At the age of seventeen, Eustace Conway ditched the comforts of his suburban existence to escape to the wild. Away from the city lights, he found himself hunting for food, building his own shelter, and even learning how to make his own clothes. For years, he lived off the land, exploring the mountains and forests of the region. But as he grew older, he realized that he was not meant to live in isolation. He wanted to connect with others and share his knowledge with the world.

In the years that followed, he stopped at nothing in pursuit of bigger, bolder challenges. He travelled the Mississippi in a handmade wooden canoe; he walked the two-thousand-mile Appalachian Trail; and he sailed across America. From South Carolina to the Pacific, with his little brother in tow, they dodged cars on the highways, braved the winter storms, and learned to live off the land.

At the age of eighteen, he moved to New York City and began his career as a botanist. He studied the plants of the region and wrote extensively about his findings. His work was groundbreaking, and he quickly became known as one of the leading figures in the field.

At the age of twenty years on, Eustace is still in the mountains, residing in a small cabin in the woods. He continues his work as a botanist, learning more and more about the plants of the region. But he also finds time to reflect on his past, the adventures he has had, and the lessons he has learned. He knows that he is not meant to live in isolation, but he is not meant to live in the city either. He is meant to live in the middle of the wilderness, surrounded by the plants and animals that he loves so much.
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an endlessly complicated man: a visionary, a narcissist, a brilliant but flawed modern hero. The Last American Man is an unforgettable adventure story of an impossible life lived to the extreme. The Last American Man is a New York Times Notable Book and National Book Critics Circle Award Finalist.

The cowboys, strippers, labourers and magicians of Pilgrims are all on their way to being somewhere, or someone, else. Some are broadsheeted and sold away, others are debased and naive, yet all seek companionship as fiercely as they can. A tough East Coast girl dates a western cowboy to run off with her; a matronly bar owner falls in love with her nephew; an innocent teenager falls hopelessly for the local bully's sister.

These are tough heroes and heroines, hardened by their experiences, who struggle for their epiphanies. Yet hope is never far away and though they may act blindly, they always act bravely. Sharply drawn and tenderly observed, Pilgrims is filled with Gilbert's inimitable humour and warmth.

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