



Shadows over Innsmouth

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Librarian Note: Please do not confuse this anthology with the original novella "The Shadow Over Innsmouth" by H.P. Lovecraft. Although "Shadows Over Innsmouth" includes the said novella, the book is a collection of Innsmouth-related stories by a number of later authors and not a single story or novel. You might also consider moving your personal rating and/or review to the appropriate page if you have read only the novella.

SEVENTEEN CHILLING STORIES, INCLUDING THE ORIGINAL MASTERPIECE OF HORROR:

“THE SHADOW OVER INNSMOUTH” by H. P. Lovecraft

Inspired by H. P. Lovecraft's classic, today's masters of horror take up their pens and turn once more to that decayed, forsaken New England fishing village with its sparkling treasure, loathsome denizens, and unspeakable evil.

“ONLY THE END OF THE WORLD AGAIN” by Neil Gaiman: The community of Innsmouth performs a blood sacrifice—with shocking, terrifying results.

“THE CHURCH IN HIGH STREET” by Ramsey Campbell: In the crypt of a derelict church, a sensible young man meets a bestial, unthinkable fate.

“INNSMOUTH GOLD” by David Sutton: An adventurer searches for buried treasure—and discovers a slithering hell on earth.

“THE BIG FISH” by Jack Yeovil: A few months after Pearl Harbor, a mobster and his floating casino lie under water, teeming with the stuff of nightmares.

AND THIRTEEN MORE TERRIFYING TALES!

Shadows over Innsmouth Details

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Author : Stephen Jones (Editor) , H.P. Lovecraft (Contributor) , Kim Newman (Contributor) , Brian Mooney (Contributor) , Nicholas Royle (Contributor) , David Langford (Contributor) , Michael Marshall Smith (Contributor) , Brian Lumley (Contributor) , more... Neil Gaiman (Contributor) , Basil Copper (Contributor) , Jack Yeovil (Contributor) , Guy N. Smith (Contributor) , Adrian Cole (Contributor) , D.F. Lewis (Contributor) , Ramsey Campbell (Contributor) , David A. Sutton (Contributor) , Peter Tremayne (Contributor) ...less

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From Reader Review Shadows over Innsmouth for online ebook

Jonathan Briggs says

For an ostensible expert on the horror genre, Stephen Jones can pick some real duds for his anthologies, and this is one of his dudliest. The inclusion of some of these clunkers -- lousy even by the low standards of Mythos imitations -- reeks of cronyism. D.F. Lewis contributes his standard nonsense. The guy might as well just string random sentences together, and perhaps that is his style. At least he writes short. Basil Copper goes to excruciating lengths in "Beyond the Reef," a novella that has a few unintentionally hilarious moments that reach a so-bad-it's-good level, but more often it's just plain bad. Ramsey Campbell's graceless prose makes me want to whip out my editor's pen, and in "The Church in High Street," he manages to rip off just about every Lovecraftian trope EXCEPT Innsmouth. Go figure. Even the cornerstone story, the original "The Shadow Over Innsmouth," isn't one of Lovecraft's best. Not one, but two overextended monologues spotlight Lovecraft's utter cluelessness about the way flesh-and-blood people talk. Kim Newman appears twice. Slumming in the guise of Jack Yeovil, he turns in "The Big Fish," an entertaining, though slight and sloppy, addition to his Genevieve stories. Later on, he returns under his own name with "A Quarter to Three," an insubstantial extended pun. In "The Innsmouth Heritage," Brian Stableford takes an interesting but slightly clinical and talky look at the genetics behind the Innsmouth mutations. But once he lays out his concept, he just stops. End of story. It's like driving off a cliff. A better editor might have said, "Hey, great start, Brian, finish it up, and I'll buy it." But "Heritage" runs as is. Neil Gaiman is the only author present who takes Lovecraft's original idea and runs with it though he doesn't seem quite sure where he's headed. His "Only the End of the World Again" brings wolfman Larry Talbot to Innsmouth, a monster mash to set any horror hound salivating. But the results are addled and unfocused -- less werewolf than spastic puppy peeing all over the furniture. The best the anthology has to offer is the art. Jones called on a trio of talented illustrators to deliver dynamic drawings of various crustacean creepy-crawlies. There should have been more of them, and it's a shame the words never live up to the pictures.

Roger says

I thought I had found a real gem when I found *Shadows Over Innsmouth*. Not only did it feature the original HP Lovecraft tale but apparently used it as a springboard for a series of all new stories regarding that haunted city. Let's break this review up into two parts: First let's talk about the original story and then we'll chat about the new stories in this collection.

