



Cover, a painting by Anthony Cudahy, whose work will be on view in May at Semiose, in Paris.

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"Up the road a piece. Third holler down, make a right." The man lifted his chin to point at the dirt lane that entered a holler and Mick slowed to make the turn. The road flattened through a stand of poplars that had been snapped by wind.

"Never did see an old poplar," Mick said.

"Worst tree in the woods. Never did see"

"Yeah, everything's got a reason if God put it here. Thing I think about is ticks. What are they good for?"

"Well," Mick said, "possums eat ticks. But I don't reckon they live on them."

"I like possums"