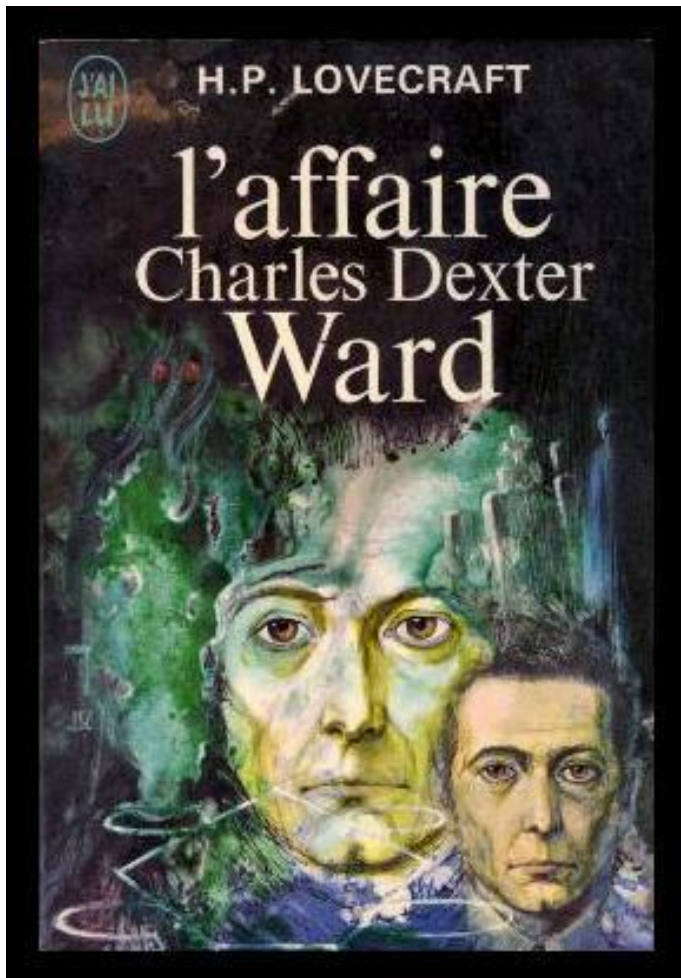

H.P. Lovecraft

L'Affaire Charles Dexter Ward (?? ?????????????? ??????? ??? H.P. Lovecraft #9)



Title: L'Affaire Charles Dexter Ward (?? ?????????????? ??????? ??? H.P. Lovecraft #9)

Author: H.P. Lovecraft

Format: Paperback

Language:

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Publisher: , 0

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Download: allowed

Description

Incantations of black magic unearthed unspeakable horrors in a quiet town near Providence, Rhode Island. Evil spirits are being resurrected from beyond the grave, a supernatural force so twisted that it kills without offering the mercy of death!

Insightful reviews

Apart:

“There is about certain outlines and entities a power of symbolism and suggestion which acts frightfully on a sensitive thinker's perspective and whispers terrible hints of obscure cosmic relationships and unnameable realities behind the protective illusions of common vision.”

That little passage explains why Lovecraft's characters often go mad at the mere sight of blasphemous eldritch monstrosities from beyond; something I often wondered about. It is also a fine example of his penchant for convoluted sentence structures.

When I read [At the Mountains of Madness](#) I felt that Lovecraft is preferable in smaller doses, that is when his stories are not novel length. It seems that when he gives himself room with the novel format he overindulges his tendency to ramble, overwrite and include unnecessary details. *The Case of Charles Dexter Ward* reinforces this impression to me.

This is basically about an undead necromancer called Joseph Curwen who is foolishly resurrected by his descendent the eponymous Charles Dexter Ward through evocations, and other black magic shenanigans. Curwen of course wrecks all kinds of havoc because you don't come back to life via black magic to do charity work.

One thing I noticed about reading Lovecraft is that the creepy atmosphere is more effective if you read the stories in a quiet room, unfortunately I read this book in a living room while family members are watching TV and it rendered the creep factor completely ineffective. I also find the depiction of Curwen's early life fairly mundane and less than riveting. The usual Lovecraftian tropes are all accounted for, the awful smells, the creepy noises, the creaking, the screaming and what not. The “unmentionable” *Necronomicon* by Mad Paula Abdul Alhazred is of course mentioned. Poor Cthulhu does not get a look in though his cousin Yog-Sothoth is often referred to.

