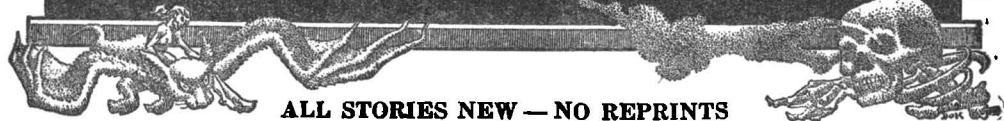


# Weird Tales



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 23  
*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** . . . . . Grege 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  
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*Except for personal experiences the contents of this magazine is fiction. Any use  
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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.

