

Cover to Cover

Four books we're digging this month.

BY KATE PARRISH

American Pop by Snowden Wright (William Morrow) When Houghton Forster invents a new, tasty, fizzy soda at the turn of the twentieth century, an empire is born. Wright's second novel, *American Pop* blends fact and fiction as the Atlanta-based author explores the making of American royalty. As Forster ages, he will have to decide which of his four children is capable of taking over the family soda business and heading up an American legacy. (Available February 5.)

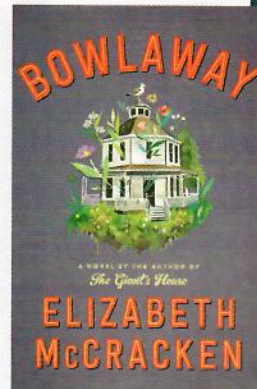
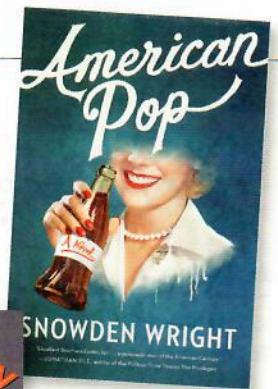
Bowlaway by Elizabeth McCracken (Ecco) Bertha Truitt is the town local that keeps everyone talking. After being found unconscious in a cemetery with only a bowling ball, a candlepin, and 15 pounds of gold, Bertha marries the doctor who revives her. Soon after, she opens a bowling alley and then dies in a freak accident. Following her death, an equally mysterious man appears claiming to be her son and heir. If it's true, what else was Bertha hiding? (Available February 5.)

Finding Dorothy by Elizabeth Letts (Ballantine Books) Known for her ability to merge in-depth historical research with engrossing storytelling, Letts returns this month with a new fictional take on Dorothy and Oz. Based on the real life of Maud Gage Baum, wife of the author of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, Letts brings readers to Hollywood in 1938 where Baum meets Judy Garland, the young woman hired to play Dorothy, and sets out to protect both her husband's story and the young actress. (Available February 12.)

Sounds Like Titanic by Jessica Chiccehitto Hindman (W.W. Norton & Company) In her debut memoir, Hindman moves from Appalachia to New York City in pursuit of a career as a classical violinist. She lands a gig with a professional ensemble but is surprised when the composer never turns their microphones on. Instead he plays a CD, the audience seemingly none the wiser. "Playing" for audiences who have bought into a false reality challenges Hindman to examine more than just her choice in career. (Available February 12.)



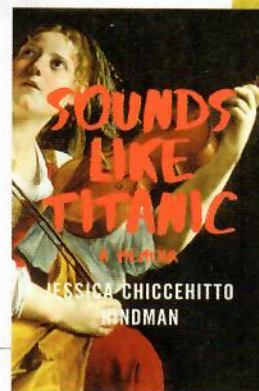
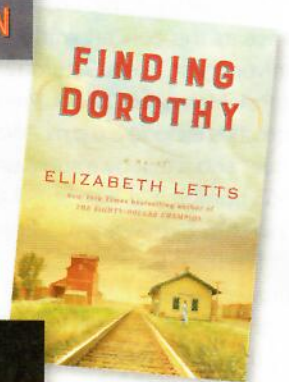
Snowden Wright



Elizabeth McCracken



Elizabeth Letts



Jessica Chiccehitto Hindman

KEEPS YOU SPINNING *Three albums to plug into this month. —Chris Parton*

CALE TYSON

narcissist
Cale Tyson explores the darker contours of a mind in turmoil on *narcissist*, four vulnerable, bare-bones tracks written and recorded over a three-day stream of consciousness. Imaginative and



defined by shoe-gazing melancholy, Tyson takes another step away from his early honky tonk.

LEAH NOBEL

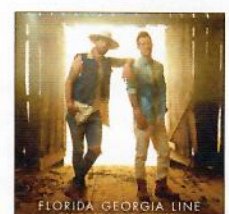
Running In Borrowed Shoes
Leah Nobel brings a journalist's curiosity to her album, *Running In Borrowed Shoes*. Interviewing 100 random people, she stitches their stories into intimate songs, which trace the big picture of humanity,



bringing expressive, compassionate vocals to bear on a batch of radio-friendly roots pop tunes.

FLORIDA GEORGIA LINE

Can't Say I Ain't Country
Superstars Florida Georgia Line reaffirm their roots on their fourth album, *Can't Say I Ain't Country*. Fusing some of their most "country" sounding work to date with



inclusive themes and progressive production, collaborations span from Jason Aldean to Jason Derulo.