRead Summary of *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* by Cheryl Strayed. Below is a preview of the earlier sections of the summary: Prologue The year is 1995. Cheryl, the narrator and author of the story, explains that she was 26 years old when at the lowest point of her life she began her solo trek on the Pacific Crest Trail. She describes the trail as being 2,663 miles long and two feet wide, stretching from Mexico to Canada and including nine mountain ranges. She has embarked on her journey just 38 days before in an effort to find herself. As she stops to rest at the peak of a mountain, one of her hiking boots tumbles away down the mountain and into some trees far below. Realizing the other is of no use to her anymore, she tosses it out into the trees as well. She reflects on her situation and decides that though she is alone, battered and bruised, shoeless, and at least days from the next supply stop, she must walk on. Part One: The Ten Thousand Things Chapter One: The Ten Thousand Things Cheryl reflects on when her journey actually began and

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decides that it truly began a over four years ago, on the day that she had learned her forty-five year-old mother was going to die of advanced stage lung cancer. She recalls being at the Mayo clinic with her mother and stepfather on the day of the diagnosis and cursing the smaller town doctors that had given the same diagnosis in the weeks leading up to the visit to Mayo. She had wanted them to be wrong. Angry at her absent older sister and younger brother, and refusing to believe that her extremely health-conscious, non-smoking mother could possibly have cancer, she argues with the doctor, then crumbles at the news that her mother has a year, at most, to live. She describes the deep love and devotion of her mother to her and her two siblings. Pregnant at nineteen, her mother had married her father only to find out within three short days that he was brutal and abusive. Her mother left him several times, but not permanently until she was twenty-eight years old. A single mother of three, her mother worked all the time, but never seemed to get ahead. She sugar-coated poverty for her children, making games out of their plight and dating an interesting slew of men. Her mother finally met Eddie, a man eight years her junior, and he married her and took on the roles of husband and father with ease. After a disabling accident and settlement, the couple bought forty acres of land an hour and half from Duluth, Minnesota...

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The book tells the story of Cheryl Strayed and the trials she'd undergone ever since her mother Bobbi was diagnosed with cancer when Cheryl was just 22. In the book, she recalls aspects in her life that had led her to take the Pacific Crest Trail and the various people she'd met along the way. She had received so much kindness throughout the journey and had grown over the past few months on the trip with realizations that were captivating because of the reality they'd stemmed from. *Wild From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* tells such a wonderful story of how she'd overcome terrible parts of her life in order to live her life happily in the present. Sorrow is a heavy theme in the book, but so is healing, as well as, change. A lot of people go through so much pain in their lives that some find no way out of their personal struggle. Cheryl Strayed had suffered immensely and had made terrible mistakes because of it. But in the end, she has taught her readers that we can't regret what we've done, but rather learn from it and do better when the next time the opportunity arises. **DISCLAIMER:** This is an unofficial summary & analysis and NOT the original book.

The newest Oprah's Book Club 2.0 selection: this special eBook edition of *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd features exclusive content, including Oprah's personal notes highlighted within the text, and a reading group guide. Writing at the height of her narrative and imaginative gifts, Sue Monk Kidd

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presents a masterpiece of hope, daring, the quest for freedom, and the desire to have a voice in the world. Hetty “Handful” Grimke, an urban slave in early nineteenth century Charleston, yearns for life beyond the suffocating walls that enclose her within the wealthy Grimke household. The Grimke’s daughter, Sarah, has known from an early age she is meant to do something large in the world, but she is hemmed in by the limits imposed on women. Kidd’s sweeping novel is set in motion on Sarah’s eleventh birthday, when she is given ownership of ten year old Handful, who is to be her handmaid. We follow their remarkable journeys over the next thirty five years, as both strive for a life of their own, dramatically shaping each other’s destinies and forming a complex relationship marked by guilt, defiance, estrangement and the uneasy ways of love. As the stories build to a riveting climax, Handful will endure loss and sorrow, finding courage and a sense of self in the process. Sarah will experience crushed hopes, betrayal, unrequited love, and ostracism before leaving Charleston to find her place alongside her fearless younger sister, Angelina, as one of the early pioneers in the abolition and women’s rights movements. Inspired by the historical figure of Sarah Grimke, Kidd goes beyond the record to flesh out the rich interior lives of all of her characters, both real and invented, including Handful’s cunning mother, Charlotte, who courts danger in her search for

