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Small-Town Secrets and Young Love Collide in Burning Summer

Nebraska author Chris Poore releases 2nd novel in The Cottonwood Chronicles trilogy

VALLEY, Neb. — Nebraska author Chris Poore returns to the fictional small town of Cottonwood, Nebraska, with the release of *Burning Summer*, the highly anticipated second novel in *The Cottonwood Chronicles* trilogy. Following the success of *Bicentennial Summer* (2024), Poore's newest book brings readers back to the late 1970s for a story of young love, family conflict, and the price of truth.

How do you hold on to love when everything around you is burning?

It's the summer of 1977, and everything is about to ignite. Cole Walker and Tiffany Whitford are in love, but their world is unraveling—caught in the crossfire of a scandal that's tearing their families apart. Tiffany's father stands accused. Cole's father holds the badge. And as the town takes sides, the young couple must face a truth—and a decision—that could change both of their lives forever.

As another Fourth of July approaches in Cottonwood, loyalties are tested, hearts are pushed to the breaking point, and to save their love, Cole and Tiffany must hold on through the fire.

Burning Summer is a haunting coming-of-age story of love and loyalty under siege—when the people you trust most have the power to break you.

Burning Summer is available now on Amazon.

About The Cottonwood Chronicles

The Cottonwood Chronicles is a nostalgic coming-of-age historical trilogy set across three consecutive Fourth of July holidays in the 1970s. The series captures a time before cell phones, social media, and the internet—when summer meant freedom, friendship meant everything, and growing up meant learning hard lessons as childhood slipped away.

- Book One Bicentennial Summer (2024): First love and family secrets in America's 1976
 Bicentennial year.
- Book Two Burning Summer (2025): Loyalties tested and choices that carry lasting consequences.
- Book Three *Bye, Bye Summer* (2026): The final reckoning before adulthood, when everything comes to a head.

Poignant, nostalgic, and emotionally honest, *The Cottonwood Chronicles* is perfect for fans of *The Summer I Turned Pretty, Daisy Jones & The Six*, and *Eleanor & Park*.

About the Author

Chris Poore has been telling stories his entire life—it just took a global pandemic to finally get him to write them down. What began as a dinner conversation during lockdown sparked a creative fire that led to several award-winning screenplays and, eventually, his debut novel, *Bicentennial Summer*.

Before turning to fiction, Poore built an eclectic career as a journalist, entrepreneur, and technology leader. He lives outside Omaha, Nebraska, with his wife, Sue, their two adult children, and a pair of cuddly rescue dogs.

Burning Summer is published by Fourth Chance Press, a small, indie publisher in Valley, Neb. For more information, visit www.fourthchancepress.com.

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