



The Innswich Horror

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The sickest writer in horror takes on the Cthulhu Mythos In July, 1939, antiquarian and H.P. Lovecraft aficionado, Foster Morley, takes a scenic bus tour through the wilds of northern Massachusetts. He wants to go where Lovecraft went, and to see what Lovecraft saw, to further distill his understanding of history's most impacting horror fantasist. When he happens upon the curious, secluded waterfront prefect known as Innswich Point-not to be found on any map-he assumes the curiosity of the name is mere coincidence, but in less than twenty-four hours he'll learn that he couldn't be more mistaken. Deeper and deeper, then, Morley delves into the queer town's dark mystique. Has his imagination run rampant, or are there far too many similarities between this furtive fishing village and the fictional town of Lovecraft's masterpiece, *The Shadow Over Innsmouth*? Could it be possible that Lovecraft himself actually visited this town before his death in 1937? Join splatter king Edward Lee for a private tour of Innswich Point - a town founded on perversion, torture, and abominations from the sea.

The Innswich Horror Details

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Author : Edward Lee

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From Reader Review The Innswich Horror for online ebook

Rachel says

Such a strange book. Surprisingly quick read, given the intense vocab.

Chuck Rios says

THE INNSWICH HORROR by Edward Lee

The INNSWICH HORROR by Edward Lee is part of a series of books dedicated to the memory of the late, the great, H. P. Lovecraft.

In this series, so far, we have; Trolley 1852, The Haunter of the Threshold, The Dunwich Romance, Pages Torn From A Travel Journal and this one, The Innswich Horror.

A side note here: Trolley 1852, Haunter of the Threshold and Innswich Horror are available from Deadite press. Pages Torn from a Travel Journal and The Dunwich Romance are sold as Limited edition hardbacks from Darkfuse.com. I can't wait to get a hold of the last two, I hope they get released in PB format or digital. If anyone knows anything, PLEASE let me know!

In this story, a rich man from Providence, RI, named Foster Morley, re-traces the steps of his favorite author of all time... H. P. Lovecraft.

Morey is utterly infatuated with anything and everything about H. P. Lovecraft. He even calls him "The Master."

Lovecraft is Foster Morley's hobby; Finding out where he walked, where he ate, slept, etc. but as Morley is on a scenic bus trip through Massachusetts, he stops at the town of Innswich Port; a fishing waterfront that strongly resembles Morley's favorite book of all time, The Shadow Over Innsmouth! (As with all fan fiction, I recommend you go back and re-read this fine classic before reading Lee's take.)

The port town is very strange in its similarities to Lovecraft's book (As Morley soon finds out, some characters and places are named after real life residence and locations, only with their names slightly altered) and as Foster uncovers the truth about Lovecraft, Innswich Port and the terrifying secrets it holds underground, his life hangs in the balance and there is NO going back.

The Innswich Horror is not written in Lee's splatter punk style so if you're looking for it or if you want to read that stuff I recommend Mangled Meat or his City Infernal series. Now I am not saying that there isn't any deprived violence, mongoloid sex and unsettling scenes in this book because they are in there, just toned down more. It's an excellent book for someone who is new to Lee's work so if you have never read him, this would be a great place to start.

Actually, Innswich Horror is written more like a suspenseful thriller. There is a good cast of characters and the plot kept me guessing and engaged till the end. As with most of Edward Lee's work, I couldn't put the book down. It's nice too, in that it's a short work of novella length and easily read in an hour or two.

It was very well written and Lee captures Lovecraft's style and taste for Providence in a truly different and

unique way.

It's a must read for all Lovecraft and Lee fan's. It's dark, creepy fun so what are you waiting for??? Get your copy today and devour The Innswich Horror before it devours you!