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something better. This exquisitely written novel is a triumph of storytelling that looks with unswerving eyes at a devastating wound in American history, through women whose struggles for liberation, empowerment, and expression will leave no reader unmoved. Please note there is another digital edition available without Oprah's notes. Go to Oprah.com/bookclub for more OBC 2.0 content

Seminar paper from the year 2017 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 1,3, University of Duisburg-Essen, language: English, abstract: Cheryl Strayed's memoir, *Wild*, which was published in 2012 outlines her hiking the Pacific Crest Trail from California to Oregon in the summer of 1995. This hike is a journey to new-found strength and meaning in a life knocked out of balance by her mother's untimely, unexpected death and Cheryl's succeeding self-destruction as a means of dealing with the events. Strayed, upon embarking on the journey described in her memoir, brought along with her an array of literary works. Among these, Adrienne Rich's *The Dream of a Common Language* stands out as holding a very unique status and being rich with symbolism for Cheryl Strayed and her journey.

This Pulitzer Prize–winning novel tells the story of Laurel McKelva Hand, a young woman who has left the South and returns, years later, to New Orleans, where her father is dying. After his death, she and her silly young stepmother go back

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still farther, to the small Mississippi town where she grew up. Along in the old house, Laurel finally comes to an understanding of the past, herself, and her parents.

Collects top-selected postings on life and relationships from The Rumpus' popular "Dear Sugar" online column, sharing recommendations on everything from infidelity and grief to marital boredom and financial hardships. Original. 40,000 first printing.

A woman seeking a reprieve from a going-nowhere relationship finds solace in flying to exotic places around the world from Alaska to Bhutan in this new novel from the author of the best-selling *Cowboys Are My Weakness*. 25,000 first printing.

A Journey From Lost to Found. At 26, Cheryl Strayed thought she had lost everything. In the wake of her mother's rapid death from cancer, her family disbanded and her marriage crumbled. With nothing to lose, she made the most impulsive decision of her life: to walk eleven-hundred miles of the west coast of America - from the Mojave Desert, through California and Oregon, and into Washington State - and to do it alone. She had no experience of long-distance hiking and the journey was nothing more than a line on the map. This account captures the agonies - both mental and physical - of her incredible journey.

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Rory Hendrix is the least likely of Girl Scouts. She hasn't got a troop or even a badge to call her own. But she's checked the Handbook out from the elementary school library so many times that her name fills all the lines on the card, and she pores over its surreal advice (Uniforms, disposing of outgrown; The Right Use of Your Body; Finding Your Way When Lost) for tips to get off the Calle: that is, the Calle de las Flores, the Reno trailer park where she lives with her mother, Jo, the sweet-faced, hard-luck bartender at the Truck Stop. Rory's been told that she is one of the "third-generation bastards surely on the road to whoredom." But she's determined to prove the county and her own family wrong. Brash, sassy, vulnerable, wise, and terrified, she struggles with her mother's habit of trusting the wrong men, and the mixed blessing of being too smart for her own good. From diary entries, social workers' reports, half-recalled memories, arrest records, family lore, Supreme Court opinions, and her grandmother's letters, Rory crafts a devastating collage that shows us her world even as she searches for the way out of it. Tupelo Hassman's *Girlchild* is a heart-stopping and original debut. Tyrone Power was as versatile in life as he was on the screen. He was several men, and during the creation of this book I have been fortunate in having the other principal "lead" in each of these lives as an active partner, coming very close at times to the point of collaboration. He was the last idol created by the vast star-making machine, Twentieth Century Fox. Coming from a family of multi-generational actors, Tyrone Power broke the proverbial mold. His on-screen charisma in the 30's and 40's propelled

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him to the forefront of the "must have" actors. His on-screen accomplishments were many yet he did not hesitate to enter the military when his country went to war. After the war, he continued in his career but the years took their toll. A fascinating look behind the scenes of Hollywood of the 30's and 40's and the impact of the times on a great actor.

"Polished, poignant... an inspiring story of true love."—Entertainment Weekly A BEST BOOK OF 2019, NPR's Book Concierge SHORTLISTED FOR THE COSTA BOOK AWARD OVER 400,000 COPIES SOLD WORLDWIDE The true story of a couple who lost everything and embarked on a transformative journey walking the South West Coast Path in England Just days after Raynor Winn learns that Moth, her husband of thirty-two years, is terminally ill, their house and farm are taken away, along with their livelihood. With nothing left and little time, they make the brave and impulsive decision to walk the 630 miles of the sea-swept South West Coast Path, from Somerset to Dorset, through Devon and Cornwall. Carrying only the essentials for survival on their backs, they live wild in the ancient, weathered landscape of cliffs, sea, and sky. Yet through every step, every encounter, and every test along the way, their walk becomes a remarkable and life-affirming journey. Powerfully written and unflinchingly honest, *The Salt Path* is ultimately a portrayal of home—how it can be lost, rebuilt, and rediscovered in the most unexpected ways.

