

TIM O'BRIEN

William Timothy "Tim" O'Brien (born October 1, 1946) is an American [novelist](#) best known for his work of fiction, [The Things They Carried](#) (1990), a critically acclaimed collection of semi-autobiographical, interrelated short stories inspired by O'Brien's experiences in the [Vietnam War](#). In addition, he is known for his [war novel](#), [Going After Cacciato](#) (1978), also written about wartime Vietnam.^[4]

O'Brien has held the endowed chair at the [MFA program](#) of [Texas State University–San Marcos](#) every other year since the 2003-2004 year. O'Brien won the 1979 [National Book Award](#) for [Going After Cacciato](#). His novel [In the Lake of the Woods](#) won the [James Fenimore Cooper Prize for Best Historical Fiction](#) in 1995. In August 2012, O'Brien received the [Dayton Literary Peace Prize Foundation](#)'s Richard C. Holbrooke Distinguished Achievement Award. In June 2013, O'Brien was awarded the \$100,000 [Pritzker Military Library Literature Award](#).