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Merger Masters The Dragon Book *He-Man and the Masters of the Universe: The Hunt for Moss Man (Tales of Eternia Book 1)*

Masters' Tales of Now Tales of Okinawa's Great Masters

Master of Devils Visions of Fantasy *The Storymaster's Tales*

"*Weirding Woods*" **Zen Master Tales** Night's Master **The Big**

Book of the Masters of Horror: 120+ authors and 1000+

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Master Wizards A Mad World, My Masters Great Tales of

Horror & the Supernatural Thirteen *13 Master Tales of*

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Weekly **Delusion's Master** *Unfettered* Master of One *Masters of*

Horror, Vol. Two, H. P. Lovecraft, the Ultimate Illustrated Weird

Tales Collection, Pt. 1 **Wrapped in a Holy Flame** **Legends of**

the Martial Arts Masters *Masters of Craft* *The Doll-Master*

Tales from the Tao Tales of the Master Race *Revenge of the*

Puppet Master *Shadows of Carcosa* **Creeps by Wise Men and**

Their Tales Unfettered III **Stories of the Masters** *Reserved*

for the Cat **Collier's Legends** **Stories of the Far West**

Bestselling author Gregory Mone brings Mattel's He-Man and the Masters of the Universe together for a brand-new adventure in the first book of this original middle-grade series based on the hit Netflix show! By the Power of Grayskull... I have the Power! A mysterious toxic gas is spreading across Eternia, ravaging

farmlands and endangering citizens. The planet's only hope lies with Adam, a lost prince with cosmic abilities. When he wields the mystical Sword of Power, he transforms from a scrawny teen into He-Man, the most powerful man in the universe. With his friends Teela, Cringer, Duncan, and Krass by his side, Adam embarks on a dangerous journey, facing pirates, dragons, and perils at every turn in search of Moss Man, a legendary figure who might hold the key to stopping the devastating stench. Yet the sinister Skeletor and his Dark Masters will stop at nothing to thwart the unlikely heroes. The fate of all Eternia rests with He-Man and his friends. A dreadful calamity has fallen on Grand Fortune City. Betrayal. Desperation. Madness has taken hold of the Puppet Master as he writes his letter of heartbreak to his beloved Emilia. My dearest Emilia, It is with the deepest and most sincere regret that I have chosen to strike a bargain with evil for the restoration of your life. Though I have been able to repair our precious sons to the best of my ability, I have failed at every turn in my efforts to bring you back to us. During these many years, my soul has been consumed with a tempest of hatred for that vile half-breed tunnel troll, even to the fracturing of blood vessels in my body. Even to the fracturing of my mind. My anger for Angus Grand burned within me so strong that I lost myself in the madness of darkness. Many nights I wandered the dreary streets of Gabriel's Harbor searching out the forgotten souls of this dead world that I might enact my vengeance upon them, in pretense they were Angus Grand. It was only by the blood of those poor wretched souls that my lust for vengeance was sated, but fear not my love, I only chose the dregs of this world. Although at times I chose the Black Mist infected souls out of pure pity, the guilt was too heavy for me to bear and it did not satisfy the monster within me. I beg of you not to hate me for what I have done and am about to do. I do not suppose any man with such a broken heart as I, would do any less for the one he loves, but I ask your forgiveness in advance for the deeds I am now blood bound to fulfill. It is for the

restoration of your life that I have pledged myself to their dark demands and in doing so, I have betrayed the world for you. For love. Forever yours, even into darkness. Hans - The Puppet Master

