

craig johnson the cold dish

Craig Johnson The Cold Dish: Exploring the Start of a Beloved Mystery Series

craig johnson the cold dish is not just the title of a book; it marks the beginning of an intriguing journey into the rugged landscapes of Wyoming and the complex mind of a modern Western lawman. This novel, penned by Craig Johnson, introduces readers to Sheriff Walt Longmire, a character who has since become a staple in contemporary mystery fiction. If you're curious about what makes "The Cold Dish" stand out in the crowded world of crime novels, you're in for a deep dive into its narrative style, setting, and the author's unique approach to storytelling.

The Genesis of Walt Longmire's World

Craig Johnson's "The Cold Dish" is the inaugural entry in the Walt Longmire series, a collection of novels that blend traditional mystery elements with the distinctive flavor of the American West. The story unfolds in Absaroka County, Wyoming, offering a vivid backdrop that plays a crucial role in shaping the plot and the characters. Johnson's intimate knowledge of this region shines through, painting a picture that is both authentic and atmospheric.

Setting as a Character

One of the most compelling aspects of "The Cold Dish" is how the Wyoming setting transcends mere location status to become a character in its own right. The harsh winters, sprawling landscapes, and tight-knit communities influence every decision and interaction. This environmental immersion provides readers with an experience that feels genuine—almost as if they're walking alongside Sheriff Longmire through the snow-covered streets and open plains.

Introducing Sheriff Walt Longmire

At the heart of the novel is Walt Longmire himself, a man shaped by loss, duty, and a deep connection to his community. Unlike many detective protagonists, Longmire embodies a blend of rugged individualism and empathetic leadership. His grounded personality and moral code resonate strongly, making him relatable and compelling. Johnson carefully crafts Longmire's character through subtle details and dialogue, avoiding clichés often found in crime fiction.

Plot Overview: The Mystery That Hooks You

"The Cold Dish" centers on the investigation of a brutal murder on the nearby Cheyenne reservation. The victim, a young Native American man, is found dead under suspicious circumstances, and the case quickly escalates, revealing tensions between the reservation and the broader community. Walt Longmire's pursuit of justice leads him into a complex web of cultural conflicts, personal vendettas, and political intrigue.

Balancing Crime and Culture

Craig Johnson deftly balances the crime-solving aspect with a nuanced portrayal of Native American life, something that adds depth and authenticity to the narrative. The book highlights issues such as tribal sovereignty, historical grievances, and the challenges of law enforcement in a culturally diverse area. This thoughtful integration enriches the story, elevating it beyond a simple whodunit.

Storytelling Style and Pacing

The pacing of "The Cold Dish" is deliberate yet engaging, allowing readers to savor the development of characters and plot. Johnson's narrative style is straightforward but evocative, blending humor, introspection, and suspense. The dialogue feels natural, and the descriptive passages transport the reader to Wyoming's wintry terrain. This combination keeps readers invested from the first page to the last.

Craig Johnson's Unique Contribution to the Mystery Genre

Craig Johnson stands out among mystery writers for his ability to combine the Western genre with contemporary crime fiction. "The Cold Dish" exemplifies this fusion, bringing a fresh perspective to both genres. Instead of relying on fast-paced action or over-the-top plot twists, Johnson focuses on character-driven storytelling and atmospheric detail.

A Modern Western with a Heart

While many Westerns focus on the past, Johnson's work is firmly set in the modern day, exploring how traditional Western values intersect with current social issues. Walt Longmire's character embodies this blend—he's a sheriff

who respects the land and its history but must also navigate the complexities of modern law enforcement.

Appeal to Diverse Audiences

"The Cold Dish" appeals not only to mystery enthusiasts but also to readers who appreciate literary fiction and regional storytelling. Its rich character development and cultural insights attract a wide readership, making it a favorite among book clubs and critics alike. For those who enjoy series with strong character arcs and immersive settings, this novel is a perfect starting point.

Impact and Legacy of The Cold Dish

Since its publication, "The Cold Dish" has garnered critical acclaim and a loyal fan base. It launched a series that now includes numerous sequels, each building on the foundation laid by this first novel. The character of Walt Longmire has also been adapted for television, expanding the reach and influence of Craig Johnson's creation.

