

GÓTICO NORDESTINO

Northeastern Gothic

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Author: Cristhiano Aguiar

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In these nine short stories, Cristhiano Aguiar delves into gothic and folk elements, mixing real and supernatural horrors with a dreamlike, surrealistic style. He seeks his references in television series, movies and comics to create narratives far from the traditional literary prose. The stories wave from the days of the Cangaço, through the military dictatorship and pushing as far as in the darkness of the near future.

A boy is obliged to cross the open field near the village of Riachão da Frente to deliver a letter his mother wrote to Zé Barbatão, the local *cangaceiro* (a rebel and an outlaw). At dawn, the shadows on the path and the bandits' threat grow as the narrative progresses, and reality itself seems on the verge of being torn apart. *Anda-luz (Gone in the Light)*, the story that opens this volume, foreshadows what will come in the following eight tales.

An evil kangaroo, a world hunted by bloody and clever jaguars, a grandmother who finds her way to come back from the dead... In *Gótico nordestino*, Cristhiano Aguiar walks between dream and reality, dialogues with several genres and composes a collection quite different from what we're all used to.

Reviews

«Gótico nordestino fits prominently in the new wave of horror narratives, reinventing the timeless fear of what lies beyond rationality. Cristhiano Aguiar finds a synthesis between the anglo-american pop culture and the distinctive features of his own Southern American reality. His sparkling and powerful pieces show the reader how terror is the real key to understand our times.»

Antônio Xerxenesky

Cristhiano Aguiar is a writer, literary critic, teacher and author of *Narrativas e espaços ficcionais: uma introdução* (Narratives and fictional places: an introduction) and the short stories collection *Na outra margem, o Leviatã* (On the Other Side, the Leviathan). He's a frequent contributor of *Revista Pessoa* and *Suplemento Literário Pernambuco*.