Traces the personal crisis the author endured after the death of her mother and a

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painful divorce, which prompted her ambition to undertake a dangerous 1,100-mile solo hike that both drove her to rock bottom and helped her to heal.

What happens when an innocent prank goes horribly wrong? Natasha, Riya, Anjali and Katherine were best friends in college - each different from the other yet inseparable - until that night. It was the night that began with a bottle of whisky and a game of Ouija but ended with the death of Sania, their unlikeable hostel mate. The friends vowed never to discuss that fateful night, a pact that had kept their friendship and guilt dormant for the last twenty years. But now, someone has begun to mess with them, threatening to reveal the truth that only Sania knew. Is it a hacker playing on their guilt or has Sania's ghost really returned to avenge her death? As the faceless enemy closes in on them, the friends come together once again to recount what really happened that night. But when the story is retold by each of them, the pieces don't fit. Because none of them is telling the whole truth . . . That Night is a dark, twisted tale of friendship and betrayal that draws you in and confounds you at every turn.

A collection of essays from today's most acclaimed authors—from Cheryl Strayed to Roxane Gay to Jennifer Weiner, Alexander Chee, Nick Hornby, and Jonathan Franzen—on the realities of making a living in the writing world. In the literary world, the debate around writing and commerce often begs us to take sides: either writers should be paid for everything they do or writers should just pay their dues and count themselves lucky to be published. You should never quit your day job, but your ultimate

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goal should be to quit your day job. It's an endless, confusing, and often controversial conversation that, despite our bare-it-all culture, still remains taboo. In *Scratch*, Manjula Martin has gathered interviews and essays from established and rising authors to confront the age-old question: how do creative people make money? As contributors including Jonathan Franzen, Cheryl Strayed, Roxane Gay, Nick Hornby, Susan Orlean, Alexander Chee, Daniel Jose Older, Jennifer Weiner, and Yiyun Li candidly and emotionally discuss money, MFA programs, teaching fellowships, finally getting published, and what success really means to them, *Scratch* honestly addresses the tensions between writing and money, work and life, literature and commerce. The result is an entertaining and inspiring book that helps readers and writers understand what it's really like to make art in a world that runs on money—and why it matters. Essential reading for aspiring and experienced writers, and for anyone interested in the future of literature, *Scratch* is the perfect bookshelf companion to *On Writing*, *Never Can Say Goodbye*, and *MFA vs. NYC*.

“Certain lines had become like incantations to me, words I'd chanted to myself through sorrow and confusion” —Cheryl Strayed, *Wild* “The Dream of a Common Language explores the contours of a woman's heart and mind in language for everybody—language whose plainness, laughter, questions and nobility everyone can respond to. . . . No one is writing better or more needed verse than this.”—Boston Evening Globe

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In this riveting, ambitious novel from James A. Michener, the renowned chronicler of epic history turns his extraordinary imagination to a world he knew better than anyone: the world of books. Lukas Yoder, a novelist who has enjoyed a long, successful career, has finished what he believes to be his final work. Then a tragedy strikes in his community, and he becomes obsessed with writing about it. Meanwhile, Yoder's editor fights to preserve her integrity—and her author—as her firm becomes the target of a corporate takeover; a local critic who teaches literature struggles with his ambitions and with his feelings about Yoder's success; and a devoted reader holds the key to solving the mystery that haunts Yoder's hometown. Praise for *The Novel* “Michener explores some of the deepest issues raised by narrative literature.”—*The New York Times* “A good, old-fashioned, sink-your-teeth-into-it story . . . *The Novel* lets us see an unfamiliar side of the author, at the same time portraying the delicate, complex relationship among editors, agents and writers.”—*The Philadelphia Inquirer* “Michener loves literature, and his information about some of his favorite reading is almost as alluring as his explanation of how to handle a manuscript.”—*Associated Press* “So absorbing you simply will not want [it] to end.”—*Charleston News & Courier*

"A celebration of reading in general and [a] ... recommendation of specific books that can help guide us through our daily lives ... for everyone who loves books, loves reading, and loves to hear the answer to the question: 'What have you been reading lately?'"--

