



# 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

- Rank: #5293277 in Books
- Published on: 1992-06-02
- Released on: 1992-06-02
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- 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*

*From the Trade Paperback edition.*

### 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'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 the 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 the battle, *Going After Cacciato*

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"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* " -- *The Miami Herald*.

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## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Floyd Alling:**

The feeling that you get from *Going After Cacciato* may be the more deep you digging the information that hide within the words the more you get enthusiastic about reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to be aware of but *Going After Cacciato* giving you buzz feeling of reading. The copy writer conveys their point in certain way that can be understood simply by anyone who read the item because the author of this book is well-known enough. That book also makes your current vocabulary increase well. So it is easy to understand then can go along with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We advise you for having this kind of *Going After Cacciato* instantly.

#### **Carolyn Franklin:**

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them household or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read a book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent all day every day to reading a publication. The book *Going After Cacciato* it is very good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy the e-book. You can more simply to read this book from your smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book has high quality.

#### **Diane Welton:**

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with good friends is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try point that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition details. Even you love *Going After Cacciato*, you could enjoy both. It is fine combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout men. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its called reading friends.

#### **Helen Price:**

Are you kind of active person, only have 10 or 15 minute in your time to upgrading your mind skill or

thinking skill possibly analytical thinking? Then you are receiving problem with the book than can satisfy your short space of time to read it because pretty much everything time you only find e-book that need more time to be learn. Going After Cacciato can be your answer because it can be read by a person who have those short spare time problems.

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