

# Weird Tales



ALL STORIES NEW — NO REPRINTS

May, 1944

Cover by Margaret Brundage

## LONG NOVELETTE

- IRON MASK . . . . . Robert Bloch 4  
*What manner of man was this creature who towered like a gaunt ghost  
in the moonlight, his features covered always!*

## NOVELETTE

- THE DAY THE WORLD STOOD STILL . . . . . Allison V. Harding 58  
*There is an unseen atmospheric curtain that binds our dimension of space  
and speed to us; suppose this were to—lower!*

## SHORT STORIES

- THE LETTERS OF COLD FIRE . . . . . Manly Wade Wellman 30  
*A strange solitary education—once a day a hand shaggy with  
dark hair thrusts in food to the scholar*

- MAN IN A HURRY . . . . . Alan Nelson 40  
*For 20 years the pudgy little man was always hurrying, as though to  
some appointment for which he was already late*

- UNPUBLISHED STORY . . . . . H. Bedford-Jones 44  
*The only logical conclusion was thoroughly out of the question—  
the miraculous thing was monstrous and impossible!*

- THE DEAR DEPARTED . . . . . Alice-Mary Schnirring 54  
*How could the medium know that this time the seance was  
to be different—very different!*

- THE LAKE . . . . . Ray Bradbury 76  
*There are some who play in the lake who are destined to be  
young and small and unchanged forever*

- THE GOTHIC WINDOW . . . . . Dorothy Quick 80  
*The strange window lent itself readily to a fairy tale; the only  
trouble was that there is often truth in fairy tales*

## A GROUP OF SONNETS

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*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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# FUNGI FROM YUGGOTH

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"BEWARE St. Toad's cracked chimes!" I heard him scream  
As I plunged into those mad lanes that wind  
In labyrinths obscure and undefined  
South of the river where old centuries dream.  
He was a furtive figure, bent and ragged  
And in a flash had staggered out of sight,  
So still I burrowed onward in the night  
Toward where more roof-lines rose, malign and jagged.

No guide-book told of what was lurking here—  
But now I heard another old man shriek:  
"Beware St. Toad's cracked chimes!" Aghast, I fled—  
I paused, when a third greybeard croaked in fear:  
"Beware St. Toad's cracked chimes!" Aghast, I fled—  
Till suddenly that black spire loomed ahead.

**St. Toad's**



**Decorations by**

**A group of  
sonnets by** *H. P. Lovecraft*

**HANNES BOK**