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An Instant NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER A LOS ANGELES TIMES, BOSTON GLOBE, WALL STREET JOURNAL, and NATIONAL INDIE BESTSELLER Named A BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR by *Elle * Real Simple * Kirkus Reviews * BookPage * "Memoir gold: a profound and exquisitely rendered exploration of identity and the true meaning of family." --People Magazine "Beautifully written and deeply moving--it brought me to tears more than once."--Ruth Franklin, The New York Times Book Review From the acclaimed, best-selling memoirist, novelist and host of the hit podcast Family Secrets, comes a memoir about the staggering family secret uncovered by a genealogy test: an exploration of the urgent ethical questions surrounding fertility treatments and DNA testing, and a profound inquiry of paternity, identity, and love. In the spring of 2016, through a genealogy website to which she had casually submitted her DNA for analysis, Dani Shapiro received the stunning news that her beloved deceased father was not her biological father. Over the course of a single day, her entire history--the life she had lived--crumbled beneath her. Inheritance is a book about secrets. It is the story of a woman's urgent quest to unlock the story of her own identity, a story that had been scrupulously hidden from her for more than fifty years. It is a book about the extraordinary moment we live in, a moment in which science and technology have outpaced not only medical ethics but also

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the capacities of the human heart to contend with the consequences of what we discover. Dani Shapiro's memoir unfolds at a breakneck pace--part mystery, part real-time investigation, part rumination on the ineffable combination of memory, history, biology, and experience that makes us who we are. Inheritance is a devastating and haunting interrogation of the meaning of kinship and identity, written with stunning intensity and precision.

Lorsque sur un coup de tête, Cheryl Strayed enfile son sac à dos, elle n'a aucune idée de ce qui l'attend. Tout ce qu'elle sait, c'est que sa vie est un désastre. Entre une mère trop aimée, brutalement disparue, un divorce douloureux et un lourd passé de junky, Cheryl vacille. Pour tenir debout et affronter les fantômes de son passé, la jeune Cheryl n'a aucune réponse, mais un point de fuite : tout quitter pour une randonnée sur le « Chemin des crêtes du Pacifique ». Lancée au cœur d'une nature immense et sauvage, seule sous un sac à dos trop lourd, elle doit avancer pour survivre, sur 1700 kilomètres d'épuisement et d'effort, et réussir à atteindre le bout d'elle-même. Une histoire poignante et humaine, où la marche se fait rédemption. « Dix-sept ans plus tard, devenue une journaliste célèbre, Cheryl Strayed révèle enfin dans un livre revigorant son expérience, cette part d'ombre. Et de lumière. » Marie-Claire Traduit de l'anglais (États-Unis) par Anne Guitton

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For use in schools and libraries only. Traces the personal crisis the author endured after the death of her mother and a painful divorce, which prompted her ambition to undertake a dangerous thousand-mile solo hike that both drove her to rock bottom and helped her to heal.

In her debut novel, the bestselling author of *Wild* weaves a searing and luminous tale of a family's grief after unexpected loss. "Work hard. Do good. Be incredible!" is the advice Teresa Rae Wood shares with the listeners of her local radio show, *Modern Pioneers*, and the advice she strives to live by every day. She has fled a bad marriage and rebuilt a life with her children, Claire and Joshua, and their caring stepfather, Bruce. Their love for each other binds them as a family through the daily struggles of making ends meet. But when they received unexpected news that Teresa, only 38, is dying of cancer, their lives all begin to unravel and drift apart. Strayed's intimate portraits of these fully human characters in a time of crisis show the varying truths of grief, forgiveness, and the beautiful terrors of learning how to keep living.

#1 NATIONAL BESTSELLER At twenty-two, Cheryl Strayed thought she had lost everything. In the wake of her mother's death, her family scattered and her own marriage was soon destroyed. Four years later, with nothing more to lose, she made the most impulsive decision of her life. With no experience or training,

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driven only by blind will, she would hike more than a thousand miles of the Pacific Crest Trail from the Mojave Desert through California and Oregon to Washington State—and she would do it alone. Told with suspense and style, sparkling with warmth and humor, *Wild* powerfully captures the terrors and pleasures of one young woman forging ahead against all odds on a journey that maddened, strengthened, and ultimately healed her. Oprah's Book Club 2.0 selection: This special eBook edition of Cheryl Strayed's national best seller, *Wild*, features exclusive content, including Oprah's personal notes highlighted within the text, and a reading group guide. One of the Best Books of the Year: NPR, The Boston Globe, Entertainment Weekly, Vogue, St. Louis Dispatch