Building a Series with Staying Power

Many mystery series struggle to maintain momentum, but Johnson's consistent quality and attention to detail keep readers coming back. Each book reveals more about Longmire and the communities he serves, deepening the emotional stakes and narrative complexity. "The Cold Dish" is essential reading for anyone wanting to understand the roots of this enduring series.

Television Adaptation and Popular Culture

The success of the Longmire television series, which aired for several seasons, brought Craig Johnson's work to a broader audience. Fans of the show often return to the books to experience the original storytelling, finding additional layers and nuances that the screen version may not capture. This cross-media presence has cemented "The Cold Dish" as a cultural touchstone within crime fiction.

Tips for New Readers Diving into Craig Johnson's Work

If you're considering starting the Walt Longmire series, beginning with "The Cold Dish" is essential. Here are some pointers to enhance your reading experience:

- **Take your time with the setting:** Absorb the descriptions of the Wyoming landscape—it's integral to the story's mood.
- **Focus on character development:** Pay attention to Longmire's internal struggles as much as the external mystery.
- **Understand cultural context:** The novel deals with Native American issues sensitively, so a respectful and open-minded approach will enrich your reading.
- **Note the supporting cast:** Secondary characters add depth and often provide important clues or perspectives.

Engaging with these elements will deepen your appreciation for Craig Johnson's craftsmanship and the world he has created.

Craig Johnson's "The Cold Dish" remains a standout in the mystery genre, offering readers a blend of authenticity, cultural insight, and compelling storytelling. It's not just a book you read—it's a world you enter, one that lingers in the mind long after the last page is turned. Whether you're a seasoned mystery fan or new to Western crime fiction, "The Cold Dish" is a rewarding and unforgettable read.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is the author of 'The Cold Dish'?

'The Cold Dish' is written by Craig Johnson.

What genre does 'The Cold Dish' by Craig Johnson belong to?

'The Cold Dish' is a contemporary western mystery novel.

Who is the main character in Craig Johnson's 'The Cold Dish'?

The main character is Walt Longmire, the sheriff of Absaroka County, Wyoming.

What is the central plot of 'The Cold Dish'?

'The Cold Dish' follows Sheriff Walt Longmire as he investigates a murder that hits close to home, involving complex relationships and justice in a small Wyoming community.

Is 'The Cold Dish' part of a series?

Yes, 'The Cold Dish' is the first book in the Walt Longmire Mysteries series by Craig Johnson.

Has 'The Cold Dish' been adapted into any other media?

Yes, the Walt Longmire series, including 'The Cold Dish,' inspired the TV show 'Longmire.'

What themes are explored in 'The Cold Dish'?

'The Cold Dish' explores themes of justice, loyalty, cultural conflict, and redemption.

Where is 'The Cold Dish' set?

The novel is set in Absaroka County, a fictional county in Wyoming.

Additional Resources

Craig Johnson The Cold Dish: A Deep Dive into the Inaugural Walt Longmire Mystery

craig johnson the cold dish marks the compelling debut of author Craig Johnson's Walt Longmire mystery series. Since its publication in 2005, this novel has garnered critical acclaim for its authentic portrayal of the American West, nuanced characters, and gripping narrative. As the first installment in a series that has captivated readers and inspired a successful television adaptation, The Cold Dish stands out not only as a crime novel but also as a literary exploration of justice, community, and morality in modern-day Wyoming.

Exploring the Premise and Setting of The Cold Dish

Set against the sprawling, rugged landscapes of Absaroka County, Wyoming, The Cold Dish introduces readers to Sheriff Walt Longmire, a seasoned lawman

grappling with personal loss and professional challenges. The narrative unfolds as Longmire investigates the murder of a young Cheyenne man, a case fraught with cultural tensions, historical grievances, and community secrets. Craig Johnson's choice of setting is integral to the story, offering more than just a backdrop—it becomes a character in itself, reflecting the isolation, resilience, and complexity of life in the American West.

The novel's depiction of Wyoming's geography and small-town dynamics is both vivid and accurate. Johnson, who has lived in Wyoming for many years, infuses local color and regional history into his storytelling, enhancing the authenticity that fans of western mystery novels often seek. This grounded setting distinguishes *The Cold Dish* from more generic crime thrillers, appealing to readers who appreciate a strong sense of place.

