
Vastarien Vol 2 Issue 1

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Among the Red Stars
We are Happy, We are Doomed
Alectryomancer and Other Weird Tales

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2 Issue 1 by guest*

KEAGAN GABRIELLE

*When the Watcher
Shakes* Subterranean
From the author of
Alectryomancer and
Other Weird Tales
comes this devastating
collection of fifteen
stories and essays. A
father's desperate
search for his missing
child leads to a cosmic
haunted realm. A

woman returns to her
childhood home to find
a past preserved in a
semblance of life. A
young man and his
canine companion find
themselves in the
heart of an occult
government exercise
deep within a Pacific
Northwest forest. An
elderly man is subject
to mysterious
experiments as he
descends into
dementia. And, in the
title novella, a forensic
anthropologist is called

to the site of the mass suicide of an anti-natalist cult intent on communicating with Nature.

The Common Tongue Magazine Issue 1

JournalStone

What happens when we make monsters?

What happens when we make monsters of ourselves? Grotesque beings lurch from our darkest dreams.

Vicious beasts stalk our twisted pasts. Lost souls haunt our deepest regrets. They are the blood on our hands. They are the obsessions in our heads. They are the vengeance in our hearts. They are Miscreations: Gods, Monstrosities & Other Horrors. Edited by Bram Stoker Award-winning editors Doug Murano and Michael Bailey. Featuring a

foreword by Alma Katsu, and illustrations throughout by HagCult. In the Court of the Yellow King Trepidatio Publishing

“I have become a huge fan of Farah Rose Smith. This collection of haunting, lyrical, visceral stories is a maximalist writer’s dream come true.

These stories will hypnotize you, transform you, fill you with longing, and set you free in a never-ending forest filled with awful possibilities.”

—Richard Thomas, author of *Disintegration* and the Thriller Award-nominated *Breaker* A gift of birds that transforms from beauty to terror. A disfiguring rivalry between models. A farmhouse haunted by tragedy between

mother and daughter. Farah Rose Smith's weird fiction tales are dark, decadent, and enigmatic. Written with meticulous attention to every word and a sensibility that hearkens back to fin de siècle, *Of One Pure Will* is a mesmerizing collection of gem-like stories that will resonate with contemporary horror readers and connoisseurs of turn-of-the-century of Decadence and Symbolist literature alike. "In *Of One Pure Will*, Farah Rose Smith deftly intertwines the oneiric, the mystical, and the brutally physical. This is a dark, elegiac collection from a powerful and unique new voice." —Matthew M. Bartlett, author of *Gateways to Abomination*

Literature(r) Random House
Transgressive and bleakly funny, terrifying but surprisingly humane, *The Half-Freaks* showcases Nicole Cushing's ever-evolving take on the Weird.

Vastarien, Vol. 2

Baen
"The oldest and strongest emotion of mankind is fear, and the oldest and strongest kind of fear is fear of the unknown." -
-H. P. LOVECRAFT, "Supernatural Horror in Literature" Howard Phillips Lovecraft forever changed the face of horror, fantasy, and science fiction with a remarkable series of stories as influential as the works of Poe, Tolkien, and Edgar Rice Burroughs. His chilling mythology established

a gateway between the known universe and an ancient dimension of otherworldly terror, whose unspeakable denizens and monstrous landscapes--dread Cthulhu, Yog-Sothoth, the Plateau of Leng, the Mountains of Madness--have earned him a permanent place in the history of the macabre. In *Tales of the Cthulhu Mythos*, a pantheon of horror and fantasy's finest authors pay tribute to the master of the macabre with a collection of original stories set in the fearsome Lovecraft tradition: *The Call of Cthulhu* by H. P. Lovecraft: The slumbering monster-gods return to the world of mortals. *Notebook Found in a Deserted House* by Robert Bloch: A lone farmboy chronicles his

last stand against a hungry backwoods evil. *Cold Print* by Ramsey Campbell: An avid reader of forbidden books finds a treasure trove of deadly volumes--available for a bloodcurdling price. *The Freshman* by Philip José Farmer: A student of the black arts receives an education in horror at notorious Miskatonic University. PLUS EIGHTEEN MORE SPINE-TINGLING TALES!