Literary Nonfiction. How did Cheryl Strayed turn a solo hike into an inspirational memoir, beloved by millions? Memoirist and professor Alden Jones sets out to explore why. But when a sudden personal crisis occurs while she is writing, Jones realizes she must confront some difficult truths, both in her life and on the page. *THE WANTING WAS A WILDERNESS* is a profoundly original work that blends criticism, craft analysis, and a memoir of Jones's own time in the wilderness. The result is a celebration of *WILD* and a map of our long path to self-discovery. "Alden Jones intended to write a reckoning with a contemporary literary classic--but she has written far more than that. To carefully dissect *Wild*,

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she finds she must consider her own quests: her own time in the wild; her self-discoveries as a queer woman; and how she can both live and tell an authentic story. This is a beautiful, lyric, unexpected book about the power of memoir and how desire both leads us into the wilderness and makes for us a map. THE WANTING WAS A WILDERNESS is book for readers, true readers, to treasure."--Alex Marzano-Lesnevich "In THE WANTING WAS A WILDERNESS, Alden Jones initiates a smartly syncopated call-and-response with Cheryl Strayed's Wild, the book that helped her make sense of a past turbulent with conflicting desires. Embedded in the saga of her own wilderness trek is Jones's open-eyed and completely compelling account of the dynamics of love and sexuality. The book builds itself beautifully as Jones keeps asking herself how to best present her story. This is how craft makes a memoir come to life."--Sven Birkerts "THE WANTING WAS A WILDERNESS defies genre--part literary analysis, part memoir, part rumination on memoir and memoir writing. Alden Jones explores her own private wilderness as she takes us along on Cheryl Strayed's hike. This journey through Jones's life, and her intelligent, thoughtful considerations of literature and writing, is one you will not want to miss. Jones asks us: What's in your pack? And that is the question that ultimately resonates: As you think about your wilderness, what's in your pack?"--Ann Hood "THE

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WANTING WAS A WILDERNESS is so much more than a work of literary criticism or a memoir. It is a manifesto on how to live an honest and authentic life. Brilliant!"--Bobbi Brown

Did you ever feel a need to shake up your life a little? Jane Congdon did, and spent 17 weeks on the Appalachian Trail hiking with partners, alone, and with a good-luck charm, logging 1,200 miles in 7 of the 14 AT states. This is her fascinating and humorous account of journey-from bears, wild pigs, violent weather, trail town stops--and the personalities she met along the way--and how it changed her perceptions of both Mother Nature and human nature.

In *When Everything Beyond the Walls Is Wild*, Lilace Mellin Guignard draws from emblematic moments and relationships in her own life to explore issues of gender, recreation, and environmental conservation. Born into a suburban family, Guignard wanted to get up close and personal with iconic American landscapes, but social pressures and cautionary tales told her that these spaces were not meant for her as a woman. Reflecting on the ways our culture socializes women to remain indoors, Guignard shares her own struggles with finding her place outdoors. Refusing to stay indoors and "safe," Guignard drove cross-country with her dog, worked as a river guide, and set out to climb Mount Whitney. She recounts navigating outdoor interactions with male friends and strangers that

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range from wonderful to awkward to frightening. Now that she is settled with her own family, Guignard writes about how it is still more difficult for women than men to prioritize outdoor recreation time. These stories expose how cultural messages about women shape their experiences and interactions when backpacking, paddling, rock climbing, and bicycling. They broaden readers' notions of what adventure is, what places are considered wild and worth our care, and what types of people enjoy the outdoors. Drawing upon the art of the memoir—and informed by analysis from women's studies and ecological literature—Guignard makes an impassioned case for why women and marginalized members of society should have the opportunity to experience nature. The self-reliance and connection with the natural world that outdoor recreation fosters are qualities we all need in order to do the work required by the environmental challenges ahead.

