



The Orchard Keeper

By Cormac McCarthy

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The Orchard Keeper By Cormac McCarthy

An American classic, **The Orchard Keeper** is the first novel by one of America's finest, most celebrated novelists. Set in a small, remote community in rural Tennessee in the years between the two world wars, it tells of John Wesley Rattner, a young boy, and Marion Sylder, an outlaw and bootlegger who, unbeknownst to either of them, has killed the boy's father. Together with Rattner's Uncle Ather, who belongs to a former age in his communion with nature and his stoic independence, they enact a drama that seems born of the land itself. All three are heroes of an intense and compelling celebration of values lost to time and industrialization.

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The Orchard Keeper By Cormac McCarthy Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

This first novel by McCarthy (whose *All the Pretty Horses* won the National Book Award) is set in a remote Tennessee community between the world wars.

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From the Inside Flap

An American classic, *The Orchard Keeper* is the first novel by one of America's finest, most celebrated novelists. Set in a small, remote community in rural Tennessee in the years between the two world wars, it tells of John Wesley Rattner, a young boy, and Marion Sylder, an outlaw and bootlegger who, unbeknownst to either of them, has killed the boy's father. Together with Rattner's Uncle Ather, who belongs to a former age in his communion with nature and his stoic independence, they enact a drama that seems born of the land itself. All three are heroes of an intense and compelling celebration of values lost to time and industrialization.

About the Author

Cormac McCarthy was born in Rhode Island in 1933 and spent most of his childhood near Knoxville, Tennessee. He served in the U.S. Air Force and later studied at the University of Tennessee. In 1976 he moved to El Paso, Texas, where he lives today. McCarthy's fiction parallels his movement from the Southeast to the West--the first four novels being set in Tennessee, the last three in the Southwest and Mexico. **The Orchard Keeper** (1965) won the Faulkner Award for a first novel; it was followed by **Outer Dark** (1968), **Child of God** (1973), **Suttree** (1979), **Blood Meridian** (1985), **All the Pretty Horses**, which won both the National Book Critics Circle Award and the National Book Award for fiction in 1992, and **The Crossing**.

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