Sorben says

Foster Morley ist begeisterter Lovecraft Fan. Er begibt sich 1939 auf eine Reise durch Massachusetts auf der Suche nach den Orten, die seinem geliebten Autoren Inspiration boten. Dabei stößt er auf den nirgends verzeichneten Ort Olmstead. Sofort verbindet er den Namen der Stadt mit dem Erzähler aus der Geschichte Schatten über Innsmouth und bleibt einige Tage für Erkundungen an diesem Ort. Dabei stellt er Augenscheinlich keine Gemeinsamkeiten zum fiktiven Innsmouth fest: Olmstead geht es gut, die Regierung hat viel Geld für die Sanierung des alten Fischerortes bereitgestellt, die Fischerei läuft überdies gut und gehört zu einem wichtigen überregionalen Wirtschaftsfaktor und der Bevölkerung der sauberen Küstenstadt scheint es ebenfalls gut zu gehen, er trifft auf freundliche Menschen... vorwiegend schwangere Frauen. Ist dieser Ort tatsächlich die Vorlage für Schatten über Innsmouth? Die Antwort liegt wortwörtlich unter der Oberfläche!

Edward Lee beschreitet in seinem Roman Innswich Horror einen sehr schönen Weg, denn die ersten Seiten könnten ein Reisebericht durch das Lovecraft Country, also ein Teil Neuenglands sein. Was wäre für einen Fan Lovecrafts interessanter? Wir befinden uns aber alsbald mit Foster Morley am Beginn seines Abenteuers und langsam steigt die Spannung. Anfangs wird nur die überdurchschnittliche Zahl schwangerer Frauen herausgestellt, die der Protagonist aber mit staatlichen Initiativen und der gleichen zu erklären versucht. Bei weiteren Nachforschungen stößt er auf den ehemaligen Fotografen und Zuhälter Cyrus Zalen, dieser heruntergekommene Mann, erklärt ihm dann, was in diesem Dorf wirklich passiert: Lovecraft nahm das alte Olmstead tatsächlich als Grundlage für seine Geschichte, die Wahrheit fände Foster in einem Tunnelsystem an der Küste.

Ich will nicht weiter spoilern, allerdings bleibt die Geschichte etwas flau. Das liegt nicht daran, dass alles vorhersehbar ist, es ist eher der Horror, der fehlt. Gruselig wird es zu keinem Zeitpunkt, an einigen Stellen könnte vielleicht etwas Ekel aufkommen.

Was allerdings ziemlich gut war, war das Ende. Die letzte Wendung rang mir ein Lächeln ab, unvorhersehbar und etwas pulpig.

Die größte Schwäche meiner Meinung nach, sind die Hauptfiguren. Zum einen Foster Morley, ein reicher Schnösel, naiv und kantenlos. Selten habe ich das Bedürfnis eine Hauptfigur sterben zu sehen (natürlich nur in Horror Büchern o.ä.), er gehört aber dazu. Beispielhaft sei eine Szene geschildert, in der sich ein Eis kauft. Es kostet 5 Cent aber er bezahlt mit 5 \$, der Rest ist Trinkgeld. Er schmeißt mit seinem Geld nur so um sich, weil er sich als Retter sieht. Natürlich geht es ihm nur darum, die wirtschaftliche Lage der Verkäuferin zu verbessern, nebenbei hat er sich aber auch in sie verkuckt und träumt davon mit ihr zusammen bis an ihr Ende in einem großen Haus zu leben. Damit wird seine Persönlichkeit klar, er ist ein Heuchler. Die Erwähnung an anderer Stelle, dass er die Schriften von Marx kenne, er aber gleichzeitig einen heruntergekommenen Mann (Zalen) auf Grund seiner Lebensumstände verurteilt und mit ihm um ein paar Dollar feilscht, lässt mich glauben, dass er keine Ahnung von der wirklichen Welt hat. Solche Episoden tauchen immer mal wieder auf. Ihn treiben keine inneren Zwänge oder äußere Umstände an, einzig die Begeisterung für Lovecraft weicht einer gesteigerten Hingabe zu der Frau seiner Begierde. Aber nichts wird vertieft oder führt zu einer interessanten Wendung der Geschichte. Sollte Edward Lee diesen Charakter so angelegt haben, dann ziehe ich meinen Hut. Denn auch wenn Foster blass und konsistenzlos ist, weckt seine

Beschreibung doch tiefe Gefühle in mir.