Wild. Film Tie-In A Journey from Lost to Found

National Best Seller From the best-selling author of *Wild*, a collection of quotes—drawn from the wide range of her writings—that capture her wisdom, courage, and outspoken humor, presented in a gift-sized package that's as irresistible to give as it is to receive. Around the world, thousands of people have found inspiration in the words of Cheryl Strayed, who in her three prior books and in her "Dear Sugar" columns has shared the twists and trials of her remarkable

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life. Her honesty, spirit, and ample supply of tough love have enabled many of us, even in the darkest hours, to somehow put one foot in front of the other—and be brave enough. This book gathers, each on a single page, more than 100 of Strayed's indelible quotes and thoughts—"mini instruction manuals for the soul" that urge us toward the incredible capacity for love, compassion, forgiveness, and endurance that is within us all. Be brave enough to break your own heart. You can't ride to the fair unless you get on the pony. Keep walking. Acceptance is a small, quiet room. Romantic love is not a competitive sport. Forward is the direction of real life. Ask yourself: What is the best I can do? And then do that. Jill Frayne's long-term relationship was ending and her daughter was about to graduate and leave home. She decided to pack up her life and head for the Yukon. Driving alone across the country from her home just north of Toronto, describing the land as it changes from Precambrian Shield to open prairie, Jill finds that solitude in the wilds is not what she expected. She is actively engaged by nature, her moods reflected in the changing landscape and weather. Camping in her tent as she travels, she begins to let go of the world she's leaving and to enter the realm of the solitary traveller. There are many challenges in store. She has booked a place on a two-week sea-kayaking trip in the Queen Charlotte Islands of British Columbia; though she owns a canoe, she has never been in a

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kayak. As the departure nears, she dreads it. Nor does it work any miracle charm on her, as she is isolated from her fellow travellers; yet the landscape and wild beauty of the old hunt camps gradually affects her. Halfway, as she begins to have energy left at the end of the day's exertions, she notes: "This is as relaxed as I have ever been, as free from anxious future-thinking as I have ever managed." From there she heads north, taking ferries up the Inside Passage and using her bicycle and tent to explore the wet, mountainous places along the way. Again, she feels self-conscious when alone in public, but once she strikes out into nature, the wilderness begins to work its magic on her, and she begins to feel a bond with the land and a kind of serenity. Moreover, she comes to realize that this self-reliance is an important step. Many travel narratives involve some kind of inner journey, a seeking of knowledge and of self. Set in the same part of the world, Jonathan Raban's *A Passage to Juneau* ended up being "an exploration into the wilderness of the human heart." Kevin Patterson used his months sailing from Vancouver to Tahiti to consider his life in *The Water in Between*, while the Bhutanese landscape worked a profound transformation on Jamie Zeppa in *Beyond the Sky and the Earth*. In *This Cold Heaven*, Gretel Ehrlich chose not to put herself into the story, but described the landscape with a similar hunger and intensity, while Sharon Butala has written deeply and

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personally about her physical and spiritual connection with the prairies in *The Perfection of the Morning* and other work. In *Starting Out in the Afternoon*, Frayne struggles to come to terms with her vulnerabilities and begins to find peace. In beautifully spare but potent language, she delivers an inspiring, contemplative memoir of the middle passage of a woman's life and an eloquent meditation on the solace of living close to the wild land. Eventually what has begun as a three-month trip becomes a personal journey of several years, during which she is on the move and testing herself in the wilderness. She conquers her fears and begins a new relationship with nature, exuberant at becoming a competent outdoorswoman. "Despite a late start I expect to spend the rest of my life dashing off the highway, pursuing this know-how, plumbing the outdoors side of life."

The newest Oprah's Book Club 2.0 selection: this special eBook edition of *The Twelve Tribes of Hattie* by Ayana Mathis features exclusive content, including Oprah's personal notes highlighted within the text, and a reading group guide. The arrival of a major new voice in contemporary fiction. A debut of extraordinary distinction: Ayana Mathis tells the story of the children of the Great Migration through the trials of one unforgettable family. In 1923, fifteen-year-old Hattie Shepherd flees Georgia and settles in Philadelphia, hoping for a chance at a

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better life. Instead, she marries a man who will bring her nothing but disappointment and watches helplessly as her firstborn twins succumb to an illness a few pennies could have prevented. Hattie gives birth to nine more children whom she raises with grit and mettle and not an ounce of the tenderness they crave. She vows to prepare them for the calamitous difficulty they are sure to face in their later lives, to meet a world that will not love them, a world that will not be kind. Captured here in twelve luminous narrative threads, their lives tell the story of a mother's monumental courage and the journey of a nation.

Beautiful and devastating, Ayana Mathis's *The Twelve Tribes of Hattie* is wondrous from first to last—glorious, harrowing, unexpectedly uplifting, and blazing with life. An emotionally transfixing page-turner, a searing portrait of striving in the face of insurmountable adversity, an indelible encounter with the resilience of the human spirit and the driving force of the American dream.

