

In a genre where twisted souls and violence are the norm, Piccirilli's work stands out for how it blends these elements with a literate sensibility. — *Publishers Weekly*

A Choir of Ill Children

by Tom Piccirilli



A Choir Of Ill Children

Tom Piccirilli



A Choir Of Ill Children:

A Choir of Ill Children Tom Piccirilli, 2004-06-01 BONUS This edition contains an excerpt from Tom Piccirilli's *The Last Kind Words* This lyrical tale of evil loss and redemption is a stunning addition to the Southern gothic tradition of Flannery O'Connor and Harry Crews *A Choir of Ill Children* is the startling story of Kingdom Come a decaying swamp backwater that draws the lost ill fated and damned Since his mother's disappearance and his father's suicide Thomas has cared for his three brothers conjoined triplets with separate bodies but one shared brain and the town's only industry the Mill Because of his family's prominence Thomas is feared and respected by the superstitious swamp folk Granny witches cast hexes while Thomas's childhood sweetheart drifts through his life like a vengeful ghost and his best friend a reverend suffering from the power of tongues is overcome with this curse as he tries to warn of impending menace All Thomas learns is that the carnival is coming Torn by responsibility and rage Thomas must face his tormented past as well as the mysterious forces surging toward the town he loves and despises

A Choir of Ill Children Tom Piccirilli, 2005-09-01 *A Choir of Ill Children* tells the story Kingdom Come a decaying lust filled swampy backwater of a southern town Piccirilli's lyrical atmospheric tale of murder and redemption is a startling breakout novel in the southern gothic tradition pioneered by the likes of William Faulkner and Flannery O'Connor Since his mother's mysterious death and his father's suicide Thomas has been forced to take care of his three brothers Jonah Cole and Sebastian conjoined triplets who have 3 bodies but share a single brain In addition to the care of his three brothers Thomas has inherited Kingdom Come's only industry and source of jobs The Mill Because of this position of wealth and power he is at once feared and respected by the backwards superstitious townsfolk The walls that have grown up between Thomas and his fellow residents of Kingdom Come are high and hide many strange unexpected things The town's Granny witches cast their spells and read their auguries trying to win influence over Thomas while his childhood sweetheart Maggie must decide what if any kind of relationship they will have Skyhorse Publishing under our Night Shade and Talos imprints is proud to publish a broad range of titles for readers interested in science fiction space opera time travel hard SF alien invasion near future dystopia fantasy grimdark sword and sorcery contemporary urban fantasy steampunk alternative history and horror zombies vampires and the occult and supernatural and much more While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller a national bestseller or a Hugo or Nebula award winner we are committed to publishing quality books from a diverse group of authors

Nightjack Tom Piccirilli, 2010 On the day of his release from a mental institution Pace is taken hostage by Faust Pia and Hayden three escapees from the hospital who disappeared after the presumed rape and beating of Cassandra Kaltzas daughter of the Greek munitions tycoon Alexandra Kaltzas Each suffers from Multiple Personality Disorder experiencing complex delusions and sometimes fantastical identities Pace tries to piece together what happened when apparently one of their alternate personalities tried to kill Cassandra Pace himself is an alternate of William Pacella a man whose wife died in a restaurant fire set by a local mobster for insurance

money William Pacella dies so that Nightjack can be born a new personality who may or may not be Jack the Ripper For unknown reasons Pace is able to see others delusions when alternates take over members of the group Pace alone is able to interact with each persona Included among them is Princess Eirrin a ten thousand year old sorceress and heir to the Atlantean throne Smoker a half breed gunman from 1880s Arizona Thaddeus friend and companion to St Paul and the ancient Greek architect Daedalus who soared among the clouds with his home made wax wings and watched his son perish in the sea Now the four find themselves under attack from assassins sent by Kaltzas to punish the person who attacked his daughter Conflicting stories abound about Cassandra whether she was raped if she was perhaps murdered or if she and Pace somehow crossed paths even before the hospital In fact she may not even exist As the attacks persist the group is forced to face their own personal traumas and terrors and go in search of Kaltzas in Greece There on an island where fantasy myth and truth are all entangled Pace and his many alternates must sift through madness and deceit to unlock the mystery And everyone may wind up dead unless Pace willingly unleashes the most brutal killer of all Nightjack

A Lower Deep Tom Piccirilli, 2011-09-24 A man known only as the Necromancer and his demonic familiar named Self wander the spectral highways of the countryside incurring the wrath of both heaven and hell and facing the curses of the damned But it s a figure from his past that may drive the Necromancer into a hell even he cannot escape Jebediah DeLancre the leader of the Necromancer s old coven has created a new coven an evil band determined to use the black arts for their own hideous ends The Necromancer is forced to return to his home a place haunted by memories where years earlier his original coven was destroyed and where Danielle the only love of his life met an awful death Together with Self the Necromancer must battle not only his former master but the members of the new coven and the jealous ghosts of his old one all the while taunted by the possibility that Danielle may return from the dead

Hexes Tom Piccirilli, 2001 Matthew Galen came back home to Summerfell for a reason Not to visit his family Not to relive childhood memories No he came back because his best friend was in a hospital for the criminally insane for crimes too unspeakable to believe But Matthew knows the terrifying truth The ultimate evil doesn t reside in his friend s twisted soul It comes from a far darker place a place only Matthew knows And only Matthew can stop the evil if he dares

The Walls of the Castle Tom Piccirilli, 2018-07-02 From Tom Piccirilli five time Bram Stoker Award winner two time International Thriller Writers Award winner and finalist for the 2009 Edgar Allan Poe Award comes *The Walls of the Castle* an intense and visceral psychological thriller This atmospheric yet action packed mature psychological thriller is part examination into the bonds of family and part treatise on the nature of identity and explores the deepest areas of what makes us who we are With a noir sensibility and complexity of character the novella is a hybrid psychological thriller that s part suspense tale part family saga and part literate mystery

