



## The Lost Boy: A Novella (Chapel Hill Books)

By Thomas Wolfe



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Thomas Wolfe's *The Lost Boy* is a captivating and poignant retelling of an episode from Wolfe's childhood. The story of Wolfe's brother Grover and his trip to the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair is told from four perspectives, each articulating the sentiments of a different family member. *The Lost Boy* also captures beautifully the experiences of growing up at the turn of the century and the exhilaration and loss of childhood. For this illustrated edition, James Clark unearthed Wolfe's original manuscript, which was first published in the 1930s in a heavily abridged form.

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## The Lost Boy: A Novella (Chapel Hill Books) By Thomas Wolfe Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Wolfe's 1937 autobiographical novella about the death of his brother evinces the author's fascination with time and remembrance.

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From Library Journal

Originally edited into a short story for Redbook, Wolfe's novella has finally been published unabridged. Like much of Wolfe's work, this is a thinly veiled autobiographical account of an incident in his family. The story is divided into four sections, each with a different character's voice and viewpoint. Grover Gant's poetical perspective on life in the town square and his experience with a local shopkeeper opens the piece. In Part 2, Grover's proud mother describes her son's precocious power over people on the train to the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. Years later, in Part 3, an older sister remembers her last escapade with her brother before he fell ill. And Part 4 finds Grover's youngest brother (Wolfe) in search of the house in which his barely remembered brother died 30 years earlier. For comprehensive Wolfe collections.

-Cathy Sabol, *Northern Virginia Community Coll., Manassas*

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Review

An essential discovery.

"St. Louis Post-Dispatch"

Typically and often beautifully Wolfean.

"Kirkus Reviews"

A keen reminder of [Wolfe's] literary mastery and human understanding.

"Parade Magazine"

"The Lost Boy" is a moving valediction and a sure-footed example of Wolfe's stylistic power.

"Publishers Weekly"

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"Parade Magazine"

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### **Salina Rodriguez:**

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