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Weird Tales

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W. T.—1

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Death

By WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

(From "*Measure for Measure*")

Ay, but to die, and go we know not where;
To lie in cold obstruction and to rot;
This sensible warm motion to become
A kneaded clod, and the delighted spirit
To bathe in fiery floods, or to reside
In thrilling region of thick-ribbèd ice;
To be imprisoned in the viewless winds,
And blown with restless violence round about
The pendent world; or to be—worse than worst—
Of those that lawless and uncertain thought
Imagine howling,—'tis too horrible!
The weariest and most lcathèd worldly life
That age, ache, penury and imprisonment
Can lay on nature is a paradise
To what we fear of death.