Armageddon House
 Unnerving
 VASTARIEN is a source of critical study and creative response to the corpus of Thomas Ligotti as well as associated authors and ideas. The journal includes nonfiction, literary horror fiction, poetry, artwork and non-classifiable hybrid

pieces. Contents five
dreams of the red
tower s. j. bagley The
Rules and Regulations
of White Pines,
Vermont Kurt Fawver
Long Time No See F. J.
Bergmann Richard
Gavin: The Nature of
Horror S. T. Joshi The
Mad German Michael
Uhall I Feel Better Now
Brooke Warra The Glow
at Home Rayna
Waxhead The Ghosts
of Their Guns: Magical
Realism in the Fiction
of Nadia Bulkin S. L.
Edwards Chronology of
a Burn Tonya Liburd
The Blind Opera Sean
M. Thompson
Nightmares Désirée
Zamorano "The Clown
Puppet" -- A Case
Study Michael Cisco
Nightly Senses Emmie
Bristow The Nightmare
Man L'Erin Ogle
Ennigaldi Sam
Schreiber Trauma
Narrating Dr. Raymond

Thoss For She is Falling
John Linwood Grant
Contributors

Beneath the Waves

Subterranean Press
There was once a play
with the power to drive
you mad... or to
transport you into the
bizarre world of
Carcosa, and the King
in Yellow. Banned,
burned, yet never
totally destroyed, the
play lives on, eating
away the fabric of
society and rotting the
vener of civilization...
Come and enjoy new
visions of the King,
expanding and
deepening the
fragments glimpsed in
the award-winning
True Detective
television series,
penned for your delight
by a host of master
scribes eager to guide
you to a new world of
delirium, despair, and
madness. Featuring

stories by: Glynn Owen
 Barrass Tim Curran
 Cody Goodfellow T.E.
 Grau Laurel Halbany
 C.J. Henderson Gary
 McMahon William
 Meikle Christine
 Morgan Edward Morris
 Robert M. Price W.H.
 Pugmire Stephen Mark
 Rainey Pete Rawlik
 Brian M. Sammons
 Lucy Snyder Greg
 Stolze Jeffrey Thomas
 and a stunning cover
 by Daniele Serra!
Grimscribe
 HarperCollins
 COLLECTED HERE ARE
 KLEIN'S RARE AND
 OBSCURE SHORT
 STORIES, HARD TO
 FIND EVEN FOR
 DEDICATED FANS.
 Creatures sinister but
 unseen. Madmen who
 may not be so mad.
 Realities that twist into
 astonishing patterns.
 Insidious new
 technologies beyond
 our understanding or

control. Welcome to
 the existential weird
 fiction of master
 storyteller T.E.D.
 KLEIN, the acclaimed
 editor of Twilight Zone
 magazine and author
 of the bestselling novel
 The Ceremonies and
 the award-winning
 four-novella collection
 Dark Gods. More than
 a decade ago, Klein's
 shorter stories were
 collected in Reassuring
 Tales in an edition
 limited to 600 copies. It
 quickly sold out and is
 today hard to find even
 for dedicated fans. This
 new expanded edition
 reprints the earlier
 book's contents, along
 with two previously
 uncollected stories,
 three poems, an essay,
 new illustrations, and
 an interview with the
 author. Stories include:
 Camera Shy Curtains
 for Nat Crumley
 Growing Things

Imagining Things
Ladder Magic Carpet
One Size Eats All
Renaissance Man S.F.
The Events at Poroth
Farm They Don't Write
'em Like This Anymore
Well-Connected Be
advised: the tales in
this collection are
anything but
reassuring...

**The Immeasurable
Corpse of Nature**

JournalStone
The second volume in
a series of revised
editions of the horror
story collections of
Thomas Ligotti.

