

Big Spring Books

The Tiny Slice

“To make it you have to be first, great, or different. Between the two of us, I believe Patsy and I had all three covered.”

—From *Me & Patsy Kickin’ Up Dust: My Friendship With Patsy Cline* by Loretta Lynn



Mantel Returns

The Mirror & the Light, the third book of Hilary Mantel’s epic *Wolf Hall* trilogy, has finally arrived, continuing the dark story of Thomas Cromwell in the treacherous Tudor court of Henry VIII. The audiobook version, released simultaneously, is narrated by the actor Ben Miles, who played Cromwell in *Wolf Hall* on Broadway.

Kondo at Work

Marie Kondo taught us how to spark joy at home with *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up*. Now she’s tackling our workplaces, with *Joy at Work: Organizing Your Professional Life*, coauthored by Rice University business professor Scott Sonenshein, about the delight you’ll find streamlining your work space and habits.

Reviews

IT’S NOT ALL DOWNHILL FROM HERE

by Terry McMillan
This warm, winning novel from the author of 1992’s *Waiting to Exhale* is about a tight group of friends in California who are in their late 60s and beyond. The focus is Loretha Curry, heartbroken after her husband’s sudden death but refusing to believe “It’s all downhill from here.”

AFTERLIFE
by Julia Alvarez
The best-selling Dominican American author of *In the Time of the Butterflies* (1994) tackles weighty issues with a light touch. Just-widowed Antonia Vega suddenly faces dual crises that raise an age-old question: What are our obligations when someone—relative or stranger—is in need?

THE LOST FAMILY: HOW DNA TESTING IS UPENDING WHO WE ARE
by Libby Copeland
Journalist Copeland offers a fascinating exploration of the ethical questions surrounding “recreational” DNA testing. “When one person spits in a vial or swabs her cheek, the whole family is implicated,” she notes. —Christina Lanzito



What I’m Reading

By James McBride
Author of *The Good Lord Bird* and *Deacon King Kong*

- **Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead** by Olga Tokarczuk (2019) A wonderful novel about an older Polish woman who stumbles upon some mysterious murders.
- **A Man Called Ove** by Fredrik Backman (2012) A great tale about a charismatic widower, it brims with style and substance.

ALSO OF NOTE

BIOGRAPHY
Warhol
by Blake Gopnik

SPORTS
Swing Kings: The Inside Story of Baseball’s Home Run Revolution
by Jared Diamond

FICTION
Devoted
by Dean Koontz

SELF-HELP HappiNest: Finding Fulfillment When Your Kids Leave Home
by Judy Holland

Clockwise from center: Jeff Elkins; Henry Holt and Co.; Illustration by Alain Pilon; Rowman & Littlefield; Thomas & Mercer; William Morrow; Ecco