The *Shadow Over Innsmouth* is a favorite story of mine. I first finished reading it when I was fourteen. Having reread it thirty six years later I can honestly say my perspectives are a bit different--you cannot step into the same river twice. Do you remember the first time you watched the original *Planet of the Apes*? How that ending hit you like a ton of bricks, and then no matter how many times you watched it since it never had the same impact? Rereading this story was like that. There were a lot of things I did not pick up on the first time I read it (The Gilman hotel? *snort*) but you really cannot go home again. So though the story was still atmospheric it was not as enjoyable--I knew where the devil was driving, as it were. As for the remaining stories in this anthology....

Apparently if a story manages to mention Innsmouth or its' denizens in any way it becomes eligible to be included in this collection. Sometimes that worked, sometimes it didn't. I basically felt cheated as a reader--I did not sign up to read about Romania or some quaint but sinister English village. Very few of these stories

were actually scary. Some pieces really worked such as those by Ramsey Campbell, Peter Tremayne, Brian Mooney, Brian Lumley, and Neil Gaiman. The rest of the book felt like so much filler. Sad to have to include Kim Newman in that category but even a sneaky Anno Dracula reference did not delight me. There was too much miss and not enough hit for me to be able to give this book more than three stars.

Mark says

Titan Books are re-releasing this series of books, originally from 1994 by Fedogan and Bremer. The first, *Shadows over Innsmouth*, would make a terrific Halloween read, if you were looking for something this year.

The book starts big. After an introduction by Stephen, we're off and running with the inspiration for this collection, one of HP Lovecraft's longest tales (about 64 000 words), *The Shadow over Innsmouth*. If you haven't read it before, it's an impressive read, showing all the strengths (and weaknesses) of Lovecraft's writing.

At times it can be a little overwrought, a little repetitive and over-dramatic, and yet, with its details of creepy Innsmouth, New England, its weird religions and slimy otherworldly inhabitants, its florid language and relentless sense of unease (not to mention the oft-derided tone of racism), it must be said that even after 75-plus years since its original publication, there's no denying that the tale still has a certain power, even when there are places where it appears that ol' Howard Phillips has merely stumbled across his typewriter keys. The bar is set quite high.

It's certainly no mean feat, but there's a broad and rich collection of authors chosen to attempt the task, such as Ramsey Campbell, Neil Gaiman, Kim Newman, Brian Lumley, Basil Copper, Michael Marshall Smith and others.

You might think that a book with seventeen stories all about the same place in New England might be a little limiting. And it may be, although Lovecraft's detailed setup means that even after 60-odd thousand words there's a lot of places that the rest of these tales could then go, from the rich historical background of the town and surrounding New England area to the present day weariness that seems to be part of the culture, the undoubtedly creepy back-story of Innsmouth's inhabitants and their attempts to keep strangers out or alternatively catch unwary visitors.

Some of the tales here take the Cthulhu mythos further: to England (Brian Mooney's *The Tomb of Priscus* Brian Lumley's *Dagon's Bell* and Michael Marshall Smith's *To See the Sea*), to Ireland (Peter Tremayne's *Daoine Domhain*), to Romania (Nicholas Royle's *The Homecoming*) and even internationally, over the internet (David Langford's *Deepnet*).

The story following Lovecraft's tale must be a tough choice, because it must stand perhaps the closest comparison to the original.

Thankfully, Basil Copper's lengthy story, *Beyond the Reef*, doesn't let us down. It is a pleasantly surprising read, similar in tone to HPL's tales and a great follow on to the original, but set twenty or so years later. I loved the strange goings on at Lovecraft's mythical University, Miskatonic U. Sadly Basil died this year. I wish I had read more of his work before his death.

After that, the other fifteen tales go past in some speed, but no major loss of quality. Particularly liked were Kim Newman's *A Quarter to Three* (mainly for its horribly bad pun at the end), Ramsey Campbell's *The Church in High Street* and *Dagon's Bell* by Brian Lumley. All of these writers are as good as I expected, with Campbell and Lumley being well known for their own versions of Lovecraft's tales. Neil Gaiman's *Only the End of the World Again* is an interesting tale combining Deep Ones and lycanthropy.

