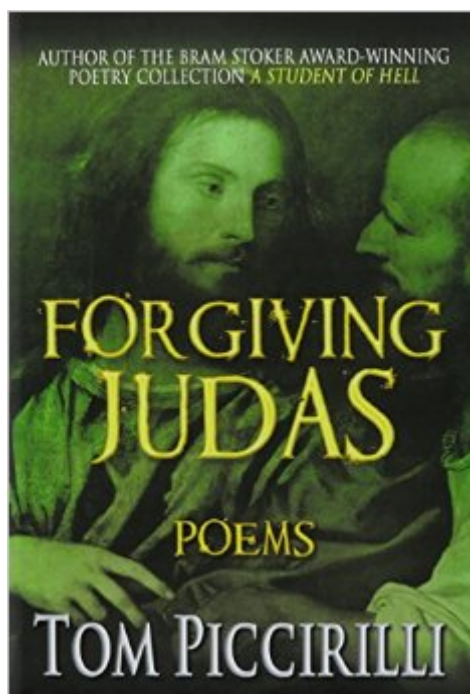


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# Forgiving Judas



## Synopsis

Tom Piccirilli's third poetry collection is his most intensely personal, using the loss of his friends and family, forgiveness, and guilt.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 72 pages

Publisher: Crossroad Press (February 26, 2015)

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,421,819 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #152 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Themes & Styles > Family](#) #399 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Themes & Styles > Death, Grief & Loss](#)

## Customer Reviews

This collection of poetry has moments that will break your heart, moments that will make you smile or make you think. Piccirilli writes about his battle with brain cancer, his family, fellow writers (and you can guess who he is talking about in a couple of them), and his fight to live. It is absolutely a work of genius by an amazing writer and poet. Highly recommended.

Tom Piccirilli's "Forgiving Judas" is a collection of poetry that levels the ground it mows through, often getting slapped by some very serious brambles. Piccirilli is a two-time winner of the International Thriller Writers Award for "Best Paperback Original" (2008, 2010). He is a four-time winner of the Bram Stoker Award. He was also a finalist for the 2009 Edgar Allan Poe Award given by the Mystery Writers of America, a final nominee for the Fantasy Award, and he won the first Bram Stoker Award given in the category of "Best Poetry Collection". Suffering from brain cancer, his memories of his early life since boyhood take on an urgency they wouldn't have otherwise. "A Day In College" and "Buddy" reflect the glowing, ephemeral memories he both prizes and feels nostalgic for. A beautiful collection which is just human. No lie in it at all.

Tom Piccirilli's latest poetry collection is a brutal journey to and from death, documenting his

survivor experience with brain cancer, and with life. In liquid language, Piccirilli that takes the reader into every nook and cranny of the suffering self. Some of the pieces, like Running Naked Down the Icy Avenue of Night, feel like meditations, dwelling on events from the ever-present past and it's never-healing wounds. Others, like Insomniac, explore the state of the creative mind scrambling for a hand hold as the world falls apart. Some of my favorites are dark little anecdotes that strike to the heart, like A Day in the Dark. Darkness, of course, is your guide and companion, along with a little irony, a touch of sarcasm here and there. And pain. But the words, the rhythms, the imaginative leaps, make the journey a wonder. And isn't that what saves us when we need to get through days without joy -- a little wonder.

Forgiving Judas is Piccirilli's third collection of poetry and some of his most personal work to date. It's an immensely personal and brutal honest piece of work. Piccirilli's words are full of loss, regret and suffering. His poem for T.M. Wright is the very definition of heartbreak. I've never been sure where the line between fiction and autobiographical exactly was in his previous work; Forgiving Judas leaves no room for such doubt. The right thing to do is to purchase this book, read it and then read it again.

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