



## Uncle Dobbin's Parrot Fair

*Charles de Lint*

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Was included in *Isaac Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine*, Nov 1987 and *The Year's Best Fantasy #1*, 1988 and in [Japanese] in *Hayakawa's SF Magazine #1*, 1990 and *Tesseracts 3*, 1991

Published solely here as **Uncle Dobbin's Parrot Fair**, *Pulphouse Short Story Paperback #17*, and originally included in **Dreams Underfoot**, 1993 which itself was part of **Newford Stories**

"The [Newford] books have all been written in such a way that you should be able to pick up any one and get a full and complete story. However, characters do reoccur, off center stage as it were, and their stories do follow a sequence."

When she was younger, Ellen had seen them all the time, bouncing in the wind like tumbleweeds. She called them the Balloon Men. Now she wonders if they really exist...

Reece knows he can see things other people can't, and he's running from a nightmare that menaces people with barracuda teeth...

Somewhere between Ellen's doubts and Reece's certainties lies Uncle Dobbin's Parrot Fair. Laced with parables, this Nebula nominated story has much to say about the nature of Magic.

Cover illustration by Donna Gordon.

## Uncle Dobbin's Parrot Fair Details

Date : Published June 1st 1991 by Pulphouse (first published 1987)

ISBN : 9781561465170

Author : Charles de Lint

Format : Paperback 45 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Short Stories



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## From Reader Review Uncle Dobbin's Parrot Fair for online ebook

### Aaron says

The first story in Dreams Underfoot, it was my first introduction into the world of Newford and to Jilly Coppercorn. This limited edition book has a proud spot on my bookshelf.

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### Brian says

Short story - published in Dreams Underfoot.

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### Geoff says

This is a short story paperback that tells a little story of one person finding oneself, and another person who must discard his anger. It is the usual urban fantasy, but is a bit dark with some horror aspects. This is early de Lint writing and one of the first Newford stories. Jilly is the main character, and is very naive at this point. The story should be read for the significance of early Newford stuff, other than that it's just an average de Lint story. But I still enjoyed the story.

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### Susan says

also, included in *Dreams Underfoot*  
first logged re-read 8/10/2000  
re-read 8/1/2015

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### Michelle says

A short story, I read this in "Dreams Underfoot". I was instantly mesmerized by the colorful characters "Uncle Dobbins" introduces us to and was quite swept away. I came away wondering what "bird" I have resonating inside me and if I am in danger of losing that inner song. This is a superb story about being true to who you are and how, you can fool everyone else - but you can't fool yourself. To quote a country song: "No Matter where go - there you are!" Loved it!

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### Jewels says

I simply love this little book. Stories within stories, and Charles de Lint's Newford folks show up too, if only by being mentioned in passing. I also love the twist at the end -- it just felt right. It's a quick read, but it will leave you with that feeling fluttering in your chest if you let it.