Of the lesser-known authors, Jack Yeovil's* *The Big Fish* is an abrupt change of gear from many of the stories in the collection, written from the perspective of 1942 as a weary and cynical Chandler-esque story (with added Cthulhu). Not to be taken too seriously, and good fun to read. David Sutton's *Innsmouth Gold* is also good, and a bit more serious, but leaves matters rather unresolved at the end. In *Daoine Domhain* Peter Tremayne broadens the Mythos by transporting most of the tale to Ireland to show the mythical origins of the Cthulhu story. Michael Marshall Smith's *To See the Sea* tells of a Wicker Man-type event on the English coast, Peter Mooney's *The Tomb of Priscus* gives the Cthulhu background a historical and archaeological feel, Brian Stableford's *The Innsmouth Heritage* a scientific dimension.

Not all are quite as good, though none are really bad. Guy N Smith's *Return to Innsmouth* does well to recap the original Lovecraft story before giving it its own minor twist. If I had not read the original one hundred pages or so previously, I think I would have enjoyed this one more, but in the end my abiding impression was that it mainly summarised Lovecraft's original tale. DF Lewis's tale (*Down to the Boots*) was rather short and thus left little impression.

Nevertheless, the writing on the whole in this collection is pretty strong. There's enough here to keep the reader happy with more 'hits' than 'misses' overall. What I also liked was that this is also a collection that pays attention to the extra little details, clearly 'a book' rather than an e-book product. The book is profusely illustrated throughout by some admirably ghoulish Cthulhulian drawings from artists Dave Carson, Martin McKenna and Jim Pitts, to whom the book is dedicated. These set off the text grandly.

Finally, to round the collection off, there's some biographical notes in the Afterword about each of the contributors, updated from the 1994 version. Jack Yeovil's (aka Kim Newman) biography is quite an imaginative entertainment in itself.

So: fancy giving Lovecraft a try but never got round to it? Or how about having read Lovecraft but wanting to read more contemporary writers' varied takes on the Lovecraft canon? This book caters to you both. It's a terrific collection, and worthy of Halloween reading. (Had I not read it already...!)

Well done to Titan for re-releasing this one.

There's a companion volume, *Weird Shadows over Innsmouth*, which I'm now going to track down, also due October.

Iä-R'lyeh! Cthulhu fhtagn! Iä! Iä!

Andy says

It took me a while to get through this collection. I would say this is not something you'd read cover-to-cover and I can't imagine tackling the other collections "Weird Shadows Over Innsmouth" or "Weirder Shadows Over Innsmouth" anytime soon. Three collections on this theme, are you kidding me?

These stories can be quite creepy, a few are even scary, But what struck me about some of them was the emotional, somber nature of them. Characters which people love are changing into fish, leaving their life behind and disappearing into the sea. The quality of this collection is uneven, but I was surprised how good some of the stories were, only a few here I didn't care for.

My main issue with this collection is that after a while the stories get too predictable, it's not necessarily the author's fault, but they are being asked to draw from a well which frankly isn't that vast to begin with.

Basil Copper's "Beyond the Reef" is a great story, or novella. It's got some very effective, creepy moments, and also lots of more "cozy mystery" type moments. This was definitely one of the better Lovecraftian stories I've read lately. But I will say the monsters are a bit over-the-top: fire-breathing snake slugs, really? After a series of strange events occurs at Miskatonic University, a cross collapses, revealing a network of underground tunnels.

Jack Yeovil's "The Big Fish" was a great little story. It's written in a witty, pulpy, private eye way. Lots of memorable scenes, lots of good stuff here, and quite creepy when it wants to be. A private detective is hired by an actress to discover what has become of her husband, a gambling racketeer who became involved with a cult and has gone missing. Many of his associates have all been found dead – drowned.

Guy N. Smith's "Return to Innsmouth" is a brief story, not bad but just not too eventful really, just a quick replay of HPL's original in a lot of ways. A man is lured to Innsmouth after he learns that his family has a connection to it. Along the way he sees his shadow has a oddly fish-like appearance. During the night a group of foul, fish-smelling men try to enter his room.

Adrian Cole's "The Crossing" is a decent story, but not great. It does have some creepy moments as far as the chase scenes, and a really creepy scene on a beach at night. A man who never knew his father travels to a seaport town after receiving a strange postcard from there, and discovers his father has been in service to Dagon all of his life.

D. F. Lewis' "Down to the Boots" is one I didn't get, so it's so short I re-read it and loved it. It's a very weird, dreamlike and quiet story. A housewife living in a shack in Innsmouth, in a field full of mud and pools thinks about her husband leaving to go into the sea.