From the editor of the award-winning anthology *Unfettered* comes the newest installment in the science fiction and fantasy series, *Unfettered III*. Be haunted by the chilling ghost story of Megan Lindholm. Revisit the Magicians world with Lev Grossman. Return to Osten Ard in an epic first look at Tad Williams's *Empire of Grass*. Share a heartfelt story of loss and gain with Callie Bates. Cross the sands of the desert planet Dune with Brian Herbert and Kevin J. Anderson. Travel the Ways in a new *Wheel of Time* novella with Robert Jordan & Brandon Sanderson. Enter the amazing potter city of Seven with Naomi Novik. And many more stories, all wondrous alongside beautiful art by Todd Lockwood! More than 700 pages of stellar SF&F from the likes of: Callie Bates Terry Brooks Delilah S. Dawson Jason Denzel David Anthony Durham Lev Grossman John Gwynne Brian Herbert & Kevin J. Anderson Robert Jordan & Brandon Sanderson Mark Lawrence Megan Lindholm (Robin Hobb) Seanan McGuire Naomi Novik Peter Orullian Cat Rambo Robert V.S. Redick Ken Scholes Scott Sigler Anna Smith Spark Shawn Speakman Anna Stephens Patrick Swenson Ramon Terrell Marc Turner Carrie Vaughn Tad Williams Deborah A. Wolf

Lacking health insurance when he was diagnosed with cancer, Shawn Speakman asked friends in the science fiction and fantasy writing community to donate short stories he could use to counter mounting medical debt. The result was *Unfettered*, an anthology offering tales from some of the best authors working today. Now, in *Unfettered III*, Speakman continues to pay forward the aid he received, raising money to combat medical debt for SF&F artists and authors. He has gathered together a great mix of new and favorite writers_free to write what they like_the result a powerful new anthology perfect for all readers. *Unfettered III* is sure to astound with the magic bound within its pages. All the while raising

money for a charitable cause. Because protecting our artists and authors is as important as the stories they tell. For thousands of years, students of the Tao have gleaned inspiration and illumination from its parables, and these thought-provoking examples discuss topics ranging from dignity in the face of challenge, to judging character, to how to deal with loss. Whether solidifying a spiritual truth, unravelling a puzzle for contemplation, or providing a moment of humour, these tales are a mainstay of Eastern philosophy. This unique collection brings together the most inspiring, illuminating and downright funny stories from the classical works of Taoist masters, alongside new writing inspired by traditional tales. Set against a backdrop of the mountains, waterfalls and gorges of China, these tales introduce important Taoist ideas about many of the most basic human experiences - including birth, death, loss, pleasure, and how to surrender to the most fundamental experience of the Tao itself. Interwoven with classic Taoist quotations and illustrated with beautiful photography throughout, these engrossing narratives are as relevant today as they were in the great dynasties of ancient China. A collection of fantasy tales includes works by such noted writers of the genre as Jane Yolen, Anne McCaffrey, Marion Zimmer Bradley, Madeleine L'Engle, and Ray Bradbury

Early in the eighteenth century the legendary holy man and teacher Rabbi Israel Ba'al Shem Tov launched a spiritual movement in Eastern Europe known as Hasidism. The Hasidic movement thrived on parables and stories promulgating joy, the potential for personal transformation, aspirations of the Divine, and the infusion of daily life with music, dancing, and loving exultation—and there is no Jewish institution today that has not been affected by Hasidism. Since the time of the Ba'al Shem Tov, generations of disciples, holy men, gurus, rabbis, and teachers have spread the Hasidic movement throughout the world. Now this book presents in one volume a collection of profound insights from the greatest Hasidic masters. Wrapped in a Holy Flame

