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'Extraordinary and confounding, mind-spinning
and wonderful'
Independent on Sunday

RICHARD POWERS

'A virtuoso performance'
Sunday Times

'Sweet, funny, sad and haunting... A formidably
intelligent, ecstatically noisy novel'
Guardian

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Description :

Prsentation de l'diteur
LONGLISTED FOR THE MAN BOOKER PRIZE 2014
Seventy-year old avant-garde
composer Peter Els opens the door one evening to find the police outside. His DIY microbiology lab - the
latest experiment in his lifelong attempt to extract music from rich patterns beyond the ear's ability to hear -
has come to the attention of Homeland Security. Panicked by the raid on his house, Els flees and turns
fugitive, waiting for the evidence to clear him and for the alarm surrounding his activities to blow over. But
alarm turns to national hysteria, as the government promises a panicked nation that the 'Bioterrorist Bach'
will be found and brought to trial. As Els feels the noose around him tighten, he embarks on a cross-country
trip to visit, one last time, the people in his past who have most shaped his failed musical journey. And

through the help of these people - his ex-wife, his daughter, and his longtime artistic collaborator - Els comes up with a plan to turn this disastrous collision with national security into one last, resonant, calamitous artwork that might reach an audience beyond his wildest dreams. *Revue de presse* Orfeo has a galloping finale that is sweet, funny, sad and haunting all at once... A formidably intelligent, ecstatically noisy novel --*Guardian* Extraordinary and confounding, mind-spinning and wonderful --*Independent on Sunday* This is the best novel about classical music that I have read since Thomas Mann's *Doctor Faustus*... There are passages that make you want to run to your stereo --*Independent* A virtuoso performance --*Sunday Times* A magnificent and moving novel --*Los Angeles Times* Powers is prodigiously talented. Besides being fearfully erudite, he writes lyrical prose, has a seductive sense of wonder and is an acute observer of social life... I [picked] it up eagerly each day and [found] myself moist-eyed when I came to its last pages --*New York Times* Extraordinary... His evocations of music, let alone lost love, simply soar off the page... Once again, Richard Powers proves himself to be one of our finest novelists --*Newsday* *Présentation de l'auteur* **LONGLISTED FOR THE MAN BOOKER PRIZE 2014** Seventy-year old avant-garde composer Peter Els opens the door one evening to find the police outside. His DIY microbiology lab - the latest experiment in his lifelong attempt to extract music from rich patterns beyond the ear's ability to hear - has come to the attention of Homeland Security. Panicked by the raid on his house, Els flees and turns fugitive, waiting for the evidence to clear him and for the alarm surrounding his activities to blow over. But alarm turns to national hysteria, as the government promises a panicked nation that the 'Bioterrorist Bach' will be found and brought to trial. As Els feels the noose around him tighten, he embarks on a cross-country trip to visit, one last time, the people in his past who have most shaped his failed musical journey. And through the help of these people - his ex-wife, his daughter, and his longtime artistic collaborator - Els comes up with a plan to turn this disastrous collision with national security into one last, resonant, calamitous artwork that might reach an audience beyond his wildest dreams.