Lovecraft's idiosyncratic prose style can be both entertaining and frustrating. As I mentioned before he is more readable in short story format. At novel length he often repeats himself with the description of funny smells, funny noises etc. The faux-archaic English passages are also hard to decipher. The climax of the story is unexpected though, it makes the whole thing almost worthwhile. I also particularly like this passage:

“It was a godless sound; one of those low-keyed, insidious outrages of Nature which

are not meant to be. To call it a dull wail, a doom-dragged whine, or a hopeless howl of chorused anguish and stricken flesh without mind would be to miss its quintessential loathsomeness and soul-sickening overtones.”

He could have been reviewing a Justine Bieber album here.

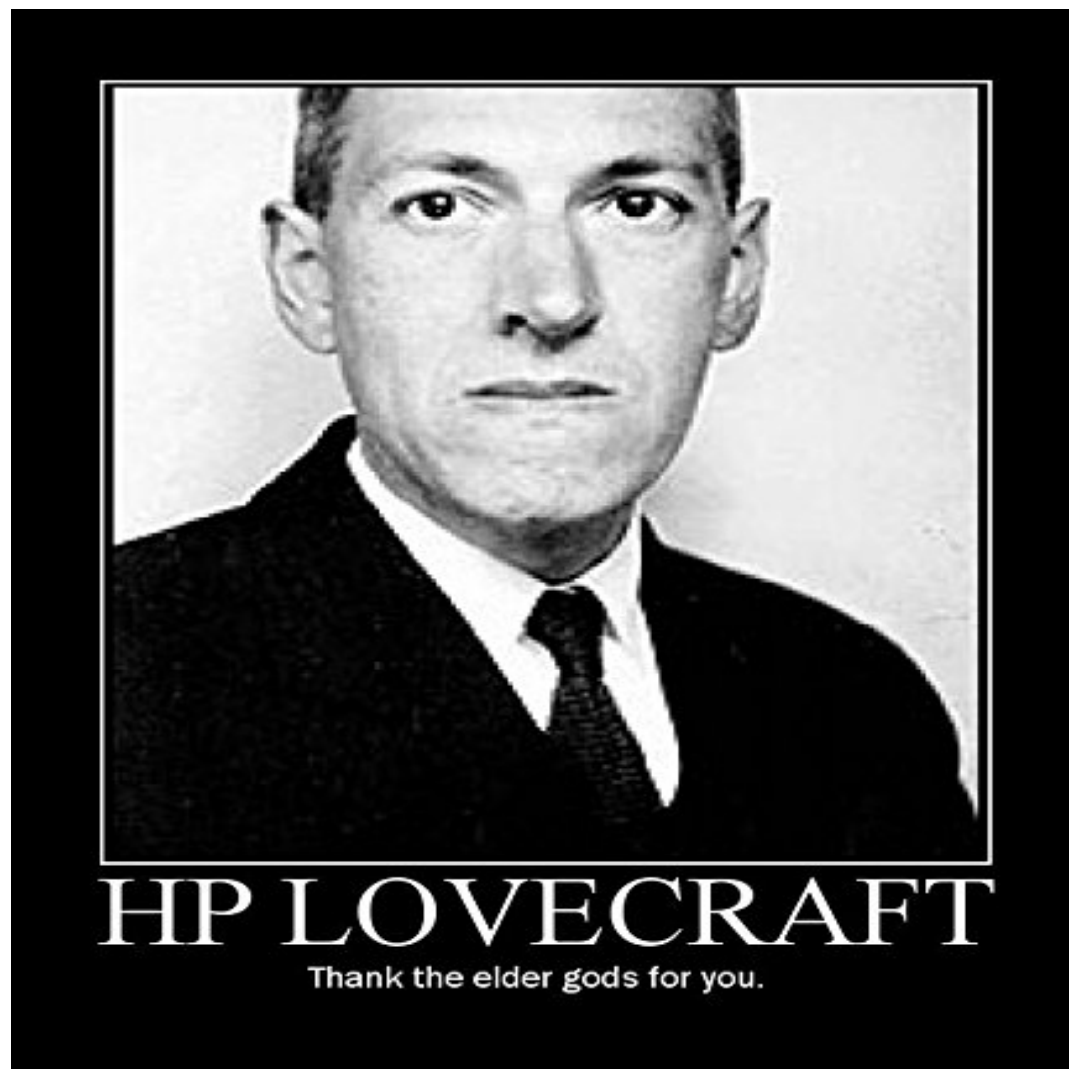
Not my favorite Lovecraft book then, the very best of Lovecraft is to be found in [The Best of H.P. Lovecraft: Bloodcurdling Tales of Horror and the Macabre](#). Exactly what it says on the tin. The perfect Halloween read.