The Character of Walt Longmire: A Modern Western Hero

At the heart of *The Cold Dish* is Walt Longmire, a sheriff whose stoic exterior conceals a deeply reflective and principled man. Unlike traditional hard-boiled detectives, Longmire embodies the ethos of the Western hero—resilient, ethical, and deeply connected to his community. Craig Johnson's characterization avoids clichés by presenting Longmire as a multifaceted individual, struggling with grief over his wife's death while maintaining a steadfast commitment to justice.

Longmire's investigative approach combines old-fashioned detective work with a keen understanding of human nature. His interactions with a diverse cast of characters, including his loyal deputies and members of the local Native American tribe, reveal a nuanced perspective on law enforcement that acknowledges the complexities of cultural and social issues in rural America.

Literary Style and Narrative Techniques

Craig Johnson's writing style in *The Cold Dish* balances straightforward prose with moments of lyrical description. The pacing is deliberate, allowing the mystery to unfold organically while providing ample space for character development and atmospheric detail. This measured tempo may contrast with the fast-paced conventions of mainstream thrillers, but it serves the story's reflective tone and thematic depth.

The narrative voice is predominantly third-person, closely aligned with Longmire's point of view. This perspective creates an intimate connection between the reader and the protagonist, fostering empathy and insight into the sheriff's internal dilemmas. Johnson also weaves in elements of local dialect and cultural references, enriching the text's authenticity without overwhelming readers unfamiliar with the region.

Thematic Dimensions: Justice, Identity, and Community

Beyond the murder investigation, *The Cold Dish* engages with broader themes that resonate throughout the Walt Longmire series. One prominent theme is the quest for justice—not merely as legal retribution but as a moral and communal imperative. The case challenges Longmire to navigate the thin line between law enforcement and understanding the historical context of Native American experiences.

The novel also delves into questions of identity and belonging. The relationships between the townspeople and the Cheyenne tribe highlight tensions and misunderstandings that stem from centuries of history. Johnson handles these issues with sensitivity, avoiding stereotypes and instead presenting complex characters on all sides.

Community emerges as another vital theme. In *The Cold Dish*, the bonds between individuals—whether forged through friendship, duty, or cultural ties—shape the unfolding drama. The sheriff's role extends beyond crime-solving; he is a pillar of the community, embodying values that sustain the social fabric of Absaroka County.

Comparative Analysis: The Cold Dish within the Mystery Genre

Within the broader mystery and crime fiction landscape, *The Cold Dish* distinguishes itself through its unique blend of Western motifs and procedural elements. While many contemporary mysteries are set in urban environments or revolve around high-tech investigations, Craig Johnson offers a grounded, character-driven story rooted in rural America.

When compared to other modern Western mysteries, such as those by Tony Hillerman or James Crumley, Johnson's work stands out for its focus on contemporary social issues alongside traditional detective storytelling. The incorporation of Native American perspectives and the exploration of cultural conflicts provide a depth often absent in genre fiction.

In terms of narrative structure, *The Cold Dish* adheres to classic mystery conventions—introduction of crime, investigation, revelation of suspects, and eventual resolution—yet it subverts expectations with its emphasis on character introspection and moral ambiguity. This approach appeals to readers who seek more than just puzzle-solving in their crime fiction.

Strengths and Limitations of The Cold Dish

- **Strengths:** Rich characterization of Walt Longmire; evocative depiction of Wyoming's landscape; thoughtful exploration of cultural and ethical issues; steady, immersive pacing.
- **Limitations:** Some readers may find the pacing slow compared to more action-oriented thrillers; limited appeal for those unfamiliar with or uninterested in Western settings; occasional reliance on genre tropes.

These factors contribute to *The Cold Dish*'s niche appeal, resonating strongly with audiences who appreciate literary depth alongside mystery elements.

Legacy and Adaptations

The success of Craig Johnson's *The Cold Dish* paved the way for an extensive Walt Longmire series, each novel further exploring the sheriff's world and personal evolution. The series' popularity led to the creation of the television show "Longmire," which brought the characters and Wyoming's landscapes to a wider audience, though with some creative liberties.

This adaptation has introduced many viewers to the themes and tone established in *The Cold Dish*, reinforcing the novel's influence within the genre. The show's visual storytelling complements Johnson's descriptive prose, emphasizing the interplay between character and environment.

Impact on Contemporary Western Literature

Craig Johnson's *The Cold Dish* contributed to a resurgence of interest in contemporary Western fiction, blending mystery with regional authenticity. Its success demonstrated that Western settings could provide fertile ground for complex narratives beyond traditional cowboy tales. This has inspired other authors to explore similar themes, enriching the genre's diversity and depth.

