

The Prodiget Goottenberg EBooc ov The Dunnich Horror, bi H. P. Luvcraft

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DUNNICH HOROR ***

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The Dunnich Horror

bi H. P. LUVCAAFT

"Gorgonz, and Hiadraaz, and Kimeraaz--dire stoerese ov Celeno and the Harpese--ma reprojuce themcelvz in the brane ov superstishon--*but dha wer dhare befoer*. Dha ar traanscripts, tiaps--the arketiaps ar in us, and eternal. Hou els shood the recital ov dhat which we no in a waking cens too be fauls cum too afect us at aul? Iz it dhat we natchuraly conceive terror from such obgects, concidderd in dhare capascity ov beying abel too inflict uppon us boddily injury? O, leest ov aul! *These terrorz ar ov oalder standing. Dha date beyond boddy--or widhout the boddy, dha wood hav bene the same...* Dhat the kiand ov fere here treted iz puerly spirrichuwal--dhat it iz strong in propoershon az it iz obgectles on erth, dhat it predomminaits in the pereyod ov our cinles infancy--ar difficultese the solueshon ov which mite afoerd sum probbabel incite intoo our anty-mundane condishon, and a pepe at leest intoo the shaddoland ov pre-existens."--Charlz Lam: *Witchez and Uther Nite-Feerz*.

1

When a travveler in north central Masachucets taix the rong forc at the juncshon ov the Ailzbury pike just beyond Deenz Cornerz he cumz uppon a loanly and cureyous cuntry. The ground ghets hiyer, and the briyer-borderd stone waulz pres clocer and clocer against the ruts ov the dusty, kerving rode. The trese ov the freeqwent forest belts ceme too larj, and the wiald weedz, brambelz, and graacez atane a

lucshurians not often found in cetteld rejonz. At the same time the plaanted feeldz apere cin'gularly fu and barren; while the sparsly scatterd housez ware a cerprising uniform aspect ov age, sqwaulor, and dilapidaishon. Widhout nowing whi, wun hezsitaitz too aasc direcshonz from the narld, sollitary figguerz spide nou and then on crumbling doersteps or in the sloping, roc-strune meddose. Dhose figguerz ar so cilent and fertive dhat wun feelz sumhou confrunted bi forbidden thhingz, withe which it wood be better too hav nuthhing too doo. When a rise in the rode bringz the mountainz in vu abuv the depe woodz, the feling ov strainj unnesines iz increest. The summits ar too rounded and cimmetrical too ghiv a cens ov cumfort and natchuralnes, and sumtiamz the ski cilowets withe espeshal cleernes the qwere cerkelz ov taul stone pillarz withe which moast ov them ar cround.

Gorgez and raveenz ov problemattical depth intercect the wa, and the crude wooden bridgez aulwase ceme ov jubeyous saifty. When the rode dips agane dhare ar stretchez ov marshland dhat wun instinctiavly disliax, and indede aulmoast feerz at evening when uncene whippoorwilz chatter and the fiarflise cum out in abnormal profuezhon too daans too the raucous, crepily incistent ridhmz ov stridently piping boolfrogz. The thhin, shining line ov the Miscatonnix upper rechez haz an odly serpentlike sugeschon az it windz cloce too the fete ov the doamd hilz amung which it risez.

Az the hilz drau nerer, wun heedz dhare woodded ciadz moer dhan dhare stone-cround tops. Dhose ciadz loome up so darclly and precippitously dhat wun wishez dha wood kepe dhare distans, but dhare iz no rode bi which too escape them. Acros a cuvverd brij wun cese a smaul village huddeld betwene the streme and the vertical slope ov Round Mountane, and wunderz at the cluster ov rotting gambrel ruifs bespeking an erleyer arkitecchural pereyod dhan dhat ov the naboring rejon. It iz not reyashuring too ce, on a clocer glaans, dhat moast ov the housez ar deserted and fauling too ruwin, and dhat the broken-stepeld cherch nou harborz the wun sluvvenly mercantile establishment ov the hamlet.