Ramsey Campbell's "The Church in High Street" is one I read years ago, I recall liking it but little else.

David Sutton's "Innsmouth Gold" is a good horror tale, I feel like this author could hone his writing just a bit. There's a few good scares and decent atmosphere build-up. A man comes to suspect that after Innsmouth was torpedoed by the government, a large cache of gold was found and hidden somewhere, and he's determined to find it.

Peter Tremayne's "Daoine Domhain" is good but rather predictable. It establishes a good sense of place, and although the horror is never fully revealed I felt it lacked subtlety. A man gets a letter his grandfather wrote before he disappeared many years ago. It seems he went to the small Irish island of his birth and tangles with the Deep Ones.

Kim Newman's "Quarter to Three" provides some comic relief. I like the writing style here, expressive and noir/hard-boiled. We know what's coming, but the author knows we know, so she plays along. A man working in an all-night diner on a lonely seacoast has a strange customer, a girl who was impregnated by a very weird creature indeed.

Brian Mooney's "The Tomb of Priscus" is a decent story that kept me interested, but I found it a bit predictable even though a few moments are so well-described that they still manage to surprise. A priest and his friend look into an archaeological dig into an ancient Roman tomb which seems to be much dreaded by the locals. After they open the tomb the man in charge of the dig is taken over by a long-waiting presence.

Brian Stableford's "Innsmouth Heritage" was one of the better stories here, it's got a smart idea in it for explaining the "Innsmouth Look," original, and it's got an ending that is actually pretty sad and affecting. A geneticist travels to Innsmouth to try and study the genes of those with the Innsmouth Look who are quickly disappearing, and to woo his old friend Ann who has inherited most of the town. He discovers it's not just the look that troubles the people there, but their dreams as well.

Nicholas Royle's "The Homecoming" in my opinion is one of the best stories; dreamlike and nightmarish, depressive, dark and dystopian. I detect a bit of Ligotti influence here. The end left the whole affair a bit unclear, and the story only has a rather mild affinity with the whole "Innsmouth theme." Some might find the whole idea a bit untenable, but I was able to suspend disbelief and enjoy it. After the fall of Romanian dictator Ceausescu, Daniella returns to Bucharest, a much-changed, eerie city, ravaged by the revolution, and the people themselves seemingly afflicted by something which has emerged from the "tunnels."

David Langford's "Deepnet" is a very imaginative story and one of the better stories of the very short ones. A man speculates that the software company DeepNet located in Innsmouth (with a supposed cable that goes into the sea) has caused female programmers to give birth to fish-like children.

Michael Marshall Smith's "To See the Sea" is another one I liked, despite finding it playing out a little too predictably. Like several other stories here, there's an undercurrent of sadness to these tales, people taken by the sea. A couple travels to a desolate seaside town where the woman's mother was almost drowned when a ship she was on went down for several hours off the coast. They start to suspect the whole town celebrates the downing of the ship.

Brian Lumley's "Dagon's Bell" is one of the best here. It's got a great set-up and an action-packed conclusion, and some pretty scary moments at the end. After a man buys the farm of a hermit who disappeared, he finds the place is very ancient, cursed by creatures which emerge from the sea at the call of a great subterranean bell.

Neil Gaiman's "Only The End Of The World Again" is a nice little hard-boiled story, I loved the style of it, and it brings some humor. A werewolf tries to stop the invocation of the Deep Ones in Innsmouth.

George K. says

Πολ? ωρα?α και χορταστικ? ανθολογ?α διηγημ?των, που αναφ?ρονται ?μεσα ? ?μμεσα στο τρομερ? ?ννσμουθ της Μασαχουσ?της, ?να ψαροχ?ρι που δημιο?ργησε ο Λ?βκραφτ για να μας κ?νει να βλ?πουμε εφι?λτες τα βρ?δια. Ειλικριν?, τ?σο με το εξαιρετικ? δι?γημα του Λ?βκραφτ ?σο και με τα υπ?λοιπα, χ?θηκα σ'?να σ?μπαν φ?κης και παρ?νοιας, το οπο?ο ευτυχ?ς αποτελε? φαντασ?α. Ελπ?ζω δηλαδ?, γιατ? αλλι?ς χαθ?καμε...

