



The Cold Dish: A Longmire Mystery

By Craig Johnson

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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.

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The Cold Dish: A Longmire Mystery By Craig Johnson Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

A strong sense of place, a credible plot and deft dialogue lift Johnson's good-humored debut novel, the first of a new series, set in Bighorn Mountain country. Walt Longmire, the veteran sheriff of Absaroka County, Wyo., usually has little to do on his patrols. When Cody Pritchard is found shot to death near the Cheyenne reservation, everyone, including Deputy Victoria Moretti, a transplanted Philadelphian, believes he died in an accident. But two years earlier, Cody was one of four high schoolers convicted of raping a young Native American girl. All were given suspended sentences, and when another of the four turns up dead, it appears that someone is out for revenge. As fear mounts, Sheriff Longmire feels tension in the air between the white population and the Native American community, and he's not pleased to think that his lifelong friend, Henry Standing Bear, might be directly involved in the murders. While the prose could stand tautening at times simply to up the suspense, Johnson has made an assured start that should appeal to a wide range of mystery fans.

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

The Cold Dish, a multilayered whodunit mystery, stands out in its genre. Shades of racism, mysticism, and revenge give the novel nuance; dead-on dialogue, good-natured humor, and flesh-and-blood characters, including the foul-mouthed deputy Victorian "Vic" Moretti, give it life. Johnson, who lives in Ucross, Wyoming, knows the Western landscape well, and creates stunning and violent scenes (including a raging blizzard) of the Rocky Mountains. Only *The Philadelphia Inquirer* faulted the novel's roughness and comparatively immature prose. The other critics look forward to reading more from Johnson's powerful voice and reconnecting with his eccentric mélange of characters.

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Review

"We in the West have a major new talent on our hands." —**The Denver Post**

"A winning piece of work, and a convincing feel to the whole package." —**The Washington Post**

"Craig Johnson does it right, with style, grace, wildfire pace, and a sense of humor." —**Bob Shacochis**

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jeremy Smith:

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Tony Hill:

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Nicolas Dandrea:

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Claudia Butler:

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