Lyn: The Case of Charles Dexter Ward by H.P. Lovecraft is definitely one of his best works and this is a high compliment, as I have liked almost all that I have read from him.

This work, first published in 1927, combines most of the themes common to his works: occult, arcanery, unspeakable nighttime horrors, deep dark pits with unknown creatures, etc. even some hints of the Cthulu cult.



The other element of this book that is noteworthy is the scope of influence that Lovecraft created. Innumerable horror genre books and movies have borrowed liberally from Lovecraft's themes and even works like Harry Potter show semblances of Lovecraftian influence.



If you like the horror genre, this is a must read, and if you have never read a Lovecraft work, this is a good one to start. A very good read.

??????: **4.0**

"Y, ojo por ojo y magia por magia, que el resultado mostrase hasta donde había aprendido la lección del abismo"

Como todos podéis intuir, este año me he propuesto –sin quererlo, la verdad– leer toda la obra de Lovecraft este año. Como no, no podía faltar esta novela corta, El caso de Charles Dexter

Ward, la más extensa de todas las que escribió.

Todo comienza cuando Charles Ward indagando sobre sus ancestros, se topa con Joseph Curwen, un extraño individuo que huyendo de Salem se instala en 1692 en Providence. Este individuo, en apariencia, un simple extranjero, con el tiempo su extraña facultad para no envejecer hará que se le atribuyan todo tipo de sucesos paranormales, ya sean voces o extrañas desapariciones.

Charles, lejos de sentirse horrorizado al ser descendiente de algo tan monstruoso, siente una extraña fascinación y poco a poco la profundización en los estudios y vida de este personaje lo lleva a relevarlo en sus ominosos descubrimientos. Todo ello, le conducirá a locura un tanto especial.

Dividido en cinco capítulos, el autor lleva al lector a los entresijos de la magia más oscura y poderosa.

La obra me ha gustado bastante, pero el principal problema es que me hubiese gustado que la historia hubiese sido contada por Charles Ward y no por un narrador omnisciente. Para mi, uno de los puntos fuertes del autor es cuando el protagonista de su relato – la mayoría de veces, es él mismo– no puede negar que siente una plena satisfacción por el descubrimiento aquello que está más allá de los límites de la razón pero a la vez se siente perdido, desolado, destrozado y al borde de la locura y en esta narración de esto, vemos muy poco. Es como si Lovecraft hubiese querido escribir un relato con el que el público no se escandalizase y fuera, en cierto modo, fácil de digerir. Creo que muchos, si hubiese sido Ward el que contase la historia, les habría dado un jamacuco.

La historia es muy fácil de entender y dinámica. De verdad os digo que no entiendo cuando alguien dice que “escribe muy recargado, y repite mucho”. Si repite – que lo hace, pero a ver, yo creo que exageráis un poco los que decís esto– es para que el lector no se pierda. Yo sé que si no lo hiciese muchos dirían “ay, es que es muy difícil de entender, que lenguaje más raro usa, ay qué raro es este tío...” **FACEPALM**

Seguramente es una de las historias que más le costó a Lovecraft escribir. El hecho de que me parezca así es que solo el esfuerzo de documentación para escribirla ya sería grandísimo, y luego porque siempre al autor le ha costado mucho escribir novelas cortas, aunque no por ello son menor calidad ni nada parecido.

Todo el tema de lo paranormal está muy bien logrado y culmina, rozando casi la perfección, en el quinto capítulo, el mejor escrito de toda la novela – también porque es cuando más directo va a lo macabro y a lo lovecraftiano, vamos – Y ya por si no me había quedado satisfecha, menciona a Randolph Carter, que cuanto menos, me hizo sonreír – patético; deberíais haberme visto suspirar y sonreír como una imbécil–.

"Una vez, un amigo suyo que tenía sueños morbosos, se lo había dibujado en un

papel y le había explicado las cosas que significaba en los oscuros abismos del mundo onírico. Era el signo de Koth, que los soñadores ven sobre el arco de la entrada de cierta torre negra que se alza solitaria en el crepúsculo...A Willett no le agradaba lo que su amigo Randolph Carter le había contado sobre su poder"

El final, me lo esperaba por un lado y por el otro no, es decir, tenía una teoría algo parecida a lo que sucedió pero hubo un punto que me impresionó y me sorprendió bastante.