Λοιπ?ν, το βιβλ?ο περι?χει την κλασικ? και εξαιρετικ? ιστορ?α "Η σκι? π?νω απ? το ?ννσμουθ" του

Λ?βκραφτ, καθ?ς και ?λλες δεκα?ξι ιστορ?ες απ? δεκα?ξι συγγραφε?ς του χ?ρου του Φανταστικο?, τ?σο απ? μαιτρ του ε?δους ?σο και απ? λιγ?τερο γνωστο?ς. Τα λ?γα ε?ναι περιττ? για την ιστορ?α του Λ?βκραφτ, η οπο?α ε?ναι ?να πραγματικ? διαμ?ντι και πρ?πει να διαβαστε? απ? κ?θε λ?τρη του καλο? τρ?μουν. Ε?ναι ?κρως ατμοσφαιρικ?, τρομακτικ? και ανατριχιαστικ? και συν?μα ιδια?τερα ευκολοδι?βαστη και συναρπαστικ?. Ε?ναι μια ιστορ?α που και την μ?ρα να διαβαστε?, π?λι θα σας στοιχει?σει.

?σον αφορ? τις υπ?λοιπες, καμ?α δεν φτ?νει την ιστορ?α του Λ?βκραφτ, κ?ποιες ?μως ε?ναι πραγματικ? πολ? καλ?ς και αξ?ζουν την προσοχ? σας: "Π?ρα απ? την Ξ?ρα" (Μπασ?λ Κ?περ), "Ο χρυσ?ς του ?ννσμουθ" (Ντ?ιβιντ Σ?τον), "Η κληρονομι? του ?ννσμουθ" (Μπρ?ιαν Σταμπλφορντ) και "Το μεγ?λο ψ?ρι" (Τζακ Γ?οβιλ), ε?ναι μερικ? καλ? παραδε?γματα. Η ιστορ?α του Κ?περ μου φ?νηκε εξαιρετικ? ατμοσφαιρικ? και καλογραμμ?νη και αυτ? του Γ?οβιλ ?κρως ψυχαγωγικ? με το μ?γκικο και γκανγκστερικ? στιλ γραφ?ς, που ?δωσε ?λλον α?ρα στην ?λη κοσμοπλασ?α του ?ννσμουθ.

Γενικ? πρ?κειται για μια ανθολογ?α ιστορι?ν τρ?μου που θα ικανοποι?σει σε πολ? μεγ?λο βαθμ? τ?σο τους λ?τρεις του Λ?βκραφτ ?σο και τους λ?τρεις του τρ?μουν. Προσωπικ? π?ρασα εξαιρετικ? και δι?βασα το βιβλ?ο μονοκοπανι?, καταφ?ρνοντας να μην βαρεθ? ? να κουραστ? απ? κ?ποιες αναμεν?μενες και αναπ?φευκτες επαναλ?ψεις. Η ?κδοση της Jemma Press ε?ναι ?να πραγματικ? στολ?δι για την βιβλιοθ?κη κ?θε τρομολ?γνου.

AJ says

This is a fantastic collection of short stories for those who enjoy horror. Oddly enough, I was not that impressed by the Shadows over Innsmouth. The remaining tales, however, took on an interesting twist and great reflections of imagination and creativity. Each short story kept the basic monster and added time and characters. They took the basic sea monsters out of the ocean and created a history and other dangerous, malevolent tales of garnering control over the human race. I think the eeriest part of the tales are the fact that they fit in so well with each other that it almost appears as if each were drafted relevant to the previous. They move from regular ordinary groups of people trying to make sense of the craziness to the groups clamoring to rid the society of these beasts. Then, they move to individual stories of familial members of those who were taken to those that are monstrous themselves and go into battle against the creatures as they are destroyed by failure of ritual completion. Each tale does justice in its own rite. I think you should read this book. I actually have pictures from my travels down into the Sunny Jimmy Cave that reflect some of the dense darkness in these stories.

Quirkyreader says

Five stars all around for this one. I am glad that I read this series backwards. I was able to see how the stories of the mythos had evolved over the years.

Felix Zilich says

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Chris says

In 1931 the American author H.P. Lovecraft published what may be his best-known work, and certainly one of the most typical of his style of dark paranoid fantasy: "The Shadow over Innsmouth". This story takes us to a decaying New England seaport where since the 19th century the inhabitants have been enacting unholy rites brought back from the South Seas by Captain Obed Marsh. As a result they have developed a hideous form of bodily transformation in which they become less than human, and more adapted to an aquatic life in the deeps of forbidden Yha-Nthlei...

