



The Grin of the Dark

By Ramsey Campbell

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The Grin of the Dark By Ramsey Campbell

A former professor offers film critic Simon the chance of a lifetime—to write a book on one of the greatest long-lost comedians of the silent-film era, Tubby Thackeray. Simon is determined to find out the truth behind the jolly fat man's disappearance from film—and from the world.

Tubby's work carries the unmistakable stamp of the macabre. People literally laughed themselves to death during his performances. Soon, wherever Simon goes, laughter—and a clown's wide, threatening grin—follow. Is Simon losing his mind? Or is Tubby Thackeray waiting for him to open the door back to the world?

Ramsey Campbell has won a dozen British Fantasy and World Fantasy Awards and three Bram Stoker Awards. A new Campbell novel is an opportunity to delight in the craftsmanship of an extraordinary writer.

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The Grin of the Dark By Ramsey Campbell Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Horror Grand Master Campbell (*The Overnight*) draws on the eeriness of clowns, silent comedians and wordless struggles to communicate in this unsettling surrealist fable. Disgraced film critic Simon Lester is writing a book on obscure silent film star Tubby Thackeray, whose outrageous shenanigans caused riots and madness in his audiences. Thanks to Thackeray's blacklisted status and nasty habit of paranormally pestering Simon, research on the book is as difficult and tedious as Simon's personal life, which decays as he struggles to demonstrate his competence while wrestling with forces that are swiftly driving him insane. Campbell's impeccable grasp of interpersonal dynamics makes Simon's confusion all the more cringe-worthy, though the narrative tension stumbles over meticulously reproduced, seemingly endless Internet arguments, and when the characters can't communicate with one another, they have trouble reaching the reader, too. The tale sometimes bows under its own weight, but mostly stands as a fine example of good scares delivered with class. (July)

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From [Booklist](#)

Never one to rest on his already ample laurels, UK horror master Campbell turns in another excellent piece of inventive, chilling suspense. Unemployed London film critic Simon Lester receives an apparent lucky break when his old film professor commissions him to write a book about forgotten silent-film comedian Tubby Thackeray. Once deemed as good as Chaplin's and Keaton's, Thackeray's movies are mysteriously missing from cinematic archives. In tracking down references and attempting to solve the riddle of Thackeray's anomalous absence, Simon treks across the seamier landscape of film production, from porn factories to Amsterdam brothels. After many maddening false leads, encounters with sinister clowns, and e-mail exchanges with a particularly snide film buff, Simon stumbles on a disturbing secret about Thackeray's real identity that may have less to do with comedy than with an ancient evil. Part traditional horror, part mystery yarn, and part Hollywood homage, Campbell's tale manages to be both spine-chilling and characteristically British. Superlative entertainment, among Campbell's best efforts. *Carl Hays*
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Review

"Campbell draws the reader into the story slowly, accumulating a wealth of detail and family dynamics. One of the most unsettling voices in horror literature, back in fine, eerie form with *The Darkest Part of the Woods*."--*Fangoria*

"Rich and evocative . . . a high water mark of horror."--*Publishers Weekly* (starred review) on *The Overnight*

"Not for the faint of heart."--*Romantic Times BOOKreviews* on *The Overnight*

"For more than forty years, Ramsey Campbell has been one of the premier horror writers of the English-speaking world."--*The Washington Post Book World* on *The Overnight*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Adam Rucks:

This The Grin of the Dark book is just not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is usually information inside this book incredible fresh, you will get information which is getting deeper anyone read a lot of information you will get. This specific The Grin of the Dark without we recognize teach the one who looking at it become critical in contemplating and analyzing. Don't always be worry The Grin of the Dark can bring when you are and not make your case space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it in your lovely laptop even telephone. This The Grin of the Dark having fine arrangement in word and also layout, so you will not sense uninterested in reading.

Patricia Ackermann:

The actual book The Grin of the Dark will bring you to the new experience of reading a new book. The author style to spell out the idea is very unique. In case you try to find new book to read, this book very ideal to you. The book The Grin of the Dark is much recommended to you to read. You can also get the e-book in the official web site, so you can more easily to read the book.

Timothy Pace:

Reading a book to become new life style in this 12 months; every people loves to study a book. When you learn a book you can get a lot of benefit. When you read books, you can improve your knowledge, since book has a lot of information onto it. The information that you will get depend on what kinds of book that you have read. If you wish to get information about your study, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself look for a fiction books, this kind of us novel, comics, as well as soon. The The Grin of the Dark provide you with new experience in reading through a book.

Joyce Francois:

With this era which is the greater man or woman or who has ability in doing something more are more precious than other. Do you want to become among it? It is just simple method to have that. What you need to do is just spending your time little but quite enough to enjoy a look at some books. One of many books in the top listing in your reading list is definitely The Grin of the Dark. This book that is certainly qualified as The Hungry Hillside can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking upwards and review this reserve you can get many advantages.

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