In sum, *The Cold Dish* stands as a noteworthy work that bridges the gap between crime fiction and literary exploration of place and identity, securing its place in the canon of modern American mysteries.

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craig johnson the cold dish: The Cold Dish Craig Johnson, 2023-02-07 Introducing Wyoming's Sheriff Walt Longmire in this riveting novel from the New York Times bestselling author of *Hell Is Empty* and *As the Crow Flies*, the first in the Longmire Mystery Series, the basis for LONGMIRE, the hit Netflix original drama series. Fans of Ace Atkins, Nevada Barr and Robert B. Parker will love this outstanding first novel, in which New York Times bestselling author Craig Johnson introduces Sheriff Walt Longmire of Wyoming's Absaroka County. Johnson draws on his deep attachment to the American West to produce a literary mystery of stunning authenticity, and full of memorable characters. After twenty-five years as sheriff of Absaroka County, Walt Longmire's hopes of finishing out his tenure in peace are dashed when Cody Pritchard is found dead near the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. Two years earlier, Cody has been one of four high school boys given suspended sentences for raping a local Cheyenne girl. Somebody, it would seem, is seeking vengeance, and Longmire might be the only thing standing between the three remaining boys and a Sharps .45-70 rifle. With lifelong friend Henry Standing Bear, Deputy Victoria Moretti, and a cast of characters both tragic and humorous enough to fill in the vast emptiness of the high plains, Walt Longmire attempts to see that revenge, a dish best served cold, is never served at all.

craig johnson the cold dish: The Cold Dish Craig Johnson, 2013-09-28 'The characters talk straight from the hip and the Wyoming landscape is its own kind of eloquence' New York Times After 25 years as Sheriff of Absaroka County, Walt Longmire's hopes of ending his tenure in peace are dashed when Cody Pritchard is found dead near the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. Two years earlier, Cody was one of four high school boys given suspended sentences for raping a local Cheyenne girl. Somebody, it would seem, is seeking vengeance, and Longmire might be the only thing standing between the three remaining boys and a Sharps .45-70 rifle. With lifelong friend Henry Standing Bear and Deputy Victoria Moretti Walt Longmire attempts to see that revenge, a dish best served cold, is never served at all.

craig johnson the cold dish: Divorce Horse Craig Johnson, 2012-04-16 Sheriff Walt Longmire and his soon-to-be married daughter, Cady, hit the race track in an original story from New York Times bestselling author Craig Johnson The hit drama Longmire is now streaming on Paramount+ Walt Longmire, the longtime sheriff of Absaroka County, Wyoming, has little time to relax. Still recovering from his manhunt chasing down escaped convict and sociopath Reynaud Shade in the Bighorn Mountains, Walt just can't find the opportunity to sit back and kick off his cowboy boots. His daughter, Cady, is getting married in a few months to the brother of his under-sheriff Victoria Moretti and is in town, helping her dad 'recuperate' and to talk about love, life, and weddings. Meanwhile, the American Indian Days Parade and Pow Wow are attracting tourists and trouble. The pride and joy of Tommy Jefferson's stables—and the catalyst for his marital problems—the notorious divorce horse, has gone missing, and Jefferson, renowned Indian Relay Racer and one-time meth head, wants him back. With the help of his best friend Henry Standing Bear and his daughter, The Greatest Legal Mind Of Our Time, Walt sets off to the races.

craig johnson the cold dish: The Cold Dish Craig Johnson, 2013-09-28 After 25 years as Sheriff of Absaroka County, Walt Longmire's hopes of ending his tenure in peace are dashed when Cody Pritchard is found dead near the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. Two years earlier, Cody was one of four high school boys given suspended sentences for raping a local Cheyenne girl. Somebody, it would seem, is seeking vengeance, and Longmire might be the only thing standing between the three remaining boys and a Sharps .45-70 rifle. With lifelong friend Henry Standing Bear and Deputy Victoria Moretti Walt Longmire attempts to see that revenge, a dish best served cold, is never served at all. 'A winning piece of work' Washington Post