offers rare stories, new translations, and an innovative introduction to the meaning and value of these classic tales and teachings. It features the work of Hasidic masters of legendary fame and influence, including the Maggid of Mezritch, Reb Pinchas of Koretz, Shneur Zalman of Liadi, Reb Nachman of Bratzlav, all the way to the twentieth century Rebbe and artist Reb Shlomo Carlebach. The author has studied and taught Hasidic stories and teachings for over fifty years. This book contains a lifetime of experience and will stand for years to come as the basic, definitive work in the field. First-person accounts of the residents of Kreiswald--among them a police clerk forced to measure the heads of local townspeople destined for the guillotine and a stroke victim who witnesses the secret nocturnal deportation of Jews--reveal how the Nazis' p If you were looking for the Holy Bible of the horror anthologies, consider yourself lucky, because you just found it! Cosmic horror, supernatural events, ghost stories, weird fiction, mystical fantasies, occult narratives, this book plunges you into dark domains and brings you face to face with surreal monstrosities. This collection of the greatest mysterious dark tales gathers together more than 100 authors and more than 1000 short stories (!), which makes it truly unique in its kind. Be aware that this book includes a big amount of stories that appear for the first time in digital print. In 1910, in an alternate London, a penniless young dancer is visited by a cat who communicates with her mind to mind. Though she is certain she must be going mad, she is desperate enough to follow the cat's advice and impersonates a famous Russian ballerina. The cat, it turns out, is actually an Elemental Earth Spirit, and leads her to minor stardom. Meanwhile, the real Russian ballerina has fallen victim to an evil troll who takes over her body and kills her patrons, drinking their life essences in order to strengthen his powers. And soon, the troll focuses his dark attentions on the young dancer... Set in the imaginary world of the role-playing game, Pathfinder. MASTERS' TALES of NOW is a surprising little

book of approximately 155 pages. Masters come forth and tell true tales of what is or what is not NOW energy. The book is similar to The Brothers Grimm's Fairy Tales. The exception is the Masters' tales are true. These 22 tales will lead you into the wisdom of the NOW energy. You will learn to recognize it within you, but always remember, judgments, however, will break any ties to the NOW energy. This book is appropriate for all ages. In this unmissable collection, the biggest names in Fantasy reignite the fire of these legendary beasts with stories that will consume your imagination. Magical!

THE DRAGON BOOK has stories from Garth Nix, Tad Williams, Jonathan Stroud, Tamora Pierce, a recognized master fantasist, Tanith Lee has won numerous awards for her craft, including the World Fantasy Award for Life Achievement and the Bram Stoker Award for Lifetime Achievement in Horror.

Delusion's Master is the third book of the stunning arabesque high fantasy series Tales from the Flat Earth, which, in the manner of The One Thousand and One Nights, portrays an ancient world in mythic grandeur via connected tales. A long time ago when the Earth was Flat, beautiful indifferent Gods lived in the airy Upperearth realm above, curious passionate demons lived in the Underearth realm below, and mortals were relegated to exist in the middle. Chuz, Prince of Madness, third of the Lords of Darkness—beauty on one side, foul corruption on the other—“takes pity” on the world. In his gentle, soft embrace, mortal minds repose in a tide of illusion and twisted desire. Yet no one is immune from the sweetest madness of all, and even immortals fall at the cast of the bone dice.... Come within this ancient world of brilliant darkness and beauty, of glittering palaces and wondrous elegant beings, of cruel passions and undying love. Discover the wonder that is the Flat Earth. Now available for the first time in English, Tales of Okinawa's Great Masters, the late Shoshin Nagamine's groundbreaking work, recounts the legacy and life histories of Okinawa's greatest martial artists. In addition to profiles of the legendary tegumi