**Tales of the Cthulhu
Mythos** Things in the
Well

A suspenseful historical
YA debut inspired by
the true story of an all-
female bomber unit in
Russia during World
War II. World War II has
erupted in Valka's
hometown of Russia,
and Valka is

determined to help the
effort. She's a
pilot—and a good
one—so she eagerly
joins an all-female
bomber regiment.
Flying has always
meant freedom and
exhilaration for Valka,
but dropping bombs on
German targets is
something else
entirely. The raids are
dangerous, but as
Valka watches her
fellow pilots putting
everything on the line
in the face of
treachery, she learns
the true meaning of
bravery. As the war
intensifies, though, and
those around her fall,
Valka must decide how
much she is willing to
risk to defend the skies
she once called home.
Inspired by the true
story of a famous all-
female Russian bomber
regiment, Gwen C. Katz
weaves a tale of

strength and sacrifice, of learning to fight for yourself, and of the perils of a world at war. *Vastarien* Simon and Schuster
 With themes reminiscent of Shirley Jackson, Thomas Ligotti, and Bruno Schulz, but with a strikingly unique vision, Jon Padgett's *The Secret of Ventriloquism* heralds the arrival of a significant new literary talent. Padgett's work explores the mystery of human suffering, the agony of personal existence, and the ghastly means by which someone might achieve salvation from both. A bullied child who seeks vengeance within a bed's hollow box spring; a lucid dreamer haunted by an impossible house; a dummy that reveals its

own anatomy in 20 simple steps; a stuttering librarian who holds the key to a mill town's unspeakable secrets; a commuter whose worldview is shattered by two words printed on a cardboard sign; an aspiring ventriloquist who spends a little too much time looking at himself in a mirror. And the presence that speaks through them all.

Not Just a Pretty Face
 HarperCollins

Anthology of stories where a cellar is the central theme. Contains supernatural, ghost, psychological thrillers and horror stories.

Where Night Cowers
 Open Road Media

TALES OF THE WAR THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN What if the United States had gone

to war with the Soviet Union? What if these rival superpowers had fought on land, sea, air, and the astral plane? What if the Soviets and Americans had struggled for dominion across parallel dimensions or on the surface of the moon? How would the world have changed? What wonders would have been unveiled? What terrors would have haunted mankind from those dark and dismal dimensions? Come closer, peer through a glass darkly, and discover the horrifying alternative visions of World War III from some of today's greatest minds in science fiction, fantasy, and horror. Includes new stories by David Drake, Brad R. Torgersen, Mike Resnick, Sarah A. Hoyt,

and many more! About the Contributors: "Drake couldn't write a bad action scene at gunpoint."—Booklist on David Drake "He's one of the most talented authors I've ever read."—Larry Correia on Brad R. Torgersen "[A] tour de force: logical, built from assumptions with no contradictions . . . gripping."—Jerry Pournelle on Sarah A. Hoyt "Lostetter remains at the forefront of innovation in hard science fiction."—Publishers Weekly on Marina J. Lostetter Contributors: David Drake Brian Trent Mike Resnick Erica Satifka Brad R. Torgersen Kevin Andrew Murphy Dr. Xander Lostetter and Marina J. Lostetter Martin L. Shoemaker Sarah A. Hoyt Deborah

A. Wolf Stephen
 Lawson Ville Meriläinen
 Peter J. Wacks and
 Bryan Thomas Schmidt
 Alex Shvartsman C.L.
 Kagmi Nick Mamatas
 T.C. McCarthy Eric
 James Stone John
 Langan
Thinking Horror
Volume 1 Night Shade
 Books
 The walls were meant
 to keep evil out--but
 they only hid the evil
 within. John has given
 up his ordinary life to
 find wisdom traveling
 the country and enjoy
 the freedom of living
 as a nomad. But when
 he stumbles across a
 mysterious town
 tucked away in the
 Appalachian
 Mountains, walled off
 from modern society,
 he discovers a group of
 people who could use
 some freedom of their
 own. Are they a
 harmless religious sect,

or is there something
 malignant beneath the
 surface?
Unnerving Magazine
 Walter de Gruyter
 GmbH & Co KG
 "Literature(R) a
 speculative noir that
 wraps the razor wit of
 Raymond Chandler
 around the
 extraordinary vision of
 Philip K. Dick."
 NINEVEH EDITIONS
 "One of the cleverest
 stories I've read this
 year. It's whip-smart,
 well-paced, deeply
 satirical and dappled
 with just enough dark
 and light to keep the
 reader riveted." ANNE
 CUNNINGHAM (IRISH
 INDEPENDENT, IRISH
 TIMES, SUNDAY TIMES
 OF LONDON) "Freaking
 amazing. Any agent or
 publishing house that
 passed this up made a
 big mistake. This is
 also a nomination for
 our Novel of the Year