This seminal and nightmarish vision has influenced such as Stephen King (in "Jerusalem's Lot") and Bob Leman (in "Feesters in the Lake"). Neither of those stories is to be found here, in this volume which starts with Lovecraft's original story and follows the fate of others who have become embroiled with the story of cursed Innsmouth. What is here, as well as a handful of chilling illustrations, is a collection of stories by British authors such as Neil Gaiman, D.F. Lewis, Ramsey Campbell, and Kim Newman. Some, like Basil Copper's "Beyond the Reef" largely continue the story where Lovecraft's ends; others, like Michael Marshall Smith's "To See the Sea" reasonably assume that other parts of the world, e.g. the coasts of England, could equally have been affected by the Innsmouth heritage. 'Jack Yeovil's "The Big Fish" reprises its author's fascination with the world of the movies and puts a 1940s private eye up against something worse than the Japs. Nick Royle's "The Homecoming" abandons Marsh and his cult entirely and treats the Deep Ones as a symbol of the 'Invisible Hand' and the paranoia it engenders. (Given the year of the original novella's appearance, it may itself have been a metaphor for fascism and its growing appeal to the middle classes of Europe).

Very often the Innsmouth legacy is all too attractive to the seeker: although at first repelled, the protagonist is then drawn in to the web of the Deep Ones and wants nothing more than to be one with watery Yha-Nthlei and to evolve beyond rough humanity. It is this, the sense that it is not a purely external threat but one that

comes from within, and invites humankind's collusion, that gives Lovecraft's paranoid mythos its power, and that of the stories that follow it in this volume.

Lyndon Perry says

If you aren't familiar with the word "furtive", you will be by the time you finish this anthology.

What can I say about *Shadows over Innsmouth*. It's a compilation of authors and as such there were parts I enjoyed more than others. It was my first time reading Lovecraft and the same can be said for every other author here, save Gaiman.

And well, I gotta say, I struggled with Lovecraft a bit in the same way I tend to struggle with most literature that can't really be classified as contemporary. So while I really appreciate his original ideas and masterful understanding of horror, I can do without the overly detailed visual descriptions and persistently formal tone.

A few of the other stories were really fun and entertaining but several were boring and pointless. Basically the original Lovecraft story minus the originality.

Bogdan says

O antologie Lovecraftiana foarte buna cu povestiri la inaltimea originalului.

Surprinzator Neil Gaiman a contribuit cu o povestire destul de dezamagitoare.

Restul au fost numai de la bine in sus.

Buna ideea, reusit rezultatul!

XPHAIEA. says

A mixed bag of tales inspired by Lovecraft's 'Shadow Over Innsmouth'. Some exceptional, others more forgettable. Notable stories included Basil Copper's 'Beyond the Reef', Ramsey Campbell's 'The Church on High Street' and Brian Mooney's 'The Tomb of Priscus' which I felt added a new twist to the existing tale, and were rich and strange enough to nestle in amongst the existing Mythos tales.

As often occurs in anthologies the weaker stories were either fairly uninspiring attempts to rewrite Lovecraft's story or attempts to situate it in another time or location. These translate few new ideas and are more repetitive. Worth reading for the few mentioned above if you come across this in a charity shop etc.

Nicely illustrated throughout.

Randolph says

Excellent collection of Lovecraftian horror all somehow related to Lovecraft's The Shadow Over Innsmouth. The problem with all non-Lovecraft related "Lovecraft" stories and novels is that they are either pastiches or they just don't measure up to the Master. Even Clark Ashton Smith, August Derleth, and Robert Bloch etc. never quite got it. The sad truth is there will never be another Lovecraft story as good or as ground-breaking as what Lovecraft wrote. In this I have to agree with Kenneth Hite.

That said, most of the stories in this book fall outside the pastiche arena, and most are very good on their own as long as you don't expect a real Lovecraft story. From a literary standpoint the stories are well written and don't all fall into the "pulp" mode if that's not your thing. Fortunately The Shadow Over Innsmouth is included so you don't have to have read any Lovecraft stories to appreciate the other stories. I would recommend this to anyone interested in horror and weird stories.

Sabella Daiabczenko says

Great book - the Shadow Over Innsmouth is one of my favorite Lovecraft stories (and Dagon is one of my favorite movies), and this is a lovely little collection from others who were also as inspired as I was by the ruin of a sleepy little seaside town. Love the cover art, also (By Michael Whelan, of all people!)

Patrick Kiernan says

Love these stories, they all really had that H.P Lovecraft feel.