wrestlers, Nagamine-sensei features many of the world's great karate masters, including the founder of the core styles from which modern karate sprang. Tales of Okinawa's Great Masters corrects historical inaccuracies surrounding Okinawan martial arts and brings alive the greatest of the great masters. In this seminal martial arts history and biography, Nagamine-sensei presents the martial legacy of the Okinawan people and, to complement and emphasize what is of greatest importance in these tales and life histories, concludes with detailed instructions for the practice of zazen (sitting meditation). Already a classic in the Japanese edition, Tales of Okinawa's Great Masters is a must-read for all karate and tegumi enthusiasts, practitioners and researchers alike. A collection of original short novels by such acclaimed authors as Stephen King, Robert Jordan, Anne McCaffrey, Ursula K. Le Guin, Orson Scott Card, and Terry Goodkind returns each to his own special fantasy world for a new and illuminating story. The Storymaster's Tales "Weirding Woods" Cut and Fold Game-Cards 78 beautiful folklore illustrations to use alongside the Gamebook. In Wise Men and Their Tales, a master teacher gives us his fascinating insights into the lives of a wide range of biblical figures, Talmudic scholars, and Hasidic rabbis. The matriarch Sarah, fiercely guarding her son, Isaac, against the negative influence of his half-brother Ishmael; Samson, the solitary hero and protector of his people, whose singular weakness brought about his tragic end; Isaiah, caught in the middle of the struggle between God and man, his messages of anger and sorrow counterbalanced by his timeless, eloquent vision of a world at peace; the saintly Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi, who by virtue of a lifetime of good deeds was permitted to enter heaven while still alive and who tried to ensure a similar fate for all humanity by stealing the sword of the Angel of Death. Elie Wiesel tells the stories of these and other men and women who have been sent by God to help us find the godliness within our own lives. And what interests him most about these people is

their humanity, in all its glorious complexity. They get angry—at God for demanding so much, and at people, for doing so little. They make mistakes. They get frustrated. But through it all one constant remains—their love for the people they have been charged to teach and their devotion to the Supreme Being who has sent them. In these tales of battles won and lost, of exile and redemption, of despair and renewal, we learn not only by listening to what they have come to tell us, but by watching as they live lives that are both grounded in earthly reality and that soar upward to the heavens. Lord Demir has spent his life trying to appease a brutal, selfish king, and keep the concubines under his care alive—and now he is on the verge of losing everything. The council wants to abolish the harems, there are no heirs to the throne, and the foreigners control the Steward. One wrong move will tip tensions into civil war. Crown Prince Ihsan returns to find his home in turmoil, and the royal court so full of vipers it's impossible to say which of them will strike first. Removing his father from the throne, one way or another, should be a simple matter. Staying alive and proving himself a worthy king will be far more difficult. Crown Princess Euren has spent the last five years in hiding so that she could not be used against her father or Ihsan. But she is the daughter of a soldier, never meant to wear a crown, never trained to fight battles where words are the weapon of choice. If she hopes to keep herself and her loved ones alive, she'll have to learn fast. For readers of all ages, these spellbinding stories will raise the pulse and quicken the heartbeat. Two kingdoms are united by magic in Garth Nix's 'Holly and Iron'. The ambition to catch a dragon drastically changes a lie in 'The Ruby Incomparable' by Kage Baker. A starving dove tells its story in Eoin Colfer's 'A Fowl Tale'. Relish the magic of learning about kindness in Neil Gaiman's 'The Witch's Headstone'. Also includes stories by Mary Rosenblum, Eoin Colfer, Jane Yolen, Orson Scott Card, Patricia A. McKillip, Elizabeth Hand, Andy Duncan, Peter S. Beagle, Nancy Kress,

Tanith Lee, Terry Bisson, Terry Dowling, Gene Wolfe, Tad Williams and Jeffrey Ford. After the joy and relief of spiritual awakening, life can become very "awkward" as the human learns to trust the Master self, integrate the countless aspects and open to the presence of the I Am. Allowing this "holy trinity" of self is the essence of embodied Realization, but coming to this place is usually fraught with doubts, frustrations, apparent dead-ends, and many other challenges. You will certainly find your own experiences reflected in these inspiring, touching and often humorous stories. The sweet reminders of how go beyond limitation into trust and allowing provide practical inspiration for your daily life. Adamus Saint-Germain often tells stories of the Master and the student, using these parables to illustrate the principles and essence of coming into mastery. His book, *Memoirs of a Master* published in 2016, contains 20 "Master and student" stories ranging from humorous to insightful and profound. During Keahak VII, his annual year-long intensive, Adamus said it was time for the human Masters to write these stories. With more than 100 wonderful stories submitted, these 40 stories represent the best of the best. *Stories of the Masters* is a 300-page story book for who are allowing their spiritual maturity. Contributing Authors: Ingrid Aldendorff - Bremen, Germany Bianca Anghel - Toronto, ON, Canada Antje Arenz - Krefeld, Germany Jaynne Aster - Abbotsford, BC, Canada Nancy Botti - Ashland, OR, United States Mikaela Christi - Vesenz, Switzerland Silvana Corti - Spiegel bei Bern, Switzerland Regina Dickmann - Detmold, Germany Douglas Edgar - Pasadena, SA, Australia Debra Ford - Bartlett, TN, United States Joan Giambrone - Corona, NY, United States Birgit Gottas - Salzburg, Austria Kristine Grikis - Kimberley, BC, Canada Tania Hess - Hillsboro, OR, United States Kathrin Hug - Birmensdorf, Switzerland Catherine Hurst - Raymond Terrace, NSW, Australia Aleisha Klein - Kuranda, QLD, Australia Cathy Kumnick - Grovedale, VIC, Australia Suzanne Lebek - Unterfoehring, Germany Keiko Niwa - South Orange, NJ, United