Futile Efforts Tom Piccirilli, 2011-07-11 In this disturbing often grotesque and ultimately mesmerizing collection Piccirilli *The Cold Spot* reprints 16 stories and 45 poems Although the star studded introductions are a nice bonus Piccirilli s stories are the selling point and

all are standouts *An Average Insanity* a *Common Agony* is an emotionally devastating tale of a man trying to do the right thing for the sake of an innocent creature *Alchemy* tells the story of five emotionally stunted people whose discovery of a dead body lets them visit their own dark places They weren't frightened by the sight of the corpse None of us were It broke up the monotony With an Ear for My Father's Weeping manages to be both touching and hysterical Piccirilli's unique mix of gore violence and a literate style bordering on the lyrical help make this collection one that horror fans will relish Publishers Weekly starred review With story introductions by Jack Ketchum Brian Keene Edward Lee Simon Clark TM Wright Gary Braunbeck Thomas Monteleone Tamara Thorne Ed Gorman Ray Garton and Christopher Golden

Bad Dog Tom Piccirilli, 2018-06-20 *Bad Dog* is a new volume of Tom Piccirilli's most offbeat and unsettling short fiction and novellas spanning the breadth of his twenty year career Twice nominated for crime fiction's highest honor the Edgar Award and twice winner of the International Thriller Writers Award Piccirilli is a master of dark characterization and noir atmosphere Find out for yourself why Tom Piccirilli is on so many must read lists when you open the pages of *Bad Dog* and lose yourself in the diverse stories and characters within Stories included in this collection *Between the Dark and the Daylight* *The Void* *It Often Brings With It Blood* *Sacrifices the Catatonic Kid* *An Average Insanity* *A Common Agony* *Bereavement* *The Return of Inspiration* *Osteoporosis* *Zypho the Tentacled Brainsucker from Outer Space vs the Mob* *Woman in the Dark* *The Conclusion* *With an Ear for My Father's Weeping* *The Sound of Desert Dust* *Lament* *Fellowship Seems Like Old Times* *On Oswald Avenue* *Hostages* *Horsepower* *Thin Skin of the Soul* *Worn Away With Eyes Averted* *Dago* *Love* *Short Ride to Nowhere*

The Nobody Tom Piccirilli, 2010-11-23 Cryer once had another name but he can't remember it The man he used to be was stabbed in the head by an assailant After months of catatonia Cryer awakens in a mental facility to find that his former life is almost completely forgotten He knows his wife and daughter have been murdered he saw them die moments before his own assault but his shattered mind is incapable of retaining their names Or even his own Now Cryer is free again and trying to track down an elusive killer through his own unknown past But how do you investigate the murders of your loved ones when you can't remember them When you have no idea who your friends or enemies were Where you lived and worked And what secrets you might have once had and failed to keep And how is he supposed to deal with the little man who keeps crawling in and out of his skull Cryer is a nobody now but that won't stop him from finding a vicious murderer and making him pay Praise for *The Nobody* THE NOBODY is a dangerous exploration into the mind and soul of man Piccirilli's beautiful prose allows us to take a peek into the abyss of our consciousness and shine a light into those places that warmth has long ago forgot You cannot read this book and not be changed Larry Roberts Bloodletting Press Clichés can't live with em but as I discovered when I read this remarkable novella you can't live without em Part vigilante procedural part hard boiled PI yarn and part examination of post loss survival weepie THE NOBODY is Tom Piccirilli at his uncompromising best The dialogue is so crisp it's like Leonard on speed and the second and third pages are the literary equivalent of being hit in the face with a

shovel A roller coaster ride You bet A page turner even Yep no question A palpable atmosphere larger than life characterisation and impeccable plotting They re all there Like I said clich s can t live with em can t live without em Peter Crowther PS Publishing A revenge tale almost Mythic in its simplicity Shocking tragic beautifully written insightful and nuanced mournful and uplifting everything we ve come to expect from Tom Piccirilli done to perfection From its brutal opening scene to its heartfelt final pages The Nobody is Pic at his finest RJ Sevin Creeping Hemlock Press **Loss** Tom Piccirilli,1959-01-01 Employing the unique darkly humorous and powerful noir voice that is his trademark Piccirilli demonstrates why he s become a must read author for admirers of both crime and horror fiction LOSS concerns a failed writer working as a handyman in an old Manhattan apartment building with a strange history and numerous oddball tenants not all of whom may be what they seem The penthouse is owned by a bestselling novelist and his wife the nameless narrator s longtime unrequited love who soon goes missing Is she dead or somehow trapped within the endless corridors of a lair full of twisted memories and half forgotten ambitions This is a haunting noir ghost story fusion that not only spotlights the fear of missing out on one s greatest hopes and romantic dreams but also features such memorable characters as Mojo the talking monkey and the corpse of the real inventor of aluminum foil

Decoding **A Choir Of Ill Children**: Revealing the Captivating Potential of Verbal Expression

In an era characterized by interconnectedness and an insatiable thirst for knowledge, the captivating potential of verbal expression has emerged as a formidable force. Its power to evoke sentiments, stimulate introspection, and incite profound transformations is genuinely awe-inspiring. Within the pages of "**A Choir Of Ill Children**," a mesmerizing literary creation penned by way of a celebrated wordsmith, readers embark on an enlightening odyssey, unraveling the intricate significance of language and its enduring affect our lives. In this appraisal, we shall explore the book is central themes, evaluate its distinctive writing style, and gauge its pervasive influence on the hearts and minds of its readership.

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