



## Revival: A Novel

By Stephen King

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### Revival: A Novel By Stephen King

A dark and electrifying novel about addiction, fanaticism, and what might exist on the other side of life.

In a small New England town, over half a century ago, a shadow falls over a small boy playing with his toy soldiers. Jamie Morton looks up to see a striking man, the new minister. Charles Jacobs, along with his beautiful wife, will transform the local church. The men and boys are all a bit in love with Mrs. Jacobs; the women and girls feel the same about Reverend Jacobs—including Jamie’s mother and beloved sister, Claire. With Jamie, the Reverend shares a deeper bond based on a secret obsession. When tragedy strikes the Jacobs family, this charismatic preacher curses God, mocks all religious belief, and is banished from the shocked town.

Jamie has demons of his own. Wed to his guitar from the age of thirteen, he plays in bands across the country, living the nomadic lifestyle of bar-band rock and roll while fleeing from his family’s horrific loss. In his mid-thirties—addicted to heroin, stranded, desperate—Jamie meets Charles Jacobs again, with profound consequences for both men. Their bond becomes a pact beyond even the Devil’s devising, and Jamie discovers that *revival* has many meanings.

This rich and disturbing novel spans five decades on its way to the most terrifying conclusion Stephen King has ever written. It’s a masterpiece from King, in the great American tradition of Frank Norris, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Edgar Allan Poe.

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## Revival: A Novel By Stephen King Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

**An Amazon Best Book of the Month, November 2014:** How does Stephen King do it? In book after book, writing long (*Under the Dome*, *11/22/63*) or short (*Joyland*) he manages, nearly always, to tell a compelling story that is both entertaining and somehow profound, or at least thoughtful. His latest, *Revival*, is vintage King. It's the perfect mix of baby boomer nostalgia (think *Stand By Me*) – this guy remembers the 60s with details you usually can only find in photographs – and good old American horror, the kind that was first elevated by such minor writers as, say, Poe and Hawthorne. The story here centers on a reverend who comes to a New England town, befriends and mentors a young boy, and then goes wild with grief when his family dies in an accident; he gives a blasphemous sermon and is, basically, run out of town. Cut to: a couple decades later, when the boy, now a junkie, meets up by chance with the disgraced clergyman, and they form another disturbing relationship. Reverend Jacobs, it turns out, was always more complicated than the stereotypical man of God – he is fascinated by electricity, by science – and pretty demonic, too. How he and Jamie find and fight each other over their lifetimes is as shocking and inevitable as the explosive and, yes, horrorish, climax of the book. Never mind that King's prose can sometimes lapse into laughable cliché – “like water through a sieve”? Really? – there is absolutely no better storyteller than Stephen King, who keeps us up at night, with fear and fascination and admiration. –*Sara Nelson*

#### Review

“Spellbinding...King is a master at invoking the supernatural through the powerful emotions of his characters, and his depiction of Jacobs as a man unhinged by grief but driven by insatiable scientific curiosity is as believable as it is frightening. The novel’s ending – one of King’s best – stuns like lightning.” (*Publishers Weekly (starred review)*)

“King continues to point out the unspeakably spooky weirdness that lies on the fringes of ordinary life... No one does psychological terror better than King. Another spine-tingling pleasure for his fans.” (*Kirkus Reviews*)

“King fans won’t find anything to complain about here. At just over 400 pages it’s one of his quicker reads and any hint of the supernatural is blended with tender moments that ground the characters....If this is your first King novel, it’s not a bad choice. You don’t need to know anything about his oeuvre coming in, and if you like the writing style, there are dozens of other King books you’ll probably enjoy.” (*Associated Press*)

“*Revival* finds King writing with the infectious glee that has always been at the heart of his popular success... Older and wiser each time he writes, Mr. King has moved on from the physical fear that haunted him after he was struck by a van while out walking to a more metaphysical, universal terror. He writes about things so inevitable that he speaks to us all.” (*The New York Times*)

“Stephen King’s splendid new novel offers the atavistic pleasure of drawing closer to a campfire in the dark to hear a tale recounted by someone who knows exactly how to make every listener’s flesh crawl.” (*Washington Post*)