States Tammie O'Rielly - Kelowna, BC, Canada
Kristina Peters - Wetter, Germany
Alex Quici - Lyon, France
Yan Raux - Poissy, France
Pradeep RC - Bangalore, India
Heidi Rimald - Bad Nauheim, Germany
Katharine Roberts - Concord, MA, United States
James J Sacco - Niles, Ohio, United States
Laura Schaepli - Kingston, OT, Canada
Sophie Seyer - Roxton Falls, QC, Canada
Izabela Suska - Warsaw, Poland
Jean Tinder - Golden, CO, United States
Álvaro Trujillo Ayerbe - Ibagué, Colombia
Donna Van Keuren - Evergreen, CO, United States
Ad Voermans - s-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands
Angelika Ziegler - Rodgau, Germany
Rebecca Zuh - Adelaide, SA, Australia

This is a new release of the original 1935 edition. Whether you're an inspiring black belt or just a fan of martial arts action, you'll enjoy this collection of twenty exciting stories about the great heroes of the martial arts. The stories include dramatic victories, wily strategies, and triumphs over long odds—from the great Tsukahara Bokuden's cunning defeat of a troublemaking samurai to Wing Chun's brave self-defense against a brutish warlord. Children can read about Robert Trias, known as the "father of American karate" and Miyamoto Musashi, known as the "greatest sword fighter in history" and the author of the bestselling *Book of Five Rings*. Filled with action and amazing feats of martial arts wizardry, *Legends of the Martial Arts Masters* will inspire readers with stories of courage, combat, and self-discovery. Stories include: *The General Fights a Bull*, *The Great Wave*, *The Hard Way to Find a Teacher*, *The Three Sons*, *The Style of No Sword*, *A Bully Changes His Ways*, *The Ballad of Mu-lan*, *Twelve Warriors of Burma*, *Wing Chun*, *The Eighteen Hands*, and many more...

Armchair Fiction features the best in classic horror and fantasy short story collections. Here it is?part one of the greatest collection of H. P. Lovecraft works ever put together, "*Masters of Horror, Vol. Two: H. P. Lovecraft, the Ultimate Illustrated Weird Tales Collection, Pt. 1.*" This incredible collection features the very best horror tales of H. P. Lovecraft, complete with their

Weird Tales illustrations and publishing dates. It also contains a Lovecraft photo gallery showing H. P. at the many stages of his life and career. You get the best of Lovecraft's Cthulhu Mythos series, as well as top tales from his "Dream Cycle," as well as other miscellaneous tales of horror and fantasy. The lineup includes "The Dunwich Horror," "Cool Air," "The Haunter of the Dark," "The Rats in the Walls," "Hypnos," "The Hound," "Pickman's Model," "The Thing on the Doorstep," "The Statement of Randolph Carter," "The Shadow Over Innsmouth," "The Call of Cthulhu," "The Shunned House," "The Nameless City," and "From Beyond." So kick back in your favorite armchair and take aim at fourteen gems from the all-time master of the classic horror yarn.

