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A Novel by Jim McDermott

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*"Bitter Is the Wind* is an absorbing novel, the story of two working class men, father and son. It is a meditation on the purpose of work, the meaning of freedom, and the satisfactions of parental sacrifice.

Shaken and mentally trapped by his mother's death in a traffic accident, young George Johnson makes a series of mistakes, lashing out against his fate. Thanks to his native intelligence and his father's loyalty, he escapes a background of poverty and limited options, only to discover that "success" does not necessarily guarantee freedom.

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"A pungent slice of working-class life in 1970s America, as well as a deeply-affecting father-son story. *Bitter is the Wind* reminded me how hard it's always been to achieve success for those who weren't handed it on a silver platter."

—Stephen Fife, author of *The 13th Boy* and  
*Dreaming in the Maze of Love-Grief-Madness*

Jim McDermott is a freelance writer based in Portland, Oregon, where he lives with his wife and two daughters. He hikes in the Cascades, takes his daughters to rock climbing competitions, and works as an attorney. *Bitter is the Wind* is his first novel.



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