“*Revival* is dark, disquieting and pretty horrifying, revealing a mind (the narrator’s, for sure; King’s, perhaps) searching for answers to life’s age-old questions about life and death.” (*Minneapolis Star Tribune*)

“*Revival* is among King’s very best...tender, moving and terrifying.” (*New York Daily News*)

“Worshippers at the Universal Church of Stephen King have a lot to rejoice about with his latest literary sermon. *Revival* is a dark and haunting tale about old-time religion and one man’s search for a mythic ‘secret electricity.’ At the same time it’s an emotional and spectacular coming-of-age tale that spans 50 years of horrific tragedy and human redemption... *Revival* is often heartfelt, as characters deal with painful loss, and the author invests you wholly in the separate journeys of Jamie and Charlie as they arrive at their inevitable crossroads and a voltaic endgame. Say hallelujah, for the King has risen to the occasion once again.” (*USA Today*)

“This is King’s darkest novel in quite a while... King retains his aw-shucks accessibility and writes about addiction and shattered bones with the insight of personal experience... *Revival* is a wrestling match between faith and science, and watching King throw himself into that eternal theological debate within the context of a horror novel is fascinating. This is the sort of book he couldn’t have written when he was younger; it’s the work of someone who has lived a long life and experienced its highs and lows.” (*Miami Herald*)

“It’s a good, scary story, but it’s so much more. Every page is a treasure trove of detail about daily life in America, in the 1960s or whatever decade King’s story lights on. There are tiny stories within stories, and headlines, road signs, soapsuds, state fairs, storefronts ... It’s pure poetry.” (*Raleigh News and Observer*)

“*Revival* is easily his best work in years...fresh...an excellent, simply written story...filled with suspense and curiosity, it’s a one-day read for King fans.” (*Boston Herald*)

“As with most of his work Mr. King excels at capturing the small moments of the real world, the things that are human and common to everyone. This is a world we all know and recognize. It makes the darkness that lies just beyond our perception seem more real as well.” (*Pittsburgh Post Gazette*)

“All of the elements that have made King the preeminent American horror author come alive in this ultra-creepy tale of love, loss, evil and electricity.... Riveting.” (*Cleveland Plain Dealer*)

“*Revival* buzzes with allusions to horror classics....*Revival* gives familiar themes—the relationship between science and religion, the fine line between grief and madness—new power. It’s King in electrifyingly fine form.” (*Tampa Bay Times*)

“As the Kingian references pile up, and become layered into the events of the fictional world, you fall deeper and deeper under the story’s spell, almost believing that Jamie’s nightmarish experiences actually happened...reading *Revival* is experiencing a master storyteller having the time of his life. All of his favorite elements are at play – small town Maine, the supernatural, the evil genius, the obsessive addict, the power of belief to transform a life...it is fun to map it all out, to experience King’s mind at work.” (*New York Times Book Review*)

“A fresh adrenaline rush of terror from Stephen King...Maine, rock and roll, engaging characters and a pounding build to a grisly end – this is vintage King.” (*People*)

#### About the Author

Stephen King is the author of more than fifty books, all of them worldwide bestsellers. His recent work includes *End of Watch*, the short story collection *The Bazaar of Bad Dreams*, *Finders Keepers*, *Mr. Mercedes* (an Edgar Award winner for Best Novel), *Doctor Sleep*, and *Under the Dome*. His novel *11/22/63*—a recent Hulu original television series event—was named a top ten book of 2011 by *The New*

*York Times Book Review* and won the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Mystery/Thriller as well as the Best Hardcover Book Award from the International Thriller Writers. His epic series, *The Dark Tower*, is the basis for a major motion picture from Sony. He is the recipient of the 2014 National Medal of Arts and the 2003 National Book Foundation Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters. He lives in Bangor, Maine, with his wife, novelist Tabitha King.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### Carol Johnson:

Do you among people who can't read pleasurable if the sentence chained in the straightway, hold on guys this aren't like that. This Revival: A Novel book is readable simply by you who hate the straight word style. You will find the details here are arrange for enjoyable examining experience without leaving even decrease the knowledge that want to give to you. The writer connected with Revival: A Novel content conveys the idea easily to understand by many individuals. The printed and e-book are not different in the articles but it just different such as it. So , do you nonetheless thinking Revival: A Novel is not loveable to be your top collection reading book?

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