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# Weird Tales

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WEIRD TALES ISSUED 1st OF EACH MONTH

# The Haunted Castle

By W. L. HASTY, JR.

I smashed the lock which held the brazen gate;  
I slew the dragon at the golden door;  
Slashed to the heart the harpy and its mate;  
Panting, I sprang across the throne-room floor.

The room was empty; but I shouted loud,  
Thinking them hiding, frightened at the din;  
Echoes came trooping like a devil's crowd  
And mocked my voice till it seemed weak and thin.

Madly I ran through endless lofty halls,  
Shrieking that all within the house were free;  
That ancient spells long guarding these dark walls  
Were broken down in thundering blows, by me.

But no one answers—shadows hurtle out  
Of rooms where whispers have just died away.  
I stalk them endlessly; I cannot rout  
These slithering Things no mortal's sword may slay.