

# Weird Tales



MARCH, 1945

Cover by A. R. Tilburne

## NOVELETTE

- LORDS OF THE GHOSTLANDS . . . . . Seabury Quinn 8  
*To be jerked out of the quiet restfulness of your grave and shipped across four thousand miles of water . . . but then any mummy might be called unlucky!*

## SHORT STORIES

- IN THE BEGINNING . . . . . H. Bedford-Jones 24  
*Did you ever hear of an office safe that contained a link with the philosophers, magicians and soothsayers of past ages?*
- A BIRTHDAY PRESENT FOR TOMMY . . . . . Charles King 33  
*The way to conquer horror is to bring your fears out into the open; but you can't bring THEM out into the open. . . .*
- THE PERIPATETIC CORPSE . . . . . Harold Lawlor 38  
*The funniest part about a corpse walking into the morgue by itself is that it just couldn't happen—could it?*
- THE SHONOKINS . . . . . Manly Wade Wellman 48  
*Precautions against the Shonokins are not like precautions against anything else in this world or out of it*
- PLEASE GO WAY AND LET ME SLEEP . . . . . Helen W. Kasson 56  
*The family was gathered just as it would have been gathered in any other room . . . only this was the crypt*
- ALANNAH . . . . . Stephen Grendon 64  
*Any sensitive, imaginative child lives in a world of make-believe—at least "make-believe" is what the prosaic mind calls it*
- THE TOMBSTONE . . . . . Ray Bradbury 72  
*"No dead man's going to rest easy with strange folks sleeping right on top of him"*
- SECOND CHILDHOOD . . . . . Jack Snow 76  
*As one approaches the end of life's long journey memory becomes brilliantly clear and vivid*
- A SIP WITH SATAN . . . . . Roger S. Vreeland 80  
*Just one old man alone in a place big enough for a hotel. And the THINGS he did, well, what do you think?*

## VERSE

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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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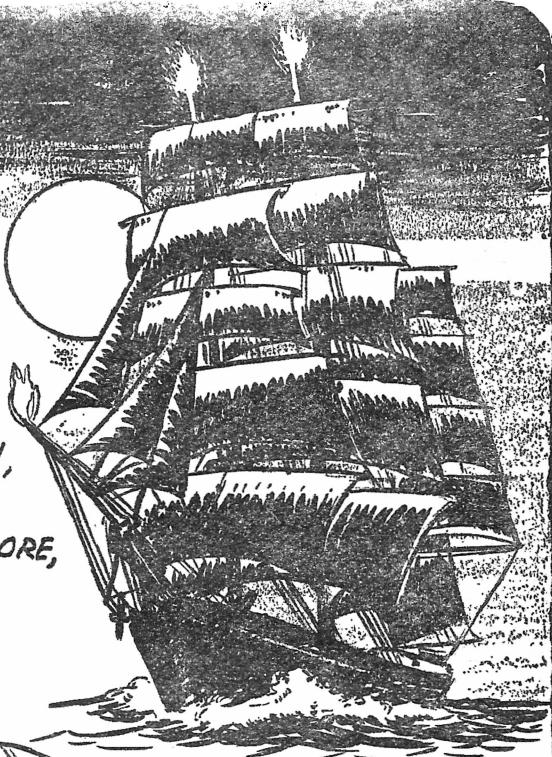
D. McILWRAITH, Editor.

LAMONT BUCHANAN, Associate Editor.

# SUPERSTITIONS AND TABOOS

by 

**ST. ELMO'S**  
FIRE APPEARS AS A  
TIP OF LIGHT ON THE  
MASTS OF SHIPS.  
UNLIKE OTHER MANI-  
FESTATIONS OF  
ELECTRICAL FORCES  
IN NATURE, THIS FIRE  
DOES NOT CAUSE  
ANY INJURY TO MEN  
OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY,  
BUT IT IS CONSIDERED  
AN ILL OMEN BY  
SAILORS AND, THEREFORE,  
MUCH FEARED!



**I**N THE BELIEF THAT THEY WERE MAKING  
ADEQUATE STORE FOR NEEDS IN THE OTHER WORLD, THE  
ANCIENT EGYPTIANS FURNISHED THEIR TOMBS WITH MODELS  
AND PICTURES OF THINGS USED IN THEIR EVERYDAY  
LIVES. THEY EVEN INCLUDED MODELS OF SERVANTS  
TO INSURE THEMSELVES OF MORE COMFORT IN  
THEIR NEW STATE OF BEING!