

# SONNY LISTON WAS A FRIEND OF MINE SHORT STORIES BY THOM JONES



"A WRITER AS BRAVE AS HE IS GIFTED." MICHAEL NEAR

IT

# Sonny Liston Was A Friend Of Mine

**Padhraic Smyth**



## **Sonny Liston Was A Friend Of Mine:**

*Sonny Liston Was a Friend of Mine* Thom Jones, 2019-03-07 Faber Stories a landmark series of individual volumes presents masters of the short story form at work in a range of genres and styles He met Liston's gaze but found it almost impossible to sustain eye contact Soon it became an exercise in the control of fear Sonny Liston gave Kid Dynamite the slightest hint of a smile and winked In the build up to a fight Kid Dynamite's head swirls with thoughts of his estranged father his difficult relationship with his stepfather the time he met his hero and the sense that his own life is reaching a moment of change A masterclass in tone atmosphere and control *Sonny Liston Was a Friend of Mine* pays testimony to Thom Jones's unique talent for the short story form *Sonny Liston Was a Friend of Mine* Thom Jones, 2009-11-11 The author's world encompasses dilapidated fight arenas state mental hospitals chaotic emergency rooms The inhabitants are his brilliantly etched characters who battle desperately against fate in a game of life they cannot win but dare not lose As we approach the end of the century the millennium no one writes better or more vividly than Jones does about the personal private apocalypses we all face in our darkest moments In one story a Vietnam vet a Recon Marine swims alone across the English Channel the Straits of Gibraltar the Bosphorus to maintain the edge that kept him alive in wartime that is all he now has left In another a brilliant doctor verges on a breakdown In the title story a young amateur fighter stoically endures repetitive beatings because he knows the world of boxing shields protects him from the even crueler world outside of the ring A number of these stories have appeared in different forms in the New Yorker Playboy Esquire **Sonny Liston was a Friend of Mine** Thom Jones, 1999 A collection of stories which encompass the brittle dreams of a teenage boxer Christmas in a psychiatric ward a manic depressive adolescent's passion for the heroine of Tom Jones an unemployed man's experiments with mice and a Vietnam veteran's night time swim across the English Channel **Night Train** Thom Jones, 2018-09-18 A posthumous and definitive collection of new and selected stories by virtuoso of the short story Esquire and National Book Award finalist Thom Jones This scorching collection from award winning author Thom Jones features his best new short fiction alongside a selection of outstanding stories from three previous books Jones's stories are full of high octane prose drunk entertainment His characters are grifters and drifters rogues and ne'er-do-wells would-be do-gooders whose human frailties usually get the better of them Some are lovable others are not but each has an indelible and irresistible voice They include Vietnam soldiers amateur boxers devoted doctors strung-out advertising writers pill-poppers and veterans of the psych ward and an unforgettable adolescent DJ radio host among others The stories here are excursions into a unique world that veers between abject desperation and fleeting transcendence Perhaps no other writer in recent memory could encapsulate in such short spaces the profound and the devastating the poignant and the hallucinatory with such an exquisite balance of darkness and light Jones's fiction reveals again and again the resilience and grace of characters who refuse to succumb In stories that can at once delight us with their wicked humor and sting us with their affecting pathos *Night Train*

perfectly captures the essence of this iconic American master showcasing in a single collection the breadth of power of his inimitable fiction

**Chaos is a Friend of Mine** Ewan MacKenna, 2019-11-19 People say to me be careful of the money don't blow it If the money becomes a problem I'll get rid of it I've been planning to get to this stage for a long long time and I won't let anything stop me Honestly The year is 2013 and Ewan MacKenna is sitting in McDonald's with Conor McGregor as he enjoys his weekly coffee a treat in the eyes of a dedicated fighter The Crumlin born mixed martial arts fighter has not yet cashed his 60 000 prize money after his maiden UFC victory over Marcus Brimage a first round stoppage but he knows the importance of it only recently has he found himself in the social welfare queue Five years on and McGregor is late for his press conference with Khabib Nurmagomedov ahead of their showdown at UFC 229 By the time he arrives his opponent has gone but it doesn't stop him from launching into a diatribe against him before reverting to a sales pitch for his own whiskey Proper No 12 Somewhere along the line the fighter became a stranger to his art increasingly drawn to the circus that surrounds him But what is McGregor A wonderful rags to riches tale Dedicated athlete Cultural phenomenon Troubled soul Out of control kid Confused young man Narcissist Arrogant thug Sporting icon McGregor is any and all but crucially more than most sporting stars he is also a mirror of society In *Chaos is a Friend of Mine* MacKenna takes in both Las Vegas in 2018 and Dublin in 2019 in order to examine McGregor's journey from his upbringing in the Irish capital to his early days as a wide-eyed prodigiously talented martial arts obsessive to his recent antics outside the ring which have seen him grow bigger than the sport itself but spiral out of control