Merger Masters presents revealing profiles of monumentally successful merger investors based on exclusive interviews with some of the greatest minds to practice the art of arbitrage. Michael Price, John Paulson, Paul Singer, and others offer practical perspectives on how their backgrounds in the risk-conscious world of merger arbitrage helped them make their biggest deals. They share their insights on the discipline that underlies their fortunes, whether they practice the "plain vanilla" strategy of announced deals, the aggressive strategy of activist investment, or any strategy in between on the risk spectrum. Merger Masters delves into the human side of risk arbitrage, exploring how top practitioners deal with the behavioral aspects of generating consistent profits from risk arbitrage. The book also includes perspectives from the other side of the mergers and acquisitions divide in the form of interviews with a trio of iconic CEOs: Bill Stiritz, Peter McCausland, and Paul Montrone. All three took advantage of M&A opportunities to help build long-term returns but often found themselves at odds with the short-term focus of Wall Street and merger investors. Told in lively, accessible prose, with bonus facts and figures for transaction junkies, Merger Masters is an incomparable set of stories with plenty of unfiltered lessons from the best managers of our time.

Neil Gaiman, Eoin Colfer, and many more join this magical brew [that] will enchant young adult readers and their elders as well. (Publishers Weekly) In *Wizards*, today's master fantasists turn their hands to tales of these magical beings, living in both ancient and modern times, as well as in fantasy realms that never were. Featuring stories by New York Times bestselling authors Neil Gaiman, Eoin Colfer and Garth Nix as well as tales from Kage Baker, Peter S. Beagle, Terry Bisson, Orson Scott Card, Terry Dowling, Andy Duncan, Jeffrey Ford, Elizabeth Hand, Nancy Kress, Tanith Lee, Patricia A. McKillip, Mary Rosenblum, Tad Williams, Gene Wolfe, and Jane Yolen. There are only a handful of places left on this earth where you can't buy a McDonald's hamburger or stay in a Holiday Inn - and John Simpson has been to them all. This hugely successful volume of writing is a celebration of some of the world's wilder places. His extraordinary experiences include stories about a television camera that killed people, about how Colonel Gadhaffi farted his way through an interview and how he - Simpson - mooned the Queen. 'Highly entertaining' *The Times* 'What amazing tales he has to tell, and with what enthralling vividness . . . Riveting' *Daily Mail* 'The range of his travels is staggering . . . Never less than entertaining, sometimes moving and often funny' *Sunday Telegraph* A recognized master fantasist, Tanith Lee has won numerous awards for her craft, including the World Fantasy Award for Life Achievement and the Bram Stoker Award for Lifetime Achievement in Horror. Rediscover her classic, most popular fantasy series, *Tales from the Flat Earth*, where demons and gods grant wonders and wreak havoc. Visit the Upperearth, where dwell the gods; the Underearth, the realm of nightmarish demons; the Innerearth, domain of the dead; and the Flat Earth itself, the home of mortals. Supreme amongst them all is the demon god Azhrarn, Night's Master, whose deadly whims could change the lives of those in the Flat Earth. Azhrarn holds in his heart a mystery which could alter the very existence of the Flat

