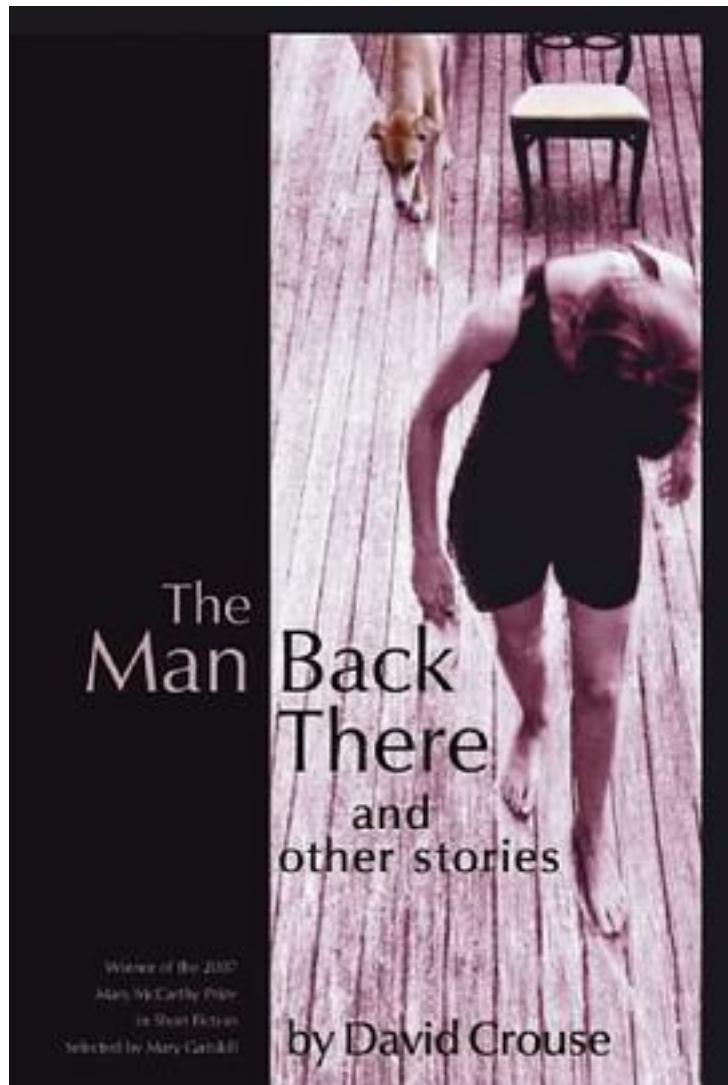


The Man Back There and Other Stories



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著者:Crouse, David

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In her introduction to "The Man Back There," Mary Gaitskill writes simply, "I chose these stories because they made me feel. . . ." The reader of David Crouse's collection is bound to agree, but the reasons are not easily explained. Crouse crawls inside the heads of a dozen male protagonists and tells us how they think. They are not always likeable. They are often losers-their thoughts hurry ahead or dawdle behind, disconnected from what little action occurs around them. And yet, somehow, we wince for the dog-catcher who crashes his ex-wife's Thanksgiving dinner in "The Castle on the Hill." We sympathize with the latch-key kid who pillages toys in a dead boy's closet in "Time Capsule." And in "The Long Run," we find it hard to condemn a ninety-two-year-old senator trying to salvage his career after his ex-wife publishes a scandalous tell-all book about his life. In this deceptively quiet collection, the truth is something that simmers up through what is not said. A hero is a man who saves himself from himself, who placates his temper with self-awareness and, most importantly, self-forgiveness. "The Man Back There" is a feat of empathy and razor sharp vision. David Crouse is the author of "Copy Cats," which received the 2005 Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction. He lives in Fairbanks, where he teaches at the University of Alaska.

作者介绍:

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