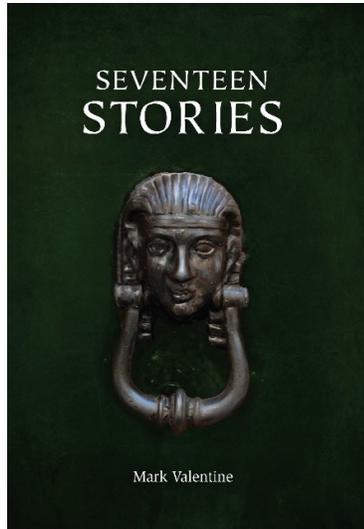


SEVENTEEN STORIES

Mark Valentine



Pub. Date: April 2021

Cover Art: Jason Zerrillo

Retail Price: €20.00

ISBN: 978-1-78380-743-7 (pbk)

222 pages, 129mm x 198mm



MARK VALENTINE is the author of about twenty books, mostly of ghost stories or of essays on book collecting and obscure authors. He also edited *The Far Tower: Stories for W. B. Yeats* and *The Scarlet Soul: Stories for Dorian Gray* for Swan River Press. His fiction collections include *The Uncertainty of All Earthly Things* (Zagava) and, with John Howard, *Secret Europe* and *Inner Europe* (Tartarus). He also edits *Wormwood*, a journal of the literature of the fantastic and supernatural.

Mark Valentine's stories have been described by critic Rick Kleffel as "consistently amazing and inexplicably beautiful". He has been called "A superb writer, among the leading practitioners of classic supernatural fiction" by Michael Dirda of *The Washington Post*, and his work is regularly chosen for year's best and other anthologies.

This new selection offers previously uncollected or hard to find tales in the finest traditions of the strange and fantastic. As well as tributes to the masters of the field, Valentine provides his own original and otherworldly visions, with what *Supernatural Tales* has called "the author's trademark erudition" in "unusual byways of history, folklore and general scholarship". Opening a book will never seem quite the same after encountering this curious volume of *Seventeen Stories* . . .

CONTENTS

- "The Adventure of the Green Skull"
- "Prince Zaleski's Secret"
- "The Return of Kala Persad"
- "The 1909 Proserpine Prize"
- "The Late Post"
- "An Incomplete Apocalypse"
- "The Seer of Trieste"
- "The Axholme Toll"
- "The Fall of the King of Babylon"
- "The Other Salt"
- "The Tontine of Thirteen"
- "Morpheus House"
- "Without Instruments"
- "Fire Companions"
- "The Antioch Imperial"
- "Yogh"
- "You Walk the Pages"

REVIEWS

"Valentine is a writer in love with the great tradition of the weird tale."

– Supernatural Tales

"The world is an ineffably strange place, filled with wonder and hidden or lost things. So are Mark Valentine's stories."

– Ghosts & Scholars

"[Valentine] is attentive to place and to the power of obsession, but one of his true gifts is an ability to suggest modes of artistic expression."

– The Endless Bookshelf