craig johnson the cold dish: Death Without Company Craig Johnson, 2007-02-27 Walt investigates a death by poison in this gripping novel from the New York Times bestselling author of *Dry Bones*, the second in the Longmire Mystery Series, the basis for the hit Netflix original series LONGMIRE Craig Johnson's new novel, *Land of Wolves*, is forthcoming from Viking Fans of Ace Atkins, Nevada Barr and Robert B. Parker will love Craig Johnson, New York Times bestselling

author of *Hell Is Empty* and *As the Crow Flies*, who garnered both praise and an enthusiastic readership with his acclaimed debut novel featuring Sheriff Walt Longmire, *The Cold Dish*, the first in the Longmire Mystery Series, the basis for *LONGMIRE*, now on Netflix. Now Johnson takes us back to the rugged landscape of Absaroka County, Wyoming, for *Death Without Company*. When Mari Baroja is found poisoned at the Durant Home for Assisted Living, Sheriff Longmire is drawn into an investigation that reaches fifty years into the mysterious woman's dramatic Basque past. Aided by his friend Henry Standing Bear, Deputy Victoria Moretti, and newcomer Santiago Saizarbitoria, Sheriff Longmire must connect the specter of the past to the present to find the killer among them.

craig johnson the cold dish: *Death Without Company* Craig Johnson, 2013-09-28 The second book in the New York Times bestselling Longmire series, featuring Sheriff Walt Longmire. When Mari Baroja is found poisoned at the Durant Home for Assisted Living, Sheriff Longmire is drawn into an investigation that reaches fifty years into the mysterious woman's past. Her connections to Wyoming's Basque community, the lucrative coal-bed methane industry, and the personal life of the previous sheriff, Lucian Connally, lead to a complex web of half-truths and assumed alliances. Aided by his friend Henry Standing Bear, Deputy Victoria Moretti and newcomer Santiago Saizarbitoria, Sheriff Longmire must connect the present with the spectre of the past to find the killer.

craig johnson the cold dish: *The Cold Dish* Craig Johnson, 2019-08-06 Introducing Wyoming's Sheriff Walt Longmire in this riveting novel from the New York Times bestselling author of *Hell Is Empty* and *As the Crow Flies*, the first in the Longmire Mystery Series, the basis for *LONGMIRE*, the hit Netflix original drama series. Fans of Ace Atkins, Nevada Barr and Robert B. Parker will love this outstanding first novel, in which New York Times bestselling author Craig Johnson introduces Sheriff Walt Longmire of Wyoming's Absaroka County. Johnson draws on his deep attachment to the American West to produce a literary mystery of stunning authenticity, and full of memorable characters. After twenty-five years as sheriff of Absaroka County, Walt Longmire's hopes of finishing out his tenure in peace are dashed when Cody Pritchard is found dead near the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. Two years earlier, Cody has been one of four high school boys given suspended sentences for raping a local Cheyenne girl. Somebody, it would seem, is seeking vengeance, and Longmire might be the only thing standing between the three remaining boys and a Sharps .45-70 rifle. With lifelong friend Henry Standing Bear, Deputy Victoria Moretti, and a cast of characters both tragic and humorous enough to fill in the vast emptiness of the high plains, Walt Longmire attempts to see that revenge, a dish best served cold, is never served at all.

craig johnson the cold dish: *Kindness Goes Unpunished* Craig Johnson, 2013-09-28 The third book in the New York Times bestselling Longmire series, featuring Sheriff Walt Longmire. Walt Longmire has been the Sheriff in Wyoming's Absaroka County for 25 years, but nothing could have prepared him for the savage attack on his daughter, Cady, a Philadelphia lawyer who has unwittingly become embroiled in a political cover-up. As Walt and his best friend, Henry Standing Bear, scour the city for clues, he gets help from his deputy Victoria Moretti and her family of Philly police. But Longmire wasn't born yesterday. He's willing to pull out all the stops to find Cady's attacker and show the big city that this old-timer has a few moves left in his saddlebag of tricks. 'Johnson's pacing is tight and his dialogue snaps' Entertainment Weekly

craig johnson the cold dish: *Walt Longmire Series* , 2007

craig johnson the cold dish: *The Walt Longmire Mystery Series Boxed Set Volume 1-4* Craig Johnson, 2013-01-22 The perfect gift for Longmire fans: An e-book bundle of the first four mysteries in the bestselling Walt Longmire Mystery series With the hit A&E television series Longmire capturing millions of viewers and Craig Johnson's last two novels hitting the New York Times bestseller list in hardcover, Walt Longmire is a name on everyone's lips and has earned his star. For fans of the show and newcomers to the novels, we now offer the first four books in the series in one e-book bundle, giving Longmire devotees a chance to catch up on the world of their favorite small-town sheriff before the second season of the show begins next year.

