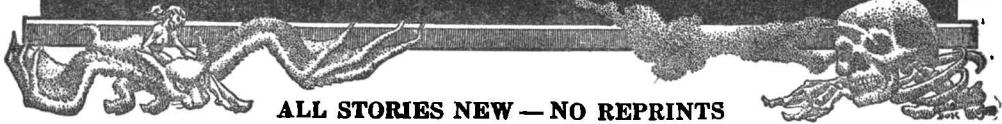


Weird Tales



ALL STORIES NEW — NO REPRINTS

November, 1943

Cover by A. R. Tilburne

LONG NOVELETTE

THE VALLEY OF THE ASSASSINS Edmond Hamilton 8

*A valley of dreadful doom, this . . . where time is as nothing to the fiend
whose first murderous crimes were committed centuries ago*

SHORT STORIES

DEATH WENT THAT WAY Allison V. Harding 20

*It's nice to be able to call some strange happening "coincidence"
... it's much more reassuring than the truth!*

SPEED THE PARTING GHOST Helen W. Kasson 28

*So you don't like to have your relatives around! Suppose they were
dead . . . and still around!*

THE THIRD CRY TO LEGBA Manly Wade Wellman 50

When we tinker with black forces beyond our ken we must expect the unexpected

THE DUCKER Ray Bradbury 62

*If you shoot those guys over there, he wondered, then they got to
play right and fall down, don't they?*

GREAT PAN IS HERE Greye La Spina 72

*Our doctrines had not warned us that on this night all hidden
powers above and below are loosened*

A THIN GENTLEMAN WITH GLOVES August Derleth 85

*A familiar is a companion summoned from outside somewhere to attend
a wizard and obey his every command*

HAMMER OF CAIN James Causey and Bill Blackbeard 92

*There is a strange curse on all brothers Cain . . . a curse that is terrible
as it is compelling—the medium is a little flint hatchet!*

HERBERT WEST: REANIMATOR H. P. Lovecraft 101

*Can hideous experiments in the reanimation of the dead be carried so
far as to bring on demoniac reprisals from those dead?*

VERSE

THE SNAKE Francis Flagg 6

BECAUSE THE MOON IS FAR Katherine Simons 49

ON LAKE LAGORE Dorothy Gold 91

SUPERSTITIONS AND TABOOS Irwin J. Weil 76

THE EYRIE AND WEIRD TALES CLUB 108

*Except for personal experiences the contents of this magazine is fiction. Any use
of the name of any living person or reference to actual events is purely coincidental.*

Published bi-monthly by Weird Tales, 9 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N. Y. Reentered as second-class matter January 28, 1940, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Single copies, 15 cents. Subscription rates: One year in the United States and possessions, 90¢. Foreign and Canadian postage extra. English Office: Charles Lavelle, Limited, 4 Clements Inn, Strand, London, W.C.2, England. The publishers are not responsible for the loss of unsolicited manuscripts although every care will be taken of such material while in their possession. Copyright, 1943, by Weird Tales. Copyrighted in Great Britain. Title registered in U. S. Patent Office.

178

PRINTED IN THE U. S. A.

VOL. 37, NO. 2

D. McILWRAITH, Editor.

LAMONT BUCHANAN, Associate Editor.

Because the Moon is Far

By KATHERINE SIMONS

BECAUSE the moon is far I have grown weary
Of Earth and earthly things.
I find the same recurrent seasons dreary
And crave Saturnian springs.

What nights are there of diamond-white desire
Where Mercury has found
The stairways of the sun? What peaks aspire
From Pluto's outer ground?

It may be, in the ghostly, frozen spinneys
Of Neptune's sunless morn,
The flying serpent nests and that there whinnies
The milk-white unicorn.

In slumber tangent to the arc of wonder
I feel the fire hail
Of Jupiter and—through primeval thunder—
I hear his dragons wail.

Let him who thinks he winnows truth from seeming
And candleflame from star
Accept reality but leave me dreaming—
Because the moon is far.

