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by Will Schwalbe
(Knopf, 9780307594037, $25)
“What a remarkable book! Not only a love letter to his mom, but a love letter to books and their power to help us all remember both the struggle and the joy it is to be human and the grace we can find in our shared humanity. I fell head over heels for Mary Ann Schwalbe, thanks to her son’s meticulous and loving tribute. In someone else’s hands this is the kind of book that could have slipped into the maudlin or overwrought, but Schwalbe succeeds in portraying his mother’s quiet, humble, spot-on wisdom and beautiful daring with both restraint and passion. My copy is thoroughly dog-eared. Is there any better tribute?”
—Laurie Paus, The Elliott Bay Book Company, Seattle, WA

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