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**MARK VALENTINE** is originally from Northampton but now lives in York-shire near the Leeds-Liverpool canal. He likes overgrown gardens, vegan food, second-hand book-shops, stationery shops and village hall flea markets. As well as his fiction, his other books include studies of Arthur Machen and Sarban, and four volumes of essays on book-collecting.

## LOST ESTATES

**Mark Valentine**

The twelve stories in *Lost Estates* offer antiquarian mysteries, book-collecting adventures, and otherworldly encounters. Mark Valentine's amiable scholars and wanderers explore lonely and mysterious landscapes, places of legend, and secret history. Though drawing on the traditions of English supernatural fiction, these stories also strike out into unusual terrain.

Mark Valentine's short stories have been selected for the *Ghosts & Scholars* books edited by Rosemary Pardoe, *Best British Short Stories* edited by Nicholas Royle, *Best New Horror* edited by Stephen Jones, *The Mammoth Books of Ghost Stories* edited by Richard Dalby, and many other anthologies.

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- "A Chess Game at Michaelmas"
- "Worse Things Than Serpents"
- "Fortunes Told: Fresh Samphire"
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- "And maybe the parakeet was correct"
- "Laughter Ever After"
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- "The Understanding of the Signs"
- "Lost Estates"
- "The End of Alpha Street"
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### REVIEWS

*"If you have ever wondered about the boundaries between strange tales and even stranger realities, you will enjoy exploring [Valentine's] frequently familiar yet often unsettling world."*

– Supernatural Tales

*"Valentine [interweaves] the numinous and mysterious into the tapestry of the English landscape and English tradition."*

– Ghosts & Scholars