"A coming-of-age memoir by the daughter of privileged, artistic, hard-drinking, bohemian parents, set against a backdrop of 1950s New York, Cape Cod, and Mexico"--

"A story of sex and intrigue set amid rich people in a beautiful house with a picturesque swimming pool . . . Very funny." —Rumaan Alam, *The Washington Post* A brilliantly funny novel of bad behavior in the post-Obama era, featuring a

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wealthy Connecticut divorcée, her college-age daughter, and the famous novelist who is seduced by them both. Rachel Klein never meant to kiss her creative writing professor, but with his long eyelashes, his silky hair, and the sad, beautiful life he laid bare on Twitter, she does, and the kiss is very nice. Zahid Azzam never planned to become a houseguest in his student's sprawling Connecticut home, but with the sparkling swimming pool, the endless supply of Whole Foods strawberries, and Rachel's beautiful mother, he does, and the home is very nice. Becca Klein never thought she'd have a love affair so soon after her divorce, but when her daughter's professor walks into her home, bringing with him an apricot standard poodle named Princess, she does, and the affair is . . . a very bad idea. Zigzagging between the rarefied circles of Manhattan investment banking, the achingly self-serious MFA programs of the Midwest, and the private bedrooms of Connecticut, *Very Nice* is an audacious, addictive, and wickedly smart take on the way we live now.

I brought them to the wilderness because we couldn't cope with our reality. The plan was to make a new life that didn't include heartache. No people. No technology. No interference. Just us. A chance to piece together what was broken. But the wilderness is untamed and harsh. Brutal and unforgiving. It doesn't give a damn about your feelings. Tragedy lives there too. No escaping

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the truths that won't let you go. All you can do is survive where love, no matter how beastly, is the only thing you can truly count on. Confusing. Wrong. Twisted. Beautiful. Sick. Love is wild. And we're going to set it free. **WARNING:** The Wild is an extremely taboo story. Most will find that the themes in this book will make you incredibly uncomfortable or maybe even offend you. This book is only for the brave, the open-minded, and the ones who crave love in even the most dismal of situations. Extreme sexual themes and violence in certain scenes, which could trigger emotional distress, are found in this story. If you are sensitive to heavy taboo themes, then this story is not for you. Seriously, you've been warned. Don't say I didn't try. You're probably going to cringe many, many, many times. Even if you're on the fence, it's probably not a good idea to proceed. However, if you're intrigued and fearless and kind of sort of trust me, then carry on. This book is for you.

The trees were tall, but I was taller, standing above them on a steep mountain slope in northern California. Moments before, I'd removed my hiking boots and the left one had fallen into those trees, first catapulting into the air when my enormous backpack toppled onto it, then skittering across the gravelly trail and flying over the edge. It bounced off of a rocky outcropping several feet beneath me before disappearing into the forest canopy below, impossible to retrieve. I let out a stunned gasp, though I'd been in the wilderness

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thirty-eight days and by then I'd come to know that anything could happen and that everything would. But that doesn't mean I wasn't shocked when it did. My boot was gone. Actually gone. I clutched its mate to my chest like a baby, though of course it was futile. What is one boot without the other boot? It is nothing. It is useless, an orphan forevermore, and I could take no mercy on it. It was a big lug of a thing, of genuine heft, a brown leather Raichle boot with a red lace and silver metal fasts. I lifted it high and threw it with all my might and watched it fall into the lush trees and out of my life. I was alone. I was barefoot. I was twenty-six years old and an orphan too. An actual stray, a stranger had observed a couple of weeks before, when I'd told him my name and explained how very loose I was in the world. My father left my life when I was six. My mother died when I was twenty-two. In the wake of her death, my stepfather morphed from the person I considered my dad into a man I only occasionally recognized. My two siblings scattered in their grief, in spite of my efforts to hold us together, until I gave up and scattered as well. In the years before I pitched my boot over the edge of that mountain, I'd been pitching myself over the edge too. I'd ranged and roamed and railed from Minnesota to New York to Oregon and all across the West until at last I found myself, bootless, in the summer of 1995, not so much loose in the world as bound to it. A New York Times Love and Relationships Bestseller A hilarious, frank, and witty collection of all-new responses, plus a few greatest hits, from the author of the beloved advice column "Ask Polly" in New York magazine's The Cut. Should you quit your day

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job to follow your dreams? How do you rein in an overbearing mother? Will you ever stop dating wishy-washy, noncommittal guys? Should you put off having a baby for your career? Heather Havrilesky of the wildly popular Ask Polly advice column is here to guide you through the "what if's" and "I don't knows" of modern life with the signature wisdom and tough love her readers have come to expect. *How to Be a Person in the World* is a hilarious, frank, and witty collection of never-before-published material along with a few fan favorites. Whether she's responding to cheaters or loners, lovers or haters, the anxious or the down-and-out, Havrilesky writes with equal parts grace, humor, and compassion to remind you that even in your darkest moments you're not alone.

