

MAY, 1941 Cover by Hannes Bok THE CASE OF CHARLES DEXTER WARD . . H. P. Lovecraft ß (In two parts-part I) The Finest and Most Thrilling Novel Ever Written by the World's Acknowledged Master of the Weird Tale. NOVELETTE THERE ARE SUCH THINGS. 96 Seabury Quinn In the Dark Ages a Girl Wasn't Above Going to the Devil to Keep Her Lover. SHORT STORIES BY WHAT MYSTIC MOORING Frank Owen 41 A Strange Romance - Set Amid the Swirling, Mysterious Fog of a Ghost City in the Orient. DRIFTING ATOMS . 48 Mary Elizabeth Counselman It Doesn't Do to Meddle with Laws Not Meant to Be Changed by Man. THE PHANTOM PISTOL Carl Jacobi 62 That Pistol Drew Him Like a Powerful Lodestonc-71 THE GHOST OF A CHANCE A. B. Almy A Traveling Salesman Finds Himself High Pressured by a Mummy! 79 BEAUTY'S BEAST. Robert Bloch Snakes . . . Undulating in the Evil Glory of Their Poisonous Beauty. 91 ALTIMER'S AMULET August W. Derleth There Are Always Curses and Such - One Expects Them - But How About a Pair of Hands, Chopped Off at the Wrists . . . Running Along on Fingertips? VERSE FUTILITY Marvin Miller 78 THE BALLAD OF LALUNE . Leslyn MacDonald 119 SUPERSTITIONS AND TABOOS Irwin J. Weill 60 120 THE EYRIE and WEIRD TALES CLUB 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.

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Futility

By MARVIN MILLER

Though man aspires to immortality With stone and mortar, structures that he lifts Above reclaiming earth and slashing sea, Will sink to nothingness: the hieroglyphs On Toltec temples tell perhaps of all Their builders knew of architecture, and In lost Lemuria the starfish crawl Through colonnaded altars in the sand.

Like drunken giants, jealous of their power, Sluggish waves of oceans toss and roll; Sublunar thunder teaches man to cower; Volcanic caverns praise a primal plan Of That which fashioned carefully the soul, But moulded mountains mightier than man.