

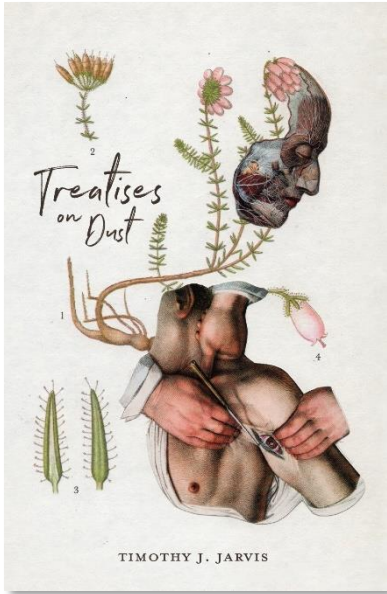
TREATISES ON DUST

Timothy J. Jarvis

“From the small bones of the middle ear can be fashioned a key.”

“For a while now,” Timothy J. Jarvis tells us in the first tale here, “I’ve been collecting texts that hint at strange tales.” He goes on to explain that these “Treatises on Dust” are not ghost stories in the traditional sense. Indeed none of the pieces in the collection could be said to be in the vein of traditional supernatural fiction. They are haunted, not by ghosts, but by an obscure volume of French decadent poetry, a seventeenth-century murder ballad, a bone antenna, and by places where “the membrane is thin”.

They cleave closer to what the literary hermit of Arthur Machen’s *Hieroglyphics* called “ecstasy”. Though perhaps an ecstasy found less in the “withdrawal from the common life and the common consciousness”, than one grubbed up from the murk of that very consciousness.



Pub. Date: July 2023

Cover Art: øjeRum

Retail Price: €40.00 / €20.00

ISBN: 978-1-78380-046-9 (hbk)

ISBN: 978-1-78380-781-9 (pbk)

239 pages, 129mm x 198mm



TIMOTHY J. JARVIS is a writer with an interest in the antic, the weird, and the strange. His cult “last man” novel, *The Wanderer*, was first released in summer 2014 (Perfect Edge Books) and republished in 2022 (Zagava). In 2020, he edited *Uncertainties IV* for Swan River Press. His short fiction has appeared in various venues. He also writes criticism and reviews, and is co-editor of *Faunus*, the journal of the Friends of Arthur Machen.

CONTENTS

- “Under a Certain Old Street Lamp”
- “What the Bones Told Hecate Shrike”
- “We Recognise Our Own”
- “Three Relics”
- “With Scourges, with Flowering Sprigs”
- “Let It Be a Blood Ape on the Prow . . .”
- “Under the Sign of the Black Raven”
- “The Purblind Bards”
- “And Yet Speaketh”
- “The Yellow Book”
- “Day’s Horse Descend”
- “The Song of the Goatsucker”
- “The Pale Moon Shines at Night”
- “To Have a Horse”

REVIEWS

“There is plenty to entertain lovers of weird fiction.”

– Supernatural Tales

“[Jarvis’s] is one of the keenest, most provocative minds I’ve known and the publication of this volume is cause for celebration!”

– John Darnielle

“Jarvis manages a remarkable tightrope act of acknowledging his debt to the Weird tradition while re-energising the mode through the sheer force of his distinctive Vision.”

– Los Angeles Review



Brian J. Showers ■ brian@swanriverpress.ie

www.swanriverpress.ie ■ [@swanriverpress](https://twitter.com/swanriverpress)

THE
SWAN
RIVER
PRESS