craig johnson the cold dish: *Moonpies, Fireflies, Some Twisted Dreams, Some Truth,*

and Some Lies: Book One of Two James (Jim) Linn, 2023-08-22 About the Book In this memoir and bibliography, combined with philosophy and short stories, James (Jim) Linn has collected twelve years of quotes from others and how they spoke to him, his deep thoughts, some poetry, and thought-provoking memes. Linn also shares his observations about life and human nature. About the Author James (Jim) Linn played and managed softball teams, both men's and co-ed, for forty-seven years. He now enjoys playing pickleball five days a week. In his free time, Linn likes to spend time with his family and friends, travel to Europe and different cities in the US, and learn new things.

craig johnson the cold dish: Spirit of Steamboat Craig Johnson, 2014-10-22 A Christmas novella for fans of Craig Johnson's New York Times bestselling series The hit drama Longmire is now streaming on Paramount+ Sheriff Walt Longmire is in his office reading A Christmas Carol when he is interrupted by a ghost of Christmas past: a young woman with a hairline scar and more than a few questions about his predecessor, Lucian Connally. With his daughter Cady and undersheriff Moretti otherwise engaged, Walt's on his own this Christmas Eve, so he agrees to help her. At the Durant Home for Assisted Living, Lucian is several tumblers into his Pappy Van Winkle's and swears he's never clapped eyes on the woman before. Disappointed, she whispers "Steamboat" and begins a story that takes them all back to Christmas Eve 1988—a story that will thrill and delight the bestselling series' devoted fans.

craig johnson the cold dish: Messenger Craig Johnson, 2013-04-23 Sheriff Walt Longmire comes face to face with an otherworldly messenger in this hilarious short story from the New York Times bestselling author of As the Crow Flies and The Cold Dish Sheriff Walt Longmire, his long-time friend Henry Standing Bear, and his undersheriff Victoria Moretti are returning from a fishing trip in the Bighorn Mountains when Walt receives a distress call from Crazy Woman Canyon. Forest service ranger Chuck Coon is in trouble. Walt, the Bear, and Vic arrive to find Coon and a young woman up a tree, so to speak. The unlikely duo are fending off three very real bears from the top of a Porta Potty and tell a mystifying story of another dangerous creature inside the "convenience." When Walt, Henry, and Vic face the creature what they find may be a Messenger from the Camp of the Dead, with a very personal tie to Walt himself. A must-have for every Longmire and Craig Johnson fan, Messenger also includes a teaser chapter from Johnson's new novel, A Serpent's Tooth.

craig johnson the cold dish: Hell is Empty Craig Johnson, 2013-09-28 The seventh book in the New York Times bestselling Longmire series, featuring Sheriff Walt Longmire. Raynaud Shade, an adopted Crow Indian and one of the country's most dangerous sociopaths, has just confessed to murdering a boy twenty years ago and burying him deep within the Bighorn Mountains. Absaroka County Sheriff Walt Longmire must escort Shade through a snowstorm to the site, but the mission turns personal when Walt learns whom the dead boy's family is. Guided only by Indian mysticism and a battered paperback of Dante's Inferno, Walt braves the icy hell of the Cloud Peak Wilderness Area, cheating death to ensure that justice - both civil and spiritual - is served.

craig johnson the cold dish: Christmas in Absaroka County Craig Johnson, 2012-12-04 It's holiday season in Absaroka County and Sheriff Walt Longmire gets personal in this delightful collection of four short stories from New York Times-bestselling author Craig Johnson. The hit drama Longmire is now streaming on Paramount+ Full of Longmire's dry wit and good heart, Christmas in Absaroka County is a holiday must-have for every Longmire and Craig Johnson fan, and it also includes the first chapter of The Cold Dish, the first novel in the Longmire Mystery Series. Readers glimpse a softer side of Sheriff Walt Longmire as he grapples with the death of his wife, Martha, and his sometimes turbulent but ever-loving relationship with his daughter, Cady. In these four stories—"Ministerial Aid," "Slick-Tongued Devil," "Toys for Tots," and "Unbalanced" (three of which have been sent to Johnson's fans over the years in the author's "Post-it" e-mails)—Walt is alternately at his best and his worst. He helps a somewhat delusional elderly victim of domestic abuse while sporting a bathrobe and a mean hangover on New Year's Day. He's sidelined by grief when his wife's obituary reappears in the paper and there's an unexpected knock on his door two days before Christmas. He strives to help even those who don't want it when he picks up a young

female hitchhiker, and he's forced into some last-minute Christmas shopping by the Greatest Legal Mind of Our Time, during which he might just end up saving a young Navy chaplain's Christmas.

