



The H.P. Lovecraft Omnibus 1: At the Mountains of Madness and Other Novels of Terror

H.P. Lovecraft , August Derleth (Introduction)

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

The H.P. Lovecraft Omnibus 1: At the Mountains of Madness and Other Novels of Terror

H.P. Lovecraft , August Derleth (Introduction)

The H.P. Lovecraft Omnibus 1: At the Mountains of Madness and Other Novels of Terror H.P. Lovecraft , August Derleth (Introduction)

NIGHTMARE STORIES FROM THE LAND OF TOTAL FEAR

Renowned as one of the great horror-writers of all time, H.P. Lovecraft produced works of enduring power. Now gathered together into this omnibus volume are seven classics of screaming supernatural terror and vilest horror...

Front cover illustration by Tim White.

Contents:

- Introduction: H. P. Lovecraft's Novels by August Derleth
- At the Mountains of Madness
- The Case of Charles Dexter Ward
- The Dreams in the Witch-House
- The Statement of Randolph Carter
- The Dream-Quest of Unknown Kadath
- The Silver Key
- Through the Gates of the Silver Key

The H.P. Lovecraft Omnibus 1: At the Mountains of Madness and Other Novels of Terror Details

Date : Published February 14th 1985 by Granada Publishing Limited (first published 1985)

ISBN : 9780586063224

Author : H.P. Lovecraft , August Derleth (Introduction)

Format : Paperback 552 pages

Genre : Fiction, Fantasy, Short Stories, Horror, Science Fiction

 [Download The H.P. Lovecraft Omnibus 1: At the Mountains of Madne ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The H.P. Lovecraft Omnibus 1: At the Mountains of Mad ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The H.P. Lovecraft Omnibus 1: At the Mountains of Madness and Other Novels of Terror H.P. Lovecraft , August Derleth (Introduction)

From Reader Review The H.P. Lovecraft Omnibus 1: At the Mountains of Madness and Other Novels of Terror for online ebook

Mark says

These editions are the first collections of Lovecraft's stories that I read.

Helen Clark says

I didn't enjoy this as much as I thought I would which is a shame. The characters didn't draw me into the stories which seemed to lead nowhere in particular.

Eric says

Pendant des années on m'a conseillé de lire du Lovecraft. J'ai fini par céder et j'ai acheté les trois tomes de la série Omnibus, laquelle se veut un rassemblement de l'ensemble des écrits de cet auteur. Mon impression générale après la lecture du premier tome est à peu près la même qu'en lisant du Stephen King: imagination débridée, idées qui me plaisent énormément, mais un traitement qui me laisse sur ma faim, et qui surtout ne me fait pas vivre d'émotions particulières. Dans ces histoires, il n'y a rien qui me fasse rire, pleurer, ni trembler... On ne sent pas aspiré par l'histoire; nous ne sommes que des spectateurs superficiels, souvent même si superficiels qu'on nous cache tout. Désolé, mais ça ne me rejoint pas quand Lovecraft raconte l'histoire de Harley Warren qui est descendu dans un tombeau d'où il a apparemment vécu des choses effroyables, mais sans qu'on ne sache absolument pas quoi. Et ça ne me fait pas frémir de savoir qu'un gars meurt d'un choc en voyant l'apparence extraterrestre de Randolph Carter alors qu'on nous cache complètement cette apparence (sauf pour quelques menus détails sans grande importance).

Lovecraft ne crée pas des personnages auxquels on s'attache, et il ne nous fait pas suffisamment plonger dans leurs sentiments et leurs émotions pour qu'on se sente faire partie du récit. Une des histoires que j'ai le plus aimées est *The Case of Charles Dexter Ward*. Malgré un début extrêmement lent, on a éventuellement de plus en plus envie de savoir ce qu'a bien pu découvrir le personnage, de connaître ses secrets. Encore une fois, on ne s'attache à aucun personnage: c'est seulement la curiosité de connaître la suite qui nous donne envie de poursuivre; une curiosité détachée de toute émotion cependant. Et au final, on apprend quelques trucs, mais on a plus de questions que de réponses...