Wun dredz too trust the tenebrous tunnel ov the brij, yet dhare iz no wa too avoid it. Wuns acros, it iz hard too prevent the impreshon ov a faint, maline odor about the village strete, az ov the mast moald and deca ov cenchurese. It iz aulwase a relefe too ghet clere ov the place, and too follo the narro rode around the bace ov the hilz and acros the levvel cuntry beyond til it rejoinz the Ailzbury pike. Aafterword wun sumtiamz lernz dhat wun haz bene throo Dunnich.

Outciderz vizsit Dunnich az celdom az poscibel, and cins a certane cezon ov horror aul the cianboerdz pointing tooword it hav bene taken doun. The cenery, jujd bi enny ordinary esthhetic cannon, iz moer dhan commonly butifool; yet dhare iz no influx ov artists or summer toorists. Too cenchurese ago, when tauc ov wich-blud, Satan-wership, and strainj forest prezencez wauz not laaft at, it wauz the custom too ghiv rezonz for avoiding the locallity. In our cencibel age--cins the Dunnich horror ov 1928 wauz husht up bi dhose whoo had the tounz and the werldz welfare at hart--pepel shun it widhout nowing exactly whi. Perhaps wun rezon--dho it can not apli too uninformed strain'gerz--iz dhat the natiavz ar nou repellently deccadent, havving gon far along dhat paath ov retrograshon so common in menny Nu In'gland

baqwauterz. Dha hav cum too form a race bi themcelvz, withe the wel-defiand mental and fizensal stigmaataa ov degenneracy and inbreeding. The avverage ov dhare intelligens iz wofooly lo, whialst dhare annalz reke ov overt vishousnes and ov haaf-hidden merderz, incests, and deedz ov aulmoast unnamabel viyolens and pervercity. The oald gentry, representing the too or thre armidgerous fammilese which came from Salem in 1692, hav kept sumwhaut abuv the genneral levvel ov deca; dho menny braanchez ar sunc intoo the sordid poppulance so deeply dhat oonly dhare naimz remane az a ke too the origin dha disgrace. Sum ov the Whitlese and Bishops stil cend dhare eldest sunz too Harvard and Miscatonnic, dho dhose sunz celdom retern too the moaldering gambrel ruifs under which dha and dhare ancestorz wer born.

No wun, even dhose whoo hav the facts concerning the recent horror, can sa just whaut iz the matter withe Dunnich; dho oald ledgendz speke ov unhallode riats and conclaivz ov the Injanz, amidst which dha cauld forbidden shaips ov shaddo out ov the grate rounded hilz, and made wiald orgeyastic praerz dhat wer aancerd bi loud crackinz and rumblingz from the ground belo. In 1747 the Revverend Abijaa Hoadly, nuly cum too the Con'gregaishonal Chersch at Dunnich Village, preecht a memmorabel cermon on the cloce prezsens ov Satan and hizimps, in which he ced:

It must be aloud dhat these Blaasfemese ov an infernal Trane ov Demonz ar Matterz ov too common Nollej too be denide; the kerst Voicez ov *Azzasel* and *Buzrale*, ov *Beyelsebub* and *Beliyal*, beying herd from under Ground bi abuv a Scoer ov creddebil Witnecez nou livving. I micelf did not moer dhan a Fortnite ago cach a verry plane Discoers ov evil Pouwerz in the Hil behiand mi Hous; wharin dhare wer a Ratling and Roling, Groning, Screching, and Hiscing, such az no Thhingz ov this Erth coud rase up, and which must needz hav cum from dhose Caivz dhat oanly blac Madgic can discuvver, and oanly the Divvel unloc.

Mr. Hoadly disapeerd soone aafter delivvering this cermon; but the text, printed in Springfeeld, iz stil extant. Noisez in the hilz continnude too be repoerted from yere too yere, and stil form a puzsel too geyollogists and fihazografferz.