An Instant New York Times Bestseller A New York Times Notable Book One of Barack Obama's Favorite Books of 2020 Named One of the Best Books of the Year by: The Washington Post, NPR, Shelf Awareness, Esquire, Electric Literature, Slate, The Los Angeles Times, USA Today, and InStyle A chillingly personal and exquisitely wrought memoir of a daughter reckoning with the brutal murder of her mother at the hands of her former stepfather, and the moving, intimate story of a poet coming into her own in the wake of a tragedy At age nineteen, Natasha Trethewey had her world turned upside down when her former stepfather shot and killed her mother. Grieving and still new to adulthood, she confronted the twin pulls of life and death in the aftermath of unimaginable trauma and now explores the way this experience lastingly shaped the

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artist she became. With penetrating insight and a searing voice that moves from the wrenching to the elegiac, Pulitzer Prize–winning poet Natasha Trethewey explores this profound experience of pain, loss, and grief as an entry point into understanding the tragic course of her mother’s life and the way her own life has been shaped by a legacy of fierce love and resilience. Moving through her mother’s history in the deeply segregated South and through her own girlhood as a “child of miscegenation” in Mississippi, Trethewey plumbs her sense of dislocation and displacement in the lead-up to the harrowing crime that took place on Memorial Drive in Atlanta in 1985. Memorial Drive is a compelling and searching look at a shared human experience of sudden loss and absence but also a piercing glimpse at the enduring ripple effects of white racism and domestic abuse. Animated by unforgettable prose and inflected by a poet’s attention to language, this is a luminous, urgent, and visceral memoir from one of our most important contemporary writers and thinkers.

God only knows what possessed Bill 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

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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.

The members of the Eide family find themselves changed forever after their elderly, demented patriarch runs into the wilderness of northern Minnesota in an attempt to reenact a similar adventure sixty years earlier.

Sophia Amoruso, the bestselling author of *#GIRLBOSS*, shares her favorite tips, checklists, and fill-in-the-blanks that will help you become your best Girlboss yet. Filled with whimsical illustrations, exercises, and plenty of scribble room, *The Girlboss Workbook* is designed for both the dreamer and the doer. It invites you--hell, implores you--to get in there and mess it up a little. Write in the blank spaces and in between them. *#GIRLBOSS* started as Sophia's story, but *The Girlboss Workbook* is your story. Use it as a diary, a mood board, a stress ball. Use it in class or at work for daydreaming and doodling. Use it to figure out what makes your freak flag fly -- and then go for it. Whatever you do, take this book, and your path, into your own hands. No need to handle it with care and no need to live a typical, cookie-cutter life. Sophia's has been anything but.

“Rother is the next Ann Rule.” —Gregg Olsen Chelsea King was a popular high school senior, an outstanding achiever determined to make a difference. Fourteen-year-old Amber Dubois loved books and poured her heart into the animals she cared for.

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Treasured by all who knew them, both girls disappeared in San Diego County, just eight miles and one year apart. The families' anguish galvanized the community and captivated the media. A desperate search led authorities to John Albert Gardner, a brutal predator, convicted sex offender hiding in plain sight—and a complex man whose own mother, a psychiatric nursing professional, failed to see the signs of trouble. Ultimately, Gardner shared a prison unit with Charles Manson. In 2010, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed Chelsea's Law: anyone convicted of certain sex offenses against a child in California would get life in prison without parole. Based on Pulitzer-nominated author Caitlin Rother's exclusive access, *Lost Girls* is an incisive, heartbreaking true-life thriller that strikes at our deepest fears. “A cautionary tale and a horror story, done superbly.” —Los Angeles Times “A terrifying portrait of a man who was sweet and cuddly one day and a crazed killer the next.” —San Diego Reader “Gripping . . . chilling . . . a must-read.” —Sue Russell “Boldly dissects how a boy with psychological problems formed into a man indifferent to his monstrous acts.” —Katherine Ramsland “Caitlin Rother stirs up the lethal stew of family dysfunction, mental illness, substance abuse and deadly psychopathology. . . . Frank and riveting.” —Diane Fanning Includes dramatic photos

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