Bref, mon impression après ce premier tome: Lovecraft est une agace qui ne sait pas captiver l'attention du lecteur, mais qui sait créer des univers qu'on a fortement envie d'explorer. Je tiens également à souligner la grande qualité littéraire de son écriture, parfois difficile à suivre pour un non-érudit de la langue anglaise (mais ça, ce n'est pas un défaut!).

Voyons donc ce que le tome 2 nous réserve...

thegreatnausea says

Antisemitism much? Really liked *At The Mountains Of Madness* but couldn't care for the other stuff.

Jim Bowen says

I turned to Lovecraft because I read some where that Stephen King (an author I enjoy) liked them/used them as inspiration. I can certainly see why King was drawn to them (or more accurately, elements here had echoes/ripples in King's work), it's just they sometimes felt... underdeveloped. I'd have liked to see these novellas turned into longer works that had a more developed stores, and were fully developed novels in their own right.

You know when you had to write an essay under exam conditions at school, you sometimes run out of time, and end up saying the main character woke up and found it had all been a dream? Well in some of these stories, it felt like Lovecraft ran out of steam, and ended up writing "Well we bricked up the holes, and went on with our lives, but some of us had nightmares." For much the same reason. This problem was less acute here, but in his shorter stories, it was a pretty common occurrence, so if you were to read any Lovecraft collection, this might be as good as any.

Michael says

The horror in *At the Mountains of Madness* is not in sadistic descriptions of slashings, torturings, mutilations and bloodletting, but rather in the slow build-up of the feeling that humanity is not alone in the universe and that the other inhabitants, if they consider us at all, don't really think much of us. The only times the history of the Elder Things mentions us it is as either an amusing animal kept for entertainment or as a foodstuff.

The horror is that there are unfathomable depths of pre-history, that humankind are very much late-comers and that, if we are not careful, we might come to the notice of things that could wipe us away with little thought.

Nonetheless, the Elder Things are portrayed as one of the few, if not the only, of Lovecraft's non-human races with which we can feel any sympathy. He remarks that, despite the terrible toll they take upon the expedition, they were not evil things of their kind and that they had not acted any differently than would we in the same circumstances. The fate of the Elder Things is one that evokes a feeling of pity.

I've read that this story de-mythologises the Cthulhu Mythos and recasts the stories as science fiction rather than as tales of the supernatural and cosmic horror, but I don't think that is necessarily correct. Although the Elder Things *are* described as being composed of normal matter and having originated somewhere within our own mundane dimension, Lovecraft specifically states that the Star Spawn of Cthulhu and the Mi-Go are composed, at least partly, of some exotic material and that their origins lie outside the realm we know. Also, credit must be given to Lovecraft's characterisation, something that he is not often accorded: the story is written from the perspective of a scientist who has interpreted the history of the Elder Things through pictorial representations. Naturally the narrator's own world-view, that of scientific materialism, infuses his interpretation.

One of Lovecraft's best.

Mick Bordet says

Although I have read some Mythos stories, it has taken me a while to actually dive into anything penned by Lovecraft himself. I was not expecting to enjoy it as much as I did, but other than the rather meandering "The Dream-Quest of Unknown Kadath", I found all these longer stories to be engaging and still, for the most part, quite chilling. "The Case of Charles Dexter Ward" was the highlight of the book for me; a dark character piece with a few unexpected turns and genuinely creepy moments. "At the Mountains of Madness" itself is like a blueprint for some of the classic horror/sci fi of the last 50 years - the ancestry of "Alien" and "The Thing" are clear to see. Lovecraft's style can be a bit flowery (or the grim equivalent - fungal?) at times, but this is not distracting once tuned into.

Andrew says

This book has been in my collection for some years now - but I have never got round to reading it. In fact its the first of a 3 volume set and part of the Grafton series of Lovecraft and Cthulhu books.