Earth forever. *Unfettered* is an anthology of original fantasy fiction by some of the very biggest names in fantasy fiction, and it also features deleted scenes from *A MEMORY OF LIGHT*, the final book in Robert Jordan's *Wheel of Time* series. This collection is not only a fantastic anthology in its own right, but it's a testament to the generosity found in the science fiction and fantasy community. When author Shawn Speakman fell seriously ill and was unable to pay his medical bills, that's when New York Times bestselling author Terry Brooks offered to donate a short story that Shawn could sell to help alleviate those bills. He also suggested he ask the same of his other writer friends, and *Unfettered* is the incredible result. Twenty-four tales comprise this superb collection, and as the title suggests, the writers were free to contribute whatever they wished. Table of contents: - Foreword by Patrick Rothfuss - Introduction: On Becoming *Unfettered* - Imaginary Friends by Terry Brooks - How Old Holly Came To Be by Patrick Rothfuss - The Old Scale Game by Tad Williams - Game of Chance by Carrie Vaughn - The Martyr of the Roses by Jacqueline Carey - Mudboy by Peter V. Brett - The Sound of Broken Absolutes by Peter Orullian - The Coach with Big Teeth by R.A. Salvatore - Keeper of Memory by Todd Lockwood - Heaven in a Wild Flower by Blake Charlton - Dogs by Daniel Abraham - The Chapel Perilous by Kevin Hearne - Select Mode by Mark Lawrence - All the Girls Love Michael Stein by David Anthony Durham - Strange Rain by Jennifer Bosworth - Nocturne by Robert V.S. Redick - Unbowed by Eldon Thompson - In Favour with Their Stars by Naomi Novik - River of Souls by Robert Jordan & Brandon Sanderson - The Jester by Michael J. Sullivan - The Duel by Lev Grossman - Walker and the Shade of Allanon by Terry Brooks - The *Unfettered* Knight by Shawn Speakman - The Twilight Dragon by Shawn Speakman (bonus story for UK edition)

From the fictional land of Carcosa that inspired the HBO show *True Detective* to H. P. Lovecraft's accursed New England hills, this collection features some of the most legendary landscapes of

the cosmic horror genre. The collection includes the following twelve stories: Edgar Allan Poe, "MS. Found in a Bottle" Bram Stoker, "The Squaw" Ambrose Bierce, "Moxon's Master" Ambrose Bierce, "The Damned Thing" Ambrose Bierce, "An Inhabitant of Carcosa" R. W. Chambers, "The Repairer of Reputations" M. P. Shiel, "The House of Sounds" Arthur Machen, "The White People" Algernon Blackwood, "The Willows" Henry James, "The Jolly Corner" Walter de la Mare, "Seaton's Aunt" H. P. Lovecraft, "The Colour Out of Space" "The true weird tale has something more than a secret murder, bloody bones, or a sheeted form clanking chains. An atmosphere of breathless and unexplainable dread of outer, unknown forces must be present; a hint of that most terrible conception of the human brain—a malign and particular suspension or defeat of those fixed laws of Nature which are our only safeguard against the assaults of chaos and the daemons of unplumbed space."—H. P. Lovecraft

In today's new economy—in which "good" jobs are typically knowledge or technology based—many well-educated and culturally savvy young people are instead choosing to pursue traditionally low-status manual labor occupations as careers. *Masters of Craft* looks at the renaissance of four such trades: bartending, distilling, barbering, and butchering. In this engaging book, Richard Ocejo takes you into the lives and workplaces of these people to examine how they are transforming once-undesirable jobs into "cool" and highly specialized upscale occupations. He shows how they find meaning in these jobs by enacting a set of "cultural repertoires," resulting in a new form of elite taste-making. Focusing on cocktail bartenders, craft distillers, upscale men's barbers, and whole-animal butcher shop workers in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and upstate New York, *Masters of Craft* provides new insights into the stratification of taste, the spread of gentrification, and the evolving labor market in today's postindustrial city. This Bram Stoker Award-winning collection is "certain to stick in your mind long after you've turned the last page" (St. Louis Post-Dispatch).

