

Going After Cacciato

By Tim O'Brien



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"To call *Going After Cacciato* a novel about war is like calling *Moby Dick* a novel about whales."

So wrote *The New York Times* of Tim O'Brien's now classic novel of Vietnam. Winner of the 1979 National Book Award, *Going After Cacciato* captures the peculiar blend of horror and hallucinatory comedy that marked this strangest of wars. Reality and fantasy merge in this fictional account of one private's sudden decision to lay down his rifle and begin a quixotic journey from the jungles of Indochina to the streets of Paris. Will Cacciato make it all the way? Or will he be yet another casualty of a conflict that seems to have no end? In its memorable evocation of men both fleeing and meeting the demands of battle, *Going After Cacciato* stands as much more than just a great war novel. Ultimately it's about the forces of fear and heroism that do battle in the hearts of us all.

From the Trade Paperback edition.



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Going After Cacciato By Tim O'Brien Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

"In October, near the end of the month, Cacciato left the war."

In Tim O'Brien's novel *Going After Cacciato* the theater of war becomes the theater of the absurd as a private deserts his post in Vietnam, intent on walking 8,000 miles to Paris for the peace talks. The remaining members of his squad are sent after him, but what happens then is anybody's guess: "The facts were simple: They went after Cacciato, they chased him into the mountains, they tried hard. They cornered him on a small grassy hill. They surrounded the hill. They waited through the night. And at dawn they shot the sky full of flares and then they moved in.... That was the end of it. The last known fact. What remained were possibilities."

It is these possibilities that make O'Brien's National Book Award-winning novel so extraordinary. Told from the perspective of squad member Paul Berlin, the search for Cacciato soon enters the realm of the surreal as the men find themselves following an elusive trail of chocolate M&M's through the jungles of Indochina, across India, Iran, Greece, and Yugoslavia to the streets of Paris. The details of this hallucinatory journey alternate with feverish memories of the war--men maimed by landmines, killed in tunnels, engaged in casual acts of brutality that would be unthinkable anywhere else. Reminiscent of Joseph Heller's *Catch-22*, *Going After Cacciato* dishes up a brilliant mix of ferocious comedy and bleak horror that serves to illuminate both the complex psychology of men in battle and the overarching insanity of war. --*Alix Wilber*

Review

- "Simply put, the best novel written about the war. I do not know . . . any writer, journalist, or novelist who does not concede that position to O'Brien's **Going After Cacciato**."
- --Miami Herald
- "A novel of great beauty and importance."
- --Boston Globe
- "Stark . . . rhapsodic. . . . It is a canvas painted vividly, hauntingly, disturbingly by Tim O'Brien."
- --Los Angeles Times
- "As a fictional portrait of this war, Going After Cacciato is hard to fault, and will be hard to better."
- --John Updike, The New Yorker

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From the Publisher

"To call *Going After Cacciato* a novel about war is like calling *Moby Dick* a novel about whales." So wrote *The New York Times* of Tim O'Brein's now classic novel of Vietnam. Winner of the 1979 National Book Award, *Going After Cacciato* captures the peculiar blend of horror and hallucinatory comedy that marked this the strangest of wars. Reality and fantasy merge in this fictional account of one private's sudden discussion to lay down his rifle and begin a quixotic journey from the of Indochina to the streets of Paris. Will Cacciato make it all the way? Or will he be yet another casualty of a conflict that seems to have no end? In its memorable evocation of men both fleeing and meeting the demands of the battle, *Going After Cacciato*

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"Stark... rhapsodic... brilliant... it is a canvas painted vividly, hauntingly, disturbingly by Tim O'Brien." -- Los Angeles Times

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jonathan Solis:

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important behave, like looking for your favorite book and reading a e-book. Beside you can solve your short lived problem; you can add your knowledge by the book entitled Going After Cacciato. Try to face the book Going After Cacciato as your close friend. It means that it can to become your friend when you experience alone and beside that of course make you smarter than in the past. Yeah, it is very fortuned for you. The book makes you considerably more confidence because you can know every little thing by the book. So, let us make new experience along with knowledge with this book.

Cesar Benedetto:

In this 21st millennium, people become competitive in each way. By being competitive right now, people have do something to make all of them survives, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that oftentimes many people have underestimated it for a while is reading. Sure, by reading a guide your ability to survive boost then having chance to remain than other is high. For you who want to start reading any book, we give you that Going After Cacciato book as beginner and daily reading publication. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

Rigoberto Stansell:

Now a day individuals who Living in the era just where everything reachable by interact with the internet and the resources inside it can be true or not demand people to be aware of each information they get. How many people to be smart in getting any information nowadays? Of course the answer is reading a book. Looking at a book can help individuals out of this uncertainty Information specifically this Going After Cacciato book because book offers you rich details and knowledge. Of course the details in this book hundred per cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you know.

Mary Brott:

The book untitled Going After Cacciato contain a lot of information on that. The writer explains your girlfriend idea with easy method. The language is very easy to understand all the people, so do not worry, you can easy to read it. The book was written by famous author. The author brings you in the new period of

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