award. Captivating and timely, with a perfect bittersweet ending." SANDRA RUTTAN UNDERGROUND BOOK REVIEWS "Brave New World meets 1984 in this Big Brother masterpiece." SAN FRANCISCO BOOK REVIEW "A satisfying blend of literary inspection, social commentary, dystopian world analysis and individual dilemmas to keep readers guessing and thinking to the end of Billy's perplexing, fast-paced day. The satire involved is so delicate that initial references might slip by readers at first; but as the story progresses, these insights and references become tangible, recognizable parts of a plot that readers will come to anticipate with delight. Highly

recommended." MIDWEST BOOK REVIEW "A quality piece of work." SFCROWSNEST We don't know exactly when Literature(R) takes place and we don't know exactly where - all we know is that Philip Marlowe would fit right in. But we don't get Marlowe. We get Billy Stringer, and Billy is on nobody's trail. He's the prey. The day hasn't begun very well for Billy. He just messed up his first big assignment, he's definitely going to be late for work, his girlfriend won't get back to him and, for reason's she has something to do with, he's dressed like a clown. Also, he's pretty sure someone is going to kill him today. But then, that's an occupational hazard,

when you're a terrorist. He's a bookworm too, which wouldn't be a problem - or particularly interesting - except that in Billy's world, fiction is banned. Reading it is what makes him an outlaw. Why? Because people need to get to work. It's fight or flight time for Billy and he's made his choice. But he has to see Jane, even if it's for the last time - to explain it all to her, before she finds out what he has become. That means staying alive for a little while. And the odds are against him... "Literature(R) speaks to the industrialization of art and also to the link between radicalisation and alienation in consumerist societies. Mainly though, it speaks to our need for

great stories. By providing one. There is heart here, and heartache. And, crucially, a chase scene. "For lovers of Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451, Aldous Huxley's Brave New World and George Orwell's 1984 to Raymond Chandler's The Long Goodbye and Philip K Dick's Ubik." NINEVEH EDITIONS Praise for Literature(R) "Wonderfully written...a beautifully rendered story, mixing the cynicism and moral ambiguity of classic noir fiction with startling flashes of humour and some disarmingly tender moments." EO HIGGINS, CONVERSATIONS WITH SPIRITS, UNBOUND/PENGUIN "I was enraptured from the start. A beautifully

balanced piece of writing. I love his style." SIÚN O'CONNOR, A RICH INHERITANCE, RTE "A fascinating book. A neon neo-noir where people are fuelled on a diet of eggs and coffee and nobody sleeps. Fahrenheit 451 but with better jokes."

JOHN PATRICK HIGGINS, EVERY DAY I WAKE UP HOPEFUL

A Book of Tongues

Del Rey

From Ellen Datlow ("the venerable queen of horror anthologies" (New York Times) comes a new entry in the series that has brought you stories from Stephen King and Neil Gaiman comes thrilling stories, the best horror stories available. For more than four decades, Ellen Datlow has been at the center of horror.

Bringing you the most frightening and terrifying stories, Datlow always has her finger on the pulse of what horror readers crave. Now, with the thirteenth volume of the series, Datlow is back again to bring you the stories that will keep you up at night. Encompassed in the pages of The Best Horror of the Year have been such illustrious writers as: Neil Gaiman, Stephen King, Stephen Graham Jones, Joyce Carol Oates, Laird Barron, Mira Grant, and many others. With each passing year, science, technology, and the march of time shine light into the craggy corners of the universe, making the fears of an earlier generation seem quaint. But this light

creates its own shadows. The Best Horror of the Year chronicles these shifting shadows. It is a catalog of terror, fear, and unpleasantness as articulated by today's most challenging and exciting writers.

Vastarien, Vol. 1

Createspace
Independent Publishing Platform

Following the great success of our Gothic Fantasy deluxe edition short story compilations, Supernatural Horror, Murder Mayhem, Lost Souls and many others, this latest title takes housebound trapped spirits and creepy gothic mansions as its chilling subject.