Now I will have to put my hand up and admit though I have read many of the stories before. You see I have lost count of the number of editions, versions and combinations of books which contain the works of H P lovecraft and his fellow macabre authors. So this was a far easier read than you would expect even with the 500 plus pages to this first volume.

So why keep this edition when it clearly has its contents elsewhere - well apart from the brilliant Tim White cover (he did the covers for all the books and the Hounds of Tindalos is one of my favourites) the book has some of my favourite stories from Lovecraft.

Okay this may sound sacrilegious but Lovecraft wrote a lot in his sadly short writing career, some are brilliant, some are truly astounding but some are sadly lacking and unfortunately every different anthologies have varying mixes of quality. Thankfully in this case they are all good.

So what of the stories well apart from no spoilers and a very wide range of stories the titular story is a classic. So much so that it seems to be stuck in development hell as various people struggle to get the story turned in a film (I hope they do).

So for fans of horror who want to know a little more of the grand masters of the genres this is as good a place to start - however be warned Lovecraft's style is not for everything it is more atmosphere than shock horror but if that is your thing this is a must.

Michael Clarke says

Well worth re reading. Several of the stories still hold up well, especially the Strange Case of Charles Dexter Ward.

Grace says

This was a surprisingly good book for something that was written almost a century ago! The stories are pretty enthralling. I especially enjoyed The Case of Charles Dexter Ward and Through the Gates of the Silver Key.

Peter says

This book collects 7 novels and novella's written by Hp lovecraft. I read all these between other books over a very long period. I just finished the last story in here. Most of these are part of his chuthullu mythos. All the stories were at least enjoyable, and some of them like "at the mountains of madness" or "dreamquest in unknown kaddath" are very good.

The language is very difficult at times but the way the language is used provokes a very chilling effect at times. In the pacing and the characterization you feel that these stories are written in the 20's, 30's and 40's. But you also clearly see the influence Lovecraft has on modern horror writers.

Lovecraft is a writer, everybody should have at least sampled.

Lucas Norberg says

Good book. Lovecraft has genuine skill of making something feel truly ancient and beyond our understanding. Also, one of the later stories really feels like a fantasy epic, but way more twisted.

(shan) Littlebookcove says

I absolutely love H.P lovecraft. at first I found his works to be very hard to grasp but I suddenly just understood and I'm now addicted! this book is delightful. especially his dream circle works two of stuch are in this book.

Wayland Smith says

If you're at all interested in horror, you really need to read Lovecraft. He put together so many ideas that many writers continue to use. At the Mountains of Madness is one of his best works.

An expedition to the Antarctic suffers mysterious losses, and the expedition leader goes to find out what happened to one of the scouting teams. He finds signs of ancient civilization and so much more. The past isn't always gone, and, cliché as it is, there are some things Mortal Man was not meant to know.

It's a short book but a well crafted one, and a must for horror readers.

The edition I read, which doesn't seem to be listed in Goodreads, is "The Definitive Edition" which includes at the back a commentary on horror writing at that time by Lovecraft himself. That alone was worth reading if you're devoted to this kind of story.

David says

It is truly hard to grade this book based on two different reasons. Firstly, it involves evaluating some of the greatest horror ever written, and secondly, it is a 'book of books'.

This first omnibus contains all of Lovecrafts novels, and what fine novels they are for the most part. 'At the Mountains of Madness' is horrifying and disturbing, and the inclusion of the Randolph Carter stories is a wonderful edition.

The reason that I didn't give this work a full five stars, is because 'The Dream-Quest of Unknown Kadath' is barely readable rubbish, and a very rare example of Lovecraft missing the mark.

The other reason for me not giving it a full 5 stars is that the nature of Lovecrafts writing better lends itself to his short stories, and sometimes his novels get a little muddles and overindulgent in complex descriptions of places that can get the reader lost.

That being said, Lovecraft has created a complete Universe which is beauty to step into and is genuinely scary.

If you can put up with these things, I highly recommend this fantastic collection. Just remember to leave the lights on!
