



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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- Binding: Mass Market Paperback

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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

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Daisy Richardson:

In this 21st hundred years, people become competitive in every single way. By being competitive at this point, people have do something to make them survives, being in the middle of typically the crowded place and notice by means of surrounding. One thing that often many people have underestimated the idea for a while is reading. Yes, by reading a book your ability to survive improve then having chance to stand than other is high. For you who want to start reading a new book, we give you that *Going After Cacciato* book as beginning and daily reading book. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Paul Dixon:

Now a day people that Living in the era everywhere everything reachable by connect with the internet and the resources inside can be true or not call for people to be aware of each facts they get. How a lot more to be smart in obtaining any information nowadays? Of course the answer is reading a book. Looking at a book can help folks out of this uncertainty Information specially this *Going After Cacciato* book as this book offers you rich facts and knowledge. Of course the information in this book hundred per cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you may already know.

Georgette Tang:

Reading a publication can be one of a lot of activity that everyone in the world really likes. Do you like reading book thus. There are a lot of reasons why people like it. First reading a guide will give you a lot of new data. When you read a book you will get new information because book is one of various ways to share the information or maybe their idea. Second, studying a book will make you more imaginative. When you reading through a book especially fictional works book the author will bring you to imagine the story how the figures do it anything. Third, you could share your knowledge to other folks. When you read this *Going After Cacciato*, you could tells your family, friends and soon about yours book. Your knowledge can inspire others, make them reading a guide.

Rod Doughty:

Going After Cacciato can be one of your nice books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that could increase your knowledge in words, easy to

understand, bit entertaining but nevertheless delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to place every word into delight arrangement in writing *Going After Cacciato* nevertheless doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be one among it. This great information could drawn you into fresh stage of crucial contemplating.

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