Contains a potent mix of classic and brand new writing, with authors from the US, Canada, and the UK.

Oh, what is that sound within the walls? The creaking floorboards, the children hiding in the mirror, the spirits that rake across the flesh of the mind – all find a home in this anthology of spine-tingling tales. Classic authors include: E.F. Benson, Ambrose Bierce, Mary Elizabeth Braddon, Rhoda Broughton, Edward Bulwer-Lytton, Bernard Capes, Ralph Adams Cram, B.M. Croker, Joseph Sheridan le Fanu, Mary E. Wilkins Freeman, Elizabeth Gaskell, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, O. Henry, William Hope Hodgson, W.W. Jacobs, M.R. James, Rudyard Kipling, H.P. Lovecraft, Guy de Maupassant, Edith Nesbit, Vincent O'Sullivan, Margaret Oliphant, Edgar Allan Poe, Sir Arthur Quiller-

Couch, Charlotte
Riddell, Mark Twain,
Hugh Walpole, Edith
Wharton.

**My Work Is Not Yet
Done** Tkh

“Matthew M. Bartlett is an open channel to the darkness” —Michael T. Cisco, author of *Unlanguage* A hair product’s occult properties give the unsuspecting consumer more than just luxurious locks. A rural museum’s shocking exhibits explore the dark and deathly aspects of laughter. A house travels the skies by night to find the man who long ago hid from terror in its abandoned halls. An actor on a movie set recites a scripted incantation that summons unholy apocalypse. An unseemly birthday party novelty turns out

to be a diabolical tool of revenge. A town’s dark devotion to a dead child spells danger for unwary day trippers. A senior citizen van takes an unexpected detour to hell. Join Matthew M. Bartlett, author of *Gateways to Abomination*, as he takes you on a tour through witch-ridden Leeds, Massachusetts, through hex-haunted Hulse, Massachusetts, and beyond, to the darker precincts of existence, where the chance rotation of a radio dial leads to cosmic madness, where devils reign, where doom creeps, where fiends flourish...where night cowers. “Reading Bartlett is like watching the offspring of François Rabelais & Al Columbia frolic like

demented wildlife, where people wear the faces of a Hannah Höch portrait while giggling macabre wisdom over obscene broadcasts from radio stations located deep within dark forests.”
 —Christopher Slatsky, author of *The Immeasurable Corpse of Nature*
Weird World War III
 Pickman's Press
 Issue #5 includes fictions from Stephen S. Power (author of *The Dragon Round*), John C. Foster (author of *Mr. White, and Baby Powder and Other Terrifying Substances*), David Busboom (author of *Nightbird*), Gary Buller, Jake Marley, Christa Carmen, K.P. Kulski, Sara Codair, and Aaron J. Housholder. Includes a feature by Gwendolyn Kiste (author of *And*

Her Smile Will Untether the Universe, and *Pretty Marys All in a Row*). Publisher spotlight on *Coffin Hop* and Q&A interviews with Owen King (coauthor of *Sleeping Beauties*, and author of *Double Feature*) and Christina Henry (author of *Lost Boy*, and *Alice*).
To Rouse Leviathan
 Since the early years of the twenty-first century, Matt Cardin has distinguished himself by writing weird fiction with a distinctively cosmic and spiritual focus, publishing two short story collections that have now become rare collector's items. In this substantial volume, Cardin gathers the totality of his short fiction, including the complete fiction contents of *Divinations of the Deep* (2002) and

Dark Awakenings (2010). Several of the tales have been substantially revised from their original appearances. Inspired by H. P. Lovecraft, Thomas Ligotti, and other masters of cosmic horror, Cardin's fiction explores the convergence of religion, horror, and art in a cosmos that may be actively hostile to our species. In tales long and short (including a new novella co-written with

Mark McLaughlin), Cardin rings a succession of changes on those fateful words from the Book of Job: "Let those sorcerers who place a curse on days curse that day, those who are skilled to rouse Leviathan." Aside from his short story collections, Matt Cardin is the editor of *Born to Fear: Interviews with Thomas Ligotti* (2014) and *Horror Literature through History* (2017). He is also co-editor of the journal *Vastarien*.