Die Geschichte ist eher mäßig, der Hauptcharakter könnte kantiger sein, warum also habe ich das Buch zu ende gelesen? Die Geschichte ist nicht schlecht, man sollte aber keinen Schauer auf dem Rücken erwarten, auch Forster Morley ist nicht einer der besten Sympathieträger aber Edward Lee schnürt hier ein solides Gesamtpaket.

PsypherPunk says

There are enough instances where the author proves himself capable of evoking the right atmosphere. However, he seems intent on sabotaging it, punctuating everything with something base and/or repugnant. There's no *fear of the unknown* here. Rather, revulsion at the all-too-familiar.

Henrietta says

I'm not sure what I just read or how I feel about it :| More disturbing than horror.

Matt Parsons says

If your fond of HP Lovecraft and have ever read other works by Edward Lee, your be particularly pleased with this book. It was just under 200 pages but I enjoyed it greatly and finshed it in just over a day. This story follows a fictional account of a HP Lovecraft enthusiast who while traveling in Massachusets discovers a town errily suggestive of the haunted fishing port town of Innsmouth from Lovecrafts story. This story is set in the 30's and is one of the better Edward Lee tales I've read. As always there is an element of dark perverse horror in the tale, but we only peek at it and hear undertones of it and it is done rather tastefully in degrees where it fits aptly within the story.

I highly recommend this to readers of Lovecraft. Mr. Lee is clearly fond of the mythos subject matter and did a commendable job on the story.

Steve Wynne says

Fantastic little read! A perfectly Lovecraft pastiche.

Thaydra says

Guy who's ~~fascinated~~ obsessed with H.P. Lovecraft decides to follow the steps of his hero, and finds a small town that fashioned the town from Guy's favorite Lovecraft novel- Shadow Over Innsmouth.

He decides to stay a few days, and realizes just how closely the town in the book resembles the town he is in. The longer he stays, the more he realizes just how similar they are.

A little splatter, a little love story, a little horror. Great beach read.

Ricky says

Enjoyable for fans of Lovecraft, but falls a bit in the climax.

David Agranoff says

The Innswich Horror by Edward Lee

165 pages

Deadite press

Ed Lee is know for his very modern, very splatterpunk influenced extreme horror, and while we share the same publisher I have not always been a fan of his work. I liked Flesh Gothic which reminded me of a more extreme Eyes wide shut. It was not until I read his recent stab at the Lovecraftian mythos the Innswich horror.

If you are a fan of the classic Lovecraft Novella - the Shadow over Innsmouth just stop reading this review. Just trust me and pick up this book. I think of it as a sequel or companion piece. Lee not as known for Mythos fiction like CJ Henderson or Brian Lumley, but I would say Lee has created as strong an entry to the mythos cannon. Some of those same writers who have devoted entire careers to Playing in Lovecraft's sandbox.

The story follows Foster Morley a Lovecraft devotee who traces Lovecraft's path and research and finds a city and location similar to the events in the Lovecraft story. Lee builds the mystery and suspense perfectly and to me this is his best work to date. Mythos writing is as tired and over done as gothic vampire romance, so I have to hand it Lee who knocked this mythos novel out of the park. Lovecraft fans will enjoy this work, and it should be in your collection.

Aurumora says

Eins sehr gut geführtes Buch mit toller Atmosphäre bis kurz vor das Ende. Das Ende ist leider leicht abgelöst vom sonstigen Buch. Es passt irgendwie nicht recht daran. Es ist als hätte er diesen schlechten Horrorfilm gesehen über Dagon, den ich letzten gesehen habe, um daraus ein Ende zu basteln. Jedoch bin ich bis kurz 10 Seiten vor Schluss sehr zufrieden mit dem Buch.

Man bekommt ein leicht altertümliches gemütliches Feeling, das regelmäßig von ein paar Kleinigkeiten gestört wird. Es passt sich dort perfekt in den schleichenden Horror hinein. Die Charaktere sind super gezeichnet besonders Zalen. Er ist für mich der realistischste von allen. Also man kann wirklich viel gutes über dieses Buch sagen.

