

A MAGAZINE OF THE BIZARRE AND UNUSUAL

# Weird Tales

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CONTENTS FOR APRIL, 1936

Number 4

Cover Design . . . . .	M. Brundage	
<i>Asbosc and Aru (illustrating "The Ruler of Fate")</i>		
The Ruler of Fate . . . . .	Jack Williamson	386
<i>A romantic novel about a weird being that rules Earth from a cavern of horror on the Moon</i>		
Painted Cave . . . . .	Julia Boynton Green	403
<i>Verse</i>		
The Face in the Wind . . . . .	Carl Jacobi	404
<i>An eerie story of a beautiful but evil fate—a woman's face—that appeared one night in the storm</i>		
Son of Satan . . . . .	Arlton Eadie	419
<i>A posthumous weird tale of carnival time in Venice, by a late British master of eerie fiction</i>		
They Shall Rise . . . . .	August W. Derleth and Mark Schorer	437
<i>An uncanny tale of a dissecting-laboratory, and cadavers that would not stay dead</i>		
The Hour of the Dragon (end) . . . . .	Robert E. Howard	450
<i>A goose-flesh novel of a thousand eerie thrills—a tale of Conan the barbarian</i>		
The Druidic Doom . . . . .	Robert Bloch	472
<i>A gripping tale of a hideous horror beneath the Druid stone</i>		
The Sick Muse . . . . .	Charles P. Baudelaire	485
<i>Verse, translated by Clark Ashton Smith from the French</i>		
The Call in the Night . . . . .	Chandler H. Whipple	486
<i>An eerie horror-tale of two racketeers</i>		
The Seance . . . . .	Ronal Kayser	493
<i>A strange tale about the terrible doom that struck in the darkness of a seance-room</i>		
<b>Weird Story Reprint:</b>		
The Rajah's Gift . . . . .	E. Hoffmann Price	499
<i>A very popular story from WEIRD TALES of eleven years ago</i>		
The Eyrie . . . . .		506
<i>The readers express their opinions about this magazine</i>		

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WEIRD TALES ISSUED 1st OF EACH MONTH

# Painted Cave

By JULIA BOYNTON GREEN

What artist wrought in this bleak studio—  
 Ranging his simple records on the rock,  
 The proud horned leader of a mountain flock,  
 A sun enrayed, a serpent, wheels, a row  
 Of ripples, sprawled batrachians? Who can know  
 All that these weathered symbols meant? A guess  
 The experts venture, but stark wilderness  
 Swallows in mystery the curious show.

Pondering the secrets of this barren land  
 We linger. Shadows grow—the desert grays—  
 Then—stealing from those lost forgotten days  
 A nude swart shape beside us seems to stand,  
 Loving these ancient tracings of his hand,  
 Craving it may be some brief word of praise.