



## Descent A Novel

By Tim Johnston

Algonquin Books. Paperback. Condition: New. 400 pages. The stunning vistas of the Rocky Mountains reveal a dark and deadly side in this brilliantly conceived thriller about family ties and the fight for survival. Descent, the story of a family undone by the disappearance of a daughter who went out for a morning run and didn't come back, is stunning in its emotional impact--a compulsively readable page-turner with a strong literary sensibility. The girls vanishing--on a sunny, late-summer vacation morning--all the more devastating for its mystery, is the beginning of the family's harrowing journey down increasingly divergent and solitary paths, until all that continues to bind them to each other are the questions they can never bring themselves to ask: At what point does a family stop searching? At what point does a girl stop fighting for her life? Johnston captures every emotion, every terrifying thought, every moment of loneliness, from the perspectives of everyone in the family--as each in his or her own way assumes responsibility for their collective loss. And in the father we see the last flicker of hope as he pursues every angle and refuses to give up in his belief that his daughter is still alive. Ultimately...

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