



# Famous FANTASTIC Mysteries

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## Novelettes

- ANTHEM** ..... Ayn Rand 12  
 He alone, of all the prison world of indexed numbers, had dared to dream of long-forgotten freedom.  
*Copyright 1948 by Ayn Rand. Reprinted by permission of the author.*
- THE METAMORPHOSIS** ..... Franz Kafka 36  
 Already he had taken on the alien loathsome shape. . . . In all except the still watching mind- the vestige of a soul that still could suffer. . . .  
*Scharben Books, Inc., New York, 1926.*

- WORMS OF THE EARTH** ..... Robert E. Howard 64  
 Titus Sulla played fox to a dangerous eagle when he baited the high-land king whose fens bred magic more deadly than the bite of Caesar's swords.  
*Copyright 1932 by the Popular Fiction Publishing Company for Weird Tales, November 1929.*

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## HAUNTED HOSTEL

By Emma L'Hommedieu Frost

*High on the hill (with the village sleeping)  
The haunted hostel awakes,  
And those there are at door-cracks peeping,  
And will . . . till the morning breaks.*

*And their furtive feet will creak the boards  
Of a dark, forbidden stair,  
While white mice scurry the shadow-halls  
And fur the lifeless air.*

*Oh, the Room will be found, and its Door swing shut  
On the questioners trapped inside;  
But nevermore will they eye the hawk  
(Nor gaze on his golden bride.)*

*For long will the ophite lizard be gone,  
And long the owl be still,  
While yet the posers seek the key  
That slipped from the Door on the hill.*

*While yet the soundless ditty is sung  
From the windowless Room whercin,  
The captured posers finger the floor  
For the key that locked them in.*