[\(view spoiler\)](#)

Concluyendo, para empezar a Lovecraft la recomiendo. ¿Por qué? Porque es fácil de leer, de hecho me ha parecido mucho más sencilla de entender que otras como por ejemplo *"La búsqueda en sueños de la ignota Kadath"* y también porque es tan bonito como ves que el autor ama la ciudad que lo vio nacer, vivir y morir, la vieja y hermosa – y gélida a estas alturas del año, todavía– Providence.

"¡La vieja Providence! Este lugar, y las fuerzas misteriosas de su larga e ininterrumpida historia, le habían dado el ser y le habían transportado a maravillas y secretos del pasado cuyos límites ningún profeta sería capaz de trazar [...] las viejas y hermosas mansiones que sus ojos infantiles habían conocido, y las singulares aceras de ladrillo que piblanca [...] estaba anocheciendo; y Charles Dexter Ward había llegado a casa"

C???????? ??????.["br"]>

Katy: Please note: This novella is a part of the full Works of H.P. Lovecraft , a duplicate of which omnibus might be picked up on the CthulhuChick web site through an individual who needs to have one.Synopsis (slightly altered for correctness): Set in Providence, Rhode Island, the tale issues the destiny of Charles Dexter Ward, a tender guy from a well-to-do relatives who has been put in in a psychological asylum. The kin healthcare professional searches for the explanation in the back of Ward's madness, studying within the strategy that he spent a number of years searching for the grave of his malignant ancestor Joseph Curwen -- a necromancer and mass assassin rumored to have resurrected the lifeless to torture secrets and techniques from them.My Thoughts: i've got a bit of replaced the synopsis, because the one chanced on the following used to be incorrect; the physician was once now not trying to find the lacking Ward, he was once looking for the explanations in the back of Ward's madness. Like so much of Lovecraft's stories, this one offers with topics of forbidden knowledge, the damaging lengths to which individuals will visit in achieving such knowledge, and the disastrous result of researching what you weren't intended to know. Brooding and atmospheric, Lovecraft is unquestionably no longer for everyone, yet i discovered his use of chic language and almost-forgotten phrases to be a superb anodyne to the fashionable world.

Shaun: I simply entire examining this as a part of a far longer collection, Lovecraft - Tales, a compilation of labor prepare via the Library of America, yet desired to remark in particular in this as a stand on my own piece. First, I should still preface the overview through asserting that I completely get pleasure from examining writers like Poe and the Gothic novel. I occasionally think if this kind of factor as reincarnation exists, I formerly resided in a dismal and seedy nineteenth century London town, strolling distance from a foggy graveyard. So having in basic terms simply learn Lovecraft for the 1st time, my center is fluttering joyously. Yes, it's love initially read. This specific story is the longest works inside the Library of America's stories booklet and it truly is natural creepiness from begin to finish. I suspect a few readers may be do away with via the extra archaic language and repetitive mode of storytelling that turns out at odds with a "twitter" society, the place much less is more. yet I nonetheless love it. In fact, there's something concerning the archaic language and heavy exposition that provides to the general spooky caliber of his tales. Like a lot of his brief stories, this novella-length piece bargains with the occult and our innate worry of the darkish and issues that cross bump within the night. It additionally turns out that Lovecraft went out of his solution to offer basically obscure descriptions of the horrors/monsters in his stories, leaving a lot to the reader's imagination, that is very effective. His descriptions are frequently not anything greater than glimpses of shadows or the description of not-quite human/inconceivable creatures that just like the famed Mr. Hyde show an abhorrent caliber that's tough to place into words. The Case of Charles Dexter Ward is not any exception. Would suggest this to a person who enjoys the writings of Poe or conventional vintage Gothic tales/horrors reminiscent of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde and Dracula.

Anja Boskovic: i've got combined emotions approximately this publication simply because Lovecraft himself didn't love it and did not want it to be published. It was once released after his death. Normally, after examining ownership i'm anti-reading inner most writings yet this used to be a ebook membership decide so right here we are. Below follows a severe interpreting of the text. Thar be spoilers. (view spoiler) [I can see why Lovecraft proposal it wasn't prepared for publication. it could actually use a superb edit. However, the tale was once relatively creepy. it is American Psycho meets the Occult and has a few rather fascinating rules in its backbone. I merely want he had the time to correctly cement them. We proceed to discover Lovecraft's advanced dating with psychological illness. "He is obvious spoken and has very good handwriting which would not be the case if he have been mad". you can find how the Hannibal books have been in a fashion an immediate reaction to this concept of literary insanity being one in all gibberyness and screaming fits. (hide spoiler)]

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