**Epilepsy Metaphors** Eleana Vaja, 2017-10-15 Between 1990 and 2015 American literature saw the emergence of a new corpus of epilepsy metaphors which tackle the stigma of epilepsy within three areas society body and language Eleana Vaja introduces concepts such as protometaphors relational metaphors epileptic texts and metastability to categorize and examine these foci further Applying philosophy as well as hard sciences i.e. mathematics medicine physics to disability studies her study of selected works by Siri Hustvedt Thom Jones Reif Larsen Dennis Mahagin Audrey Niffenegger Rodman Philbrick and Lauren Slater shows how epilepsy metaphors redefine the notion of the liminal and the normal

**Swimming Sweet Arrow** Maureen Gibbon, 2009-12-19 Evangeline Starr Raybuck plain spoken lusty and hardworking and June Keel are high school seniors best friends going out with best friends working together at Noecker's chicken farm after school Vangie and June make out with their boyfriends together in the same car they pass dirty notes to each other during the day at school They tell each other everything That was the kind of friends we were After they graduate things begin to shift Vangie gets a job waitressing and moves in with Del June unable to get a job anywhere but the local factory moves in with Ray and his older brother Luke As they become more involved in their lives with their men they see each other infrequently but not so seldom that it doesn't become clear to Vangie that there's something dangerous going on that June has crossed a line with the men in her life that even Vangie would not

*Hearings, Reports and Prints of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary* United States. Congress. Senate. Committee on the Judiciary, 1965

Professional Boxing United States. Congress. Senate. Committee on the Judiciary,1960      **Professional Boxing** United States. Congress. Senate. Committee on the Judiciary. Subcommittee on Antitrust and Monopoly,1960 Considers organized crime s alleged attempts to fix championship middleweight fights      **Short Story Index** ,2004      *Vanity Fair* ,1998

**The New Yorker** Harold Wallace Ross,Katharine Sergeant Angell White,1999-02      **Next: New Generation Of Graphic Design** Jesse Marinoff Reyes,2000-06-29 Young designers and students are hungry to know what their peers are doing in today s graphic design field This book showcases many of the best designers in their 20s and 30s who are producing innovative eye catching work with posters book covers and jackets CD packaging and other music media Brief interviews with each artist illuminate the ideas behind their work Next also helps jump start the creative process by presenting fresh edgy concepts that designers can t see anywhere else and it s a wonderful tool for older designers enabling them to get a handle on the visual language understood by younger consumers Selling points No other survey book focuses on designers in their 20s and 30s Includes an introduction by the dean of underground designers award winner Art Chantry      **Quill & Scroll** ,1997      *London Magazine* John Lehmann,Alan Ross,1999      New Statesman ,1999      World Authors, 1995-2000 Mari Rich,Olivia J. Smith,Clifford Thompson,2003 Representing a broad range of ethnic diversity these in depth profiles present fascinating accounts of lives and careers the circumstances under which works were produced and their literary significance Each profile also includes critical evaluation a list of the author s principal works with date first published a list of major critical works and a portrait or photograph where available      **HEARINGS BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON ANTITRUST AND MONOPOLY OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY UNITED STATES SENATE EIGHTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS SECOND SESSION PURSUANT TO S. Res. 262** ,1964      *The Salon.com Reader's Guide to Contemporary Authors* Laura Miller,Adam Begley,2000 An all original A to Z guide to 225 of the most fascinating writers of our time penned by an international cast of talented young critics and reviewers Cover

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