PS: Das Cover kommt eigentlich nie so als Bild vor in Buch, ist aber trotzdem cool gezeichnet. Vielleicht kann man es eher als Metapher bezeichnen.

Chris says

Known to most ardent of Edward Lee readers, Lee cites HP Lovecraft as a major influence and has since written a number of stories centered around Lovecraft--The Senary (with a more fleshed-out version soon to be published as Lucifer's Lottery), Trolley 1852, The Haunter of the Threshold--and with The Innswich Horror, Lee smacks a terrific homerun. Set in the 1939, this novella follows wealthy Foster Morley as he traverses the New England seaside fishing village of Innswich, following in the footsteps of his literary idol, Lovecraft. Innswich, as it turns out, was the model for the fictional town of Innsmouth in his tale, The Shadow Over Innsmouth. But as Morley soon discovers, the line between fiction and reality is very thin, indeed, and what Lovecraft wrote about was more real than he could have ever imagined.

Defly written, there's plenty here to satisfy hardcore Lee fans, but what most impressed me was how well Lee wrote this novella from the POV of a man of the late 1930's, wealthy and well-educated, and his use of language was skilled and believable. Fans of Lovecraft should, of course, add this to their library, as well as Lee's previously-mentioned HPL-inspired novels. Highly recommended!

Monster says

Edward Lee is known for his very modern, very splatterpunk-influenced, extreme horror. I have not always been a huge fan of his work, although I liked Flesh Gothic, which reminded me of a more extreme Eyes Wide Shut. However, I can say that I was very impressed with his recent take on the Lovecraftian mythos, the Innswich Horror.

If you are a fan of the classic Lovecraft novella The Shadow Over Innsmouth just stop reading this review. Just trust me and pick up this book. I think of it as a sequel or companion piece. Lee is not as known for mythos fiction as C.J. Henderson or Brian Lumley, but I would say Lee has created as strong an entry to the mythos cannon. Some writers have devoted entire careers to playing in Lovecraft's sandbox, but here in this short, quick volume, Lee shows a deep understanding of Lovecraft and his work.

The story follows Foster Morley, a Lovecraft devotee who traces Lovecraft's path and research and finds a city and location similar to the events in the Lovecraft story. Lee builds the mystery and suspense perfectly, and to me this is his best work to date. Mythos writing is as tired and overdone as gothic vampire romance, but Lee knocked this mythos novel out of the park. Lovecraft fans will enjoy this work, and it should be in your collection.

Contains:

Reviewed by: David Agranoff

Jonathan A. says

I wasn't sure what to expect from an Edward Lee / HP Lovecraft story. I've not read any of Edward Lee's more famous works and only had their reputation to go on. While this book does have some genuine disgusting or splatter-y elements i don't get the feeling that the level of gore here is the same as his usual

level. For that, I commend him. At least in this story I think Mr. Lee restrains himself while adding his own unique twist on the story itself. The only thing that annoyed me about the story was the subplot with the character Mary. I just didn't like it. It was just one more thing happening that distracted from the horror of the story itself. There was really no good reason for it to be there. I know the subplot gave motivation etc to parts of the story but I personally don't think it was needed. All that same motivation would have existed without the introduction of the extra baggage this person brings along with them. (And as a side note: we're supposed to believe that, except for the possibly fish-hybrid sired incest baby in her belly, everything is just fine. She has no lasting damage after 25+ years of abuse and horror. Just get rid of the stupid character. She isn't needed. She's just an annoying thread for, "oh, wait, we have to go back to do..." whatever.)

Anyway, aside from Mary the rest of the story was quite good and I think most lovecraft fans will like it unless they read lovecraft specifically because he's not super graphic. In that case, you may end up disgusted about 50% of the way through.

Johann Ingi says

Loved it! it's written as a semi sequel to Shadow over innsmouth and it works great.
Full of dread and nice characters.