Includes "Big Momma," a finalist for the International Thriller Writers Award for Best Short Story Here are six of Joyce Carol Oates's most "frightening—and deeply disturbing—short stories" (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette). In the titular story, a boy becomes obsessed with his cousin's doll after her tragic death. As he grows older, he begins to collect "found dolls" from surrounding neighborhoods . . . each with its own sinister significance. In "Gun Accident," a teenage girl is delighted to house-sit for her favorite teacher, until an intruder forces his way inside—changing more than one life forever. The collection closes with the taut tale of a mystery bookstore owner whose designs on a rare bookshop in scenic New Hampshire devolve into a menacing game with real-life consequences. "At the heart of each story is a predator-prey relationship, and what makes them so terrifying is that most of us can easily picture ourselves as the prey, at least at some time during our lives" (Minneapolis Star-Tribune). "Everything she writes, in whatever genre, has an air of dread, because she deals in vulnerabilities and inevitabilities, in the desperate needs that drive people . . . to their fates. A sense of helplessness is the essence of horror, and Oates conveys that feeling as well as any writer around." —Terrence Rafferty, *The New York Times Book Review* "One of the stranger parts of the human condition may be our deep fascination, and at times troubling exploration, of the darker aspects of our nature . . . No other author explores the ugly, and at times, blazingly unapologetic underbelly of these impulses quite like Joyce Carol Oates in *The Doll-Master*." —Pittsburgh Post-Gazette "In her new collection . . . [Oates] relishes moments of gothic melodrama, while rooting them firmly in grindingly ordinary American lives." —*The Guardian* "Oates convincingly demonstrates her mastery of the macabre with this superlative story collection . . . This devil's half-dozen of dread and suspense is a must read." —*Publishers Weekly*, starred review Sinister sorcery. Gallows humor. A queer romance so glorious it could be right out of fae legend itself. Master of One is

a fantasy unlike any other. Rags the thief has never met a pocket he couldn't pick, but when he's captured by a sorcerer with world-ending plans, he realizes even he is in over his head. Forced to use his finely honed skills to nab pieces of an ancient fae relic, Rags is stunned to discover that those "relics" just happen to be people: A distractingly handsome Fae prince, A too-honorable Queensguard deserter, A scrappy daughter of a disgraced noble family, A deceptively sweet-natured prince, A bona fide member of the Resistance, And him. Rags. They may all be captives in the sorcerer's terrible scheme, but that won't stop them from fighting back. And, sure, six unexpected allies against one wicked enemy doesn't make for generous odds, but lucky for him, Rag's not generous—he's smart. And he has a plan that just might get them out of this alive. With the heist and intrigue of *Six of Crows* and the dark fairy tale feel of *The Cruel Prince*, this young adult fantasy debut will have readers rooting for a pair of reluctant heroes as they take on a world-ending fae prophecy, a malicious royal plot, and, most dangerously of all, their feelings for each other.

A lively collection of folk tales and Buddhist teaching stories from four noted premodern Japanese Zen masters: Taigu Sôchiku (1584-1669), Sengai Gibon (1750-1831), Hakuin Ekaku (1686-1769), and Taigu Ryôkan (1758-1831). *Zen Master Tales* collects never before translated stories of four prominent Zen masters from the Edo period of Japanese history (1603-1868). Drawn from an era that saw the "democratization" of Japanese Zen, these stories paint a picture of robust, funny, and poignant engagement between Zen luminaries and the emergent chonin or "townsperson" culture of early modern Japan. Here we find Zen monks engaging with samurai, merchants, housewives, entertainers, and farmers. These masters affirmed that the essentials of Zen practice—zazen, koan study, even enlightenment—could be conveyed to all members of Japanese society in ordinary speech, including even comic verse and work songs. Against the backdrop of this rich tableau, Zen Master

Tales serves not only as a text for Zen students but also as a wide-ranging window onto the fascinating literary, material, and social history of Edo Japan. In his introduction, translator Peter Haskell explains the history of Zen “stories” from the tradition’s Golden Age in China through the compilation of the classic koan collections and on to the era from which the stories in Zen Master Tales are drawn. What was true of the Chinese tradition, he writes—“its focus on the individual’s ordinary activity as the function, the manifestation of the absolute”—continued in the Japanese context. “Most of these Japanese stories, however unabashedly humorous and at times crude, impart something of the character of the Zen masters involved, whose attainment must be plainly manifest in even the most humble and unlikely of situations.”

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