Uther tradishonz tel ov foul odorz nere the hil-crouning cerkelz ov stone pillarz, and ov rushing ary prezsencez too be herd faintly at certane ourz from stated points at the bottom ov the grate raveenz; while stil utherz tri too explane the Devvilz Hop Yard--a bleke, blaasted hilcide whare no tre, shrub, or graas-blade wil gro. Then, too, the natiavz ar mortaly afrade ov the numerous whippoorwilz

which gro vocal on worm niats. It iz voud dhat the berdz ar cicopomps liying in wate for the soalz ov the dying, and dhat dha time dhare ery crise in unison withe the suffererz strugling breth. If dha can cach the fleying sole when it leevz the boddy, dha instantly flutter awa chittering in demoniyac laafter; but if dha fale, dha subcide gradjuwaly intoo a disapointed cilens.

These tailz, ov coers, ar obsolete and ridicculous; becauz dha cum doun from verry oald tiamz. Dunnich iz indede ridicculously oald--oalder bi

far dhan enny ov the comunitese within thherty mialz ov it. South ov the village wun ma stil spi the cellar waulz and chimney ov the ainshent Bishop hous, which wauz bilt befoer 1700; whialst the ruwinz ov the mil at the faulz, bilt in 1806, form the moast moddern pece ov arkitecchure too be cene. Industry did not flurrish here, and the Nianteenth Cenchury factory muivment pruivd short-livd. Oaldest ov aul ar the grate ringz ov ruf-hune stone collumz on the hiltops, but these ar moer generally atribbuted too the Injanz dhan too the cetlerz. Depozsits ov sculz and boanz, found within these cerkelz and around the cizabel tabel-like roc on Centinel Hil, sustane the poppular belefe dhat such spots wer wuns the berreyal-placez ov the Pocumtux; even dho menny ethnollogists, disregarding the abcerd improbability ov such a ththeyory, percist in beleving the remainz Caucaizhan.

2

It wauz in the tounship ov Dunnich, in a larj and partly inhabbited farmhous cet against a hilcide foer mialz from the village and a mile and a haaf from enny uther dwelling, dhat Wilber Whitly wauz born at 5 a. m. on Sunda, the cecond ov Februwary, 1913. This date wauz recauld becauz it wauz Candemas, which pepel in Dunnich cureyously observ under anuther name; and becauz the noizez in the hilz had sounded, and aul the dogz ov the cuntricide had barct percistently, throowout

the nite befoer. Les werthy ov notice wauz the fact dhat the muther wauz wun ov the deccadent Whaitlese, a sumwhaut deformd, unnatractive albeno woomman ov 35, livving withe an aijd and haaf-insane faather about whoome the moast friatfool tailz ov wizardry had bene whisperd in hiz ueth. Lavinyaa Whaitly had no none huzband, but acording too the custom ov the rejon made no atempt too disavou the chiald; concerning the uther cide ov whoose ancestry the cuntry foke mite--and did--specculate az wiadly az dha chose. On the contrary, she ceemd strainjly proud ov the darc, gotish-loocking infant whoo formd such a contraast too her one cicly and pinc-ide albinizm, and wauz herd too mutter menny cureyous proffecese about its unnuezhuwal pouwerz and tremendous fuchure.

Lavinyaa wauz wun whoo wood be apt too mutter such thhingz, for she wauz a lone crechure ghivven too waundering amidst thunderstormz in the hilz and triying too rede the grate odorous boox which her faather had inherrited throo too cenchurese ov Whaitlese, and which wer faast fauling too pecez withe age and werm-hoalz. She had nevver bene too scoole, but wauz fild withe disjointed scraps ov ainshent loer dhat Oald Whaitly had taut her. The remote farmhous had aulwase bene feerd becauz ov Oald Whaitlese reputaishon for blac madgic, and the unnexplaind deth bi viyolens ov Mrs. Whaitly when Lavinyaa wauz twelv yeeرز oald had not helpt too make the place poppular. Isolated amung strainj influwencez, Lavinyaa wauz fond ov wiald and granjose daidreemz and cin'gular ocupaishonz; nor wauz her lezhure much taken up bi hous'hoald caerz in a home from which aul standardz ov order and clenlines had long cins disapeerd.

