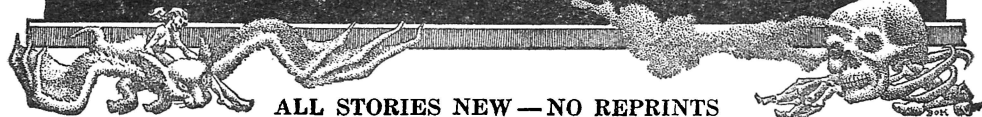


Weird Tales



MARCH, 1945

Cover by A. R. Tilburne

NOVELETTE

- LORDS OF THE GHOSTLANDS Seabury Quinn 8
To be jerked out of the quiet restfulness of your grave and shipped across four thousand miles of water . . . but then any mummy might be called unlucky!

SHORT STORIES

- IN THE BEGINNING H. Bedford-Jones 24
Did you ever hear of an office safe that contained a link with the philosophers, magicians and soothsayers of past ages?
- A BIRTHDAY PRESENT FOR TOMMY Charles King 33
The way to conquer horror is to bring your fears out into the open; but you can't bring THEM out into the open. . . .
- THE PERIPATETIC CORPSE Harold Lawlor 38
The funniest part about a corpse walking into the morgue by itself is that it just couldn't happen—could it?
- THE SHONOKINS Manly Wade Wellman 48
Precautions against the Shonokins are not like precautions against anything else in this world or out of it
- PLEASE GO WAY AND LET ME SLEEP Helen W. Kasson 56
The family was gathered just as it would have been gathered in any other room . . . only this was the crypt
- ALANNAH Stephen Grendon 64
Any sensitive, imaginative child lives in a world of make-believe—at least "make-believe" is what the prosaic mind calls it
- THE TOMBSTONE Ray Bradbury 72
"No dead man's going to rest easy with strange folks sleeping right on top of him"
- SECOND CHILDHOOD Jack Snow 76
As one approaches the end of life's long journey memory becomes brilliantly clear and vivid
- A SIP WITH SATAN Roger S. Vreeland 80
Just one old man alone in a place big enough for a hotel. And the THINGS he did, well, what do you think?

VERSE

- QUEST UNHALLOWED Page Cooper 3
- BEWITCHED Willard N. Marsh 32
- WIND WALKS NOT ALONE Dan Kelly 55
- SUPERSTITIONS AND TABOOS Irwin J. Weill 63
- THE EYRIE AND WEIRD TALES CLUB 93

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 20, N. Y. Reentered as second-class matter January 26, 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 Lavell, 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, 1944, by Weird Tales. Copyrighted in Great Britain. 173 Title registered in U. S. Patent Office.

PRINTED IN THE U. S. A.

Vol. 38, No. 4

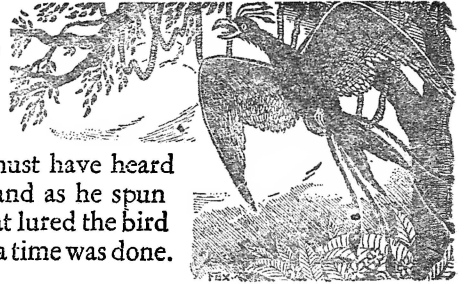
D. McILWRAITH, Editor.

LAMONT BUCHANAN, Associate Editor.

Bewitched

By WILLARD N. MARSH

THIS timeless garden, like a thing diseased
Has flung a green veil round its leprous face
And deathless evil blooms are tightly squeezed
Within the unkempt vine's obscene embrace.



In other days this setting must have heard
The cloven hoofs of Pan, and as he spun
The witching harmonies that lured the bird
From flight, its growing for a time was done.

And now the whisper of a magic pipe
Has filtered through to me from yesterday:
An ancient, half-forgotten dream is ripe—
And caught, I grope and cannot find the way.