craig johnson the cold dish: *An Obvious Fact* Craig Johnson, 2016-09-13 In the twelfth Longmire novel, Walt, Henry, and Vic discover much more than they bargained for when they are called in to investigate a hit-and-run accident involving a young motorcyclist near Devils Tower—from the New York Times bestselling author of *Land of Wolves* In the midst of the largest motorcycle rally in the world, a young biker is run off the road and ends up in critical condition. When Sheriff Walt Longmire and his good friend Henry Standing Bear are called to Hulett, Wyoming—the nearest town to America's first national monument, Devils Tower—to investigate, things start getting complicated. As competing biker gangs; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms; a military-grade vehicle donated to the tiny local police force by a wealthy entrepreneur; and Lola, the real-life femme fatale and namesake for Henry's '59 Thunderbird (and, by extension, Walt's granddaughter) come into play, it rapidly becomes clear that there is more to get to the bottom of at this year's Sturgis Motorcycle Rally than a bike accident. After all, in the words of Arthur Conan Doyle, whose *Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* the Bear won't stop quoting, There is nothing more deceptive than an obvious fact.

craig johnson the cold dish: *Any Other Name* Craig Johnson, 2015-04-28 A sheriff's mysterious death spurs the tenth Longmire novel from New York Times bestselling author Craig Johnson The hit drama Longmire is now streaming on Paramount+ Walt Longmire is sinking into high-plains winter discontent when his former boss, Lucian Conally, asks him to take on a mercy case in an adjacent county. Detective Gerald Holman is dead and Lucian wants to know what drove his old friend to take his own life. With the clock ticking on the birth of his first grandchild, Walt learns that the by-the-book detective might have suppressed evidence concerning three missing women. Digging deeper, Walt uncovers an incriminating secret so dark that it threatens to claim other lives even before the sheriff can serve justice—Wyoming style.

craig johnson the cold dish: *Junkyard Dogs* Craig Johnson, 2010-05-27 From the New York Times bestselling author of *Land of Wolves*, a modern-day ranch war takes place in the sixth Longmire novel *Junkyard Dogs*, the sixth installment in the New York Times bestselling Longmire Mystery Series, the basis for *LONGMIRE*, the hit Netflix original drama series, takes us to Durant, Wyoming. It's a volatile new economy in Durant when the owners of a multimillion-dollar development of ranchettes want to get rid of the adjacent Stewart junkyard. Meeting the notorious Stewart clan is an adventure unto itself, and when conflict erupts—and someone ends up dead—Sheriff Walt Longmire, his lifelong friend Henry Standing Bear, and deputies Santiago Saizarbitoria and Victoria Moretti find themselves in a small town that feels more and more like a high-plains pressure cooker. Walt Longmire is up to his badge in the darker aspects of human nature, making his way through the case with a combination of love, laughs, and derelict automobiles.

craig johnson the cold dish: *As the Crow Flies* Craig Johnson, 2013-05-28 The eighth Longmire novel from New York Times bestselling author Craig Johnson The hit drama Longmire is now streaming on Paramount+ Wyoming sherriff Walt Longmire doesn't have time for cowboys and criminals. His daughter, Cady, is getting married in two weeks, and the wedding locale arrangements have just gone up in smoke signals. Fearing Cady's wrath, Walt and his old friend Henry Standing Bear set out for the Cheyenne Reservation to find a new site for the nuptials. But their expedition ends in horror as they witness a young Crow woman plummeting from Painted Warrior's majestic cliffs. Is it a suicide, or something more sinister? It's not Walt's turf, but he's coerced into the investigation by Lolo Long, the beautiful new tribal police chief.

craig johnson the cold dish: *Longmire: From Book to Screen Free Deluxe Teaser* Craig Johnson, 2013-05-21 More information to be announced soon on this forthcoming title from Penguin USA.

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