



In the Valley of the Kings: Stories

By Terrence Holt

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In the Valley of the Kings: Stories By Terrence Holt

"One of the finest American writers alive . . . he is Melville + Poe + Borges but with a heart far more capacious." —Junot Díaz

Praised for his "beautifully crafted and strangely surreal" (Peter Matthiessen) stories, Terrence Holt had been operating under the literary radar for more than fifteen years, placing award-winning stories in such noted journals as *Zoetrope*, *Kenyon Review*, and *TriQuarterly*. With the release of this debut collection, Holt's work takes its "rightful place besides those works of genius—fiction, philosophy, theology—unafraid of axing into our iced hearts" (William Gibaldi, *New York Times Book Review*). Whether chronicling a plague that ravages a New England town or the anguish of a son who keeps his father's beating heart in a jar, Holt's stories oscillate between the rational and the surreal, the future and the past, masterfully weaving together reality and myth. Like Poe or Hawthorne, "Holt is a gifted wordsmith, his sentences carefully shaped and often beautiful, and he spins these ancient, irresolvable dilemmas in an elegiac poetry" (*Los Angeles Times*).

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Editorial Review

Review

"In the Valley of the Kings does what all great story collections should: it challenges the mind while opening the spirit. Each of these short pieces sets a haunting scenario outside the ordinary realm—men traveling in space, or excavating the tombs of ancient Egyptian kings, or living through an apocalypse. The characters are all faced with mysteries to solve, but it is Terrence Holt's careful exploration of the loneliness and obsession these men harbor that elevates this book, in all its uniqueness and beauty. Long after a reader finishes these stories, they will be puzzling and thinking and dreaming of the worlds Terrence Holt has created." (Hannah Tinti, author of *The Good Thief*)

From the Back Cover

Praise for *In the Valley of the Kings*"Holt is my favorite writer. There is no one in the wide sea of English who writes like him, no one so profoundly, mysteriously, so searingly human, and so implacably apocalyptic. He is Melville + Poe +Borges but with a heart far more capacious. He seems to have leapt out of nowhere, massive, familiar, strange, and he never fails to blow my mind."-Junot Diaz, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, from *Bookforum*"Terrence Holt's prose is deeply original, evocative, transforming. I have never seen anything quite like it before. Though what I'm praising is not words, nor is it narrative, but something that is a compound of language, story, feeling, and knowledge-and something else. Something beyond his learning as a physician, at once metaphysical and physical, mysterious and terrifying, but not indulgent. Even undecipherable. He is amazing."-Gerald Stern, winner of the National Book Award for *This Time*"Like the tales of Poe and Hawthorne, these stories are claustal, eerie, and entirely exhilarating."-Michael Gorra, *Smith College*"*In The Valley of the Kings* is a work of terrific intelligence and terrifying imagination."-Aleksandar Hemon, finalist for the National Book Award for *The Lazarus Project*"Rare wonderful stories, beautifully crafted and strangely surreal without being merely cerebral - a very fine first book."-Peter Matthiessen, winner of the National Book Award for *Shadow Country*

About the Author

Terrence Holt is a writer and an internist specializing in geriatric medicine, teaching and practicing at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Carl Vincent:

Now a day people who Living in the era everywhere everything reachable by talk with the internet and the resources inside it can be true or not call for people to be aware of each facts they get. How people have to be smart in having any information nowadays? Of course the reply is reading a book. Examining a book can help men and women out of this uncertainty Information mainly this *In the Valley of the Kings: Stories* book since this book offers you rich data and knowledge. Of course the data in this book hundred % guarantees there is no doubt in it you may already know.

Douglas Anderson:

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Kimberly Foust:

Many people spending their time period by playing outside using friends, fun activity with family or just watching TV 24 hours a day. You can have new activity to invest your whole day by reading through a book. Ugh, do you think reading a book can really hard because you have to bring the book everywhere? It all right you can have the e-book, getting everywhere you want in your Smartphone. Like *In the Valley of the Kings: Stories* which is obtaining the e-book version. So , why not try out this book? Let's view.

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