Dhare wauz a hidjous screming which eccode abuv even the hil noisiez and the dogz barking on the nite Wilber wauz born, but no none doctor

or midwife presided at hiz cumming. Naborz nu nuthhing ov him til a weke aafterword, when Oald Whitly drove hiz sla throo the sno intoo Dunnich Village and discoerst incoherently too the groope ov loun'gerz at Ozbornz genneral stoer. Dhare ceemd too be a chainj in the oald man--an added ellement ov fertiavnes in the clouded brane which sutly traansformd him from an obgect too a subgect ov fere--dho he wauz not wun too be perterbd bi enny common fammily event. Amidst it aul

he shode sum trace ov the pride later notiast in hiz dauter, and whaut he ced ov the chialdz paternity wauz rememberd bi menny ov hiz hererz yeerz aafterword.

"I dunt kere whaut foax thhinc--ef Lavinnese boi looct like hiz paa, he woodnt looc like nothin ye expec. Ye neednt thhinc the oonly foax iz the foax herabouts. Lavinnese red sum, an haz cede sum thhingz the moast o' ye oonly tel abayout. I calclate her man iz az good a huzban az ye kin fiand this cide ov Ailzbury; an ef ye node az much abayout the hilz az I ju, ye woodnt ast no better cherch weddin nor hern. Let me tel ye shuethin--*sum da u foaxl here a chiald o'*

Lavinnese a-callin its faatherz name on the top o' Centinel Hil!"

The oonly personz whoo sau Wilber juring the ferst munth ov hiz life wer oald Secariyaa Whitly, ov the undecade Whitlese, and Erl Soiyerz common-lau wife, Mamese vizsit wauz francly wun ov cureyosity, and her subceqwent tailz did justice too her observaishonz; but Secariyaa came too lede a pare ov Aulderny couz which Oald Whitly had baut ov hiz sun Kertis. This marct the beghinning ov a coers ov cattel-biying on the part ov smaul Wilberz fammily which ended oonly in 1928, when the Dunnich horror came and went; yet at no time did the ramshackel Whitly barn ceme over-crouded withe liavstoc. Dhare came a pereyod when pepel wer cureyous enuf too stele up and count the herd dhat graizd precareyously on the stepe hilcide abuv the oald farmhous, and dha cood nevver fiand moer dhan ten or twelv anemic,

bludles-loocking spescimenz. Evvidently sum blite or distemper, perhaps sprung from the unwhoalsum paaschurage or the diseezd fun'ghi and timberz ov the filthhy barn, cauzd a hevvy mortallity amungst the Whaitly annimalz. Od wuindz or soerz, havving sumthhing ov the aspect ov incizhonz, ceemd too afflict the vizsibel cattel; and wuns or twice juring the erleyer munths certane caulerz fancede dha cood discern cimmilar soerz about the throats ov the gra, unshaven oald man and hiz slatternly, crincly-haerd albeno dauter.

In the spring aafter Wilberz berth Lavinyaa rezhuemd her customary rambelz in the hilz, baring in her mispropoershond armz the sworthy chiald. Public interest in the Whaitlese subcided aafter moast ov the cuntry foke had cene the baby, and no wun botherd too comment on the swift devellopment which dhat nucummer ceemd evvery da too exhibbit. Wilberz groath wauz indede fenommenal, for within thre munths ov hiz berth he had ataind a cise and muscular pouwer not uezhuwaly found in infants under a fool yere ov age. Hiz moashonz and even hiz vocal soundz shode a restraint and delibberaitnes hily peculeyar in an infant, and no wun wauz reyaly unprