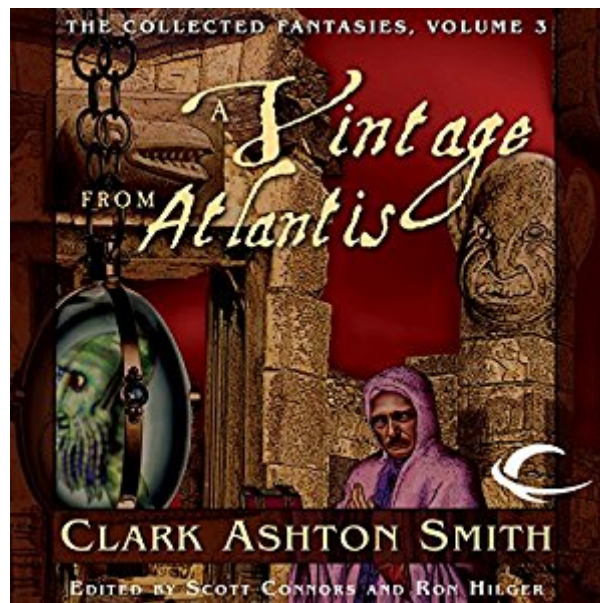




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A Vintage From Atlantis: Collected Fantasies Of Clark Ashton Smith, Book 3



Synopsis

Published in chronological order, with extensive story and bibliographic notes, this series not only provides access to stories that have been out of print for years, but gives them a historical and social context. Series editors Scott Connors and Ronald S. Hilger excavated the still-existing manuscripts, letters and various published versions of the stories, creating a definitive "preferred text" for Smith's entire body of work. This third volume of the series brings together 21 of his fantasy stories.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Undoubtedly the best writer of the weird, fantastic, and cosmic evil--beautifully written prose by a man who had poetry as his first love---and it shows. Along with Lovecraft and Howard, this nearly forgotten master helped invent the whole genre. Lovecraft put the dark imagination into the dark cosmic evil; Howard, the muscle; and Smith put the odd beauty into it. Along with some other key players such as Frank Belknap Long (also unjustly forgotten), Robert Bloch and several others that were part of that group, Smith put his mark on it. Many writers, including Stephen King, Brian Lumley, Dean Koontz, Peter Straub, and most every writer in horror or fantasy owe these people a tip of the hat. By all means get this book, and the other 4 companion volumes, plus his fifth book of general writings which are in and of themselves great writing---keep Smith and the others from being forgotten.

This is the last in the collected works of Clark Ashton Smith and I've not yet gotten to reading it.

Have already read the first in the series and will soon start the second book. I've read, in the past, many of Smith's works and liked everyone of them to one degree or another. I know I won't be disappointed with the collection this last of the series or any of the rest. His imagination seems to know no bounds.

Clark Ashton Smith has always been a great favorite of mine with his quaint and rather uneasy-making stories, leaving that little feeling of not being sure after reading. This whole series of his complete stories is much appreciated and awaited and I truly enjoy the remarks of editors and others which help to put things more in a perspective. His language is like some good wine sometimes and the ideas for the stories are really original and softspoken than Lovecraft or Howard. He is truly an author where the others sometimes were mainly storytellers and not always 100% in control of the language.

This is the third volume (out of 5) of Night Shade Book's collected works of Clark Ashton Smith (CAS). CAS wrote only short fiction - and often the shortest stories were the best of all. This volume contains stories set in Averroigne, Hyperborea, and other unnamed weird worlds, including our own. These stories are...well, not horror, but thrilling. In Stephen King's terms, CAS never went for the gross-out. The stories are weird tales, or speculative fiction - a mix of sci-fi, fantasy, horror, adventure, all told in a unique style. A number of stories in this volume are superb, but the names mean nothing, and there are too many to list the plots of each. The best stories are "fantasy" rather than "sci-fi" as a rule, but everything here is worth reading. CAS creates superb imagery and his stories roll with life: even when little is objectively happening, how it is told is wonderful. Every word is evocative, carefully chosen, and has a cumulative effect when reading that creates immersion in the story for the reader. "The Weird of Avoosl Wuthoqquan" for example is only 8 or so pages long, but is a beautifully crafted little tale that has a wonderful, powerful ending. Even knowing the story will not end well, it's a surprise and a shock. This book is not for everyone, in the sense that it is an expensive hardback full of dense prose - it's a luxury good, of sorts. Having said that, everyone should read it, or at least the stories that CAS wrote.

I am so happy to be able to buy this book at last! Due to the fact that the hardback editions have been bought by greedy craven jerks that are suppressing this literary Master's works by jacking the price up so high that only a member of the 1% can afford to buy them. The letters are large enough to read and the paper is white so you can actually see them. I would describe his writing by saying if

you took the best of A.E. Van Vogt & the most inspired writing of H.P. Lovecraft you approach this author's work.

Get this book, as well as the rest of the series.

This series of books finally gives the readers an opportunity to read Smith's stories in the order he wrote them. One gets to watch his work progress in style and theme as he creates his incredible fantasy locals. Highly recommended for the CAS enthusiast.

Very satisfied with purchase.

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