

MIRAGE

No. 5

Summer, 1962

VOLUME ONE

"The Amateur Magazine of Fantasy"

JACK L. CHALKER, editor

NUMBER FIVE

I do not know if it ever existed--
That lost world floating dimly on Time's stream--
And yet I see it often, violet-misted,
And shimmering at the back of some vague dream.
There were strange towers and curious lapping rivers,
Labyrinths of wonder, and low vaults of light,
And bough-crossed skies of flame, like that which quivers
Wistfully, just before a winter's night.

Great moors led off to sedgy shores unpeopled,
Where vast birds wheeled, while on a windswept hill
There was a village, ancient and white-steeped,
With evening chimes for which I listen still.
I do not know what land it is--or dare
Ask when or why I was, or will be, there.

.....H.P. Lovecraft*

contents...

cover by Dave Prosser

- OVER THE EDGE (editorials) = page 4
- MOTHER OF DARKNESS (fiction) by John Pesta - P. 8
- NOTES ON STURGEON (article) by David H. Keller, M.D. - P. 14
- THE QUEST OF IRANON (fiction) by H.P. Lovecraft - P. 18
- CLARK ASHTON SMITH: a portrait in art - P. 21
a portrait in words, by George Haas - 22
- THE GNOME PRESS CHECKLIST, compiled by Martin Greenberg - 38
- HOWARD PHILLIPS LOVECRAFT: POETIC TRIBUTES, compiled by
John E. Vetter - 42
- HINDSIGHT; (lettercolumn)
- THE BOOKSHELF - page 50
- VERSE: The Disillusionment - C. Jon DeCles--15
Malignant Love - John E. Vetter--20
The Old Water-Wheel - Clark Ashton Smith--37
The Usufruct Mortuary - Thomas B. Haughey--41
Missile War - Thomas B. Haughey--41
The Witch of Sherwood Forest - John E. Vetter--45

Interiors by Prosser, Southwails, and Jacobs

MARY-61

THE WITCH OF SHERWOOD FOREST

Is this the Schwarzwald's hexerei,
 This spell you've put on me?
 A love charm of the gypsy art,
 or Pharoah's sorcery?

A longing for you tortures me,
 I ache for your embrace;
 At night my dreams are haunted by
 Your pretty elfin face.

Yet still I'm sure your magic's not
 An evil necromancy;
 For with more joy than agony
 You captivate my fancy.

So be you maid or lania —
 How can a mortal toll?
 I only know I'll be content,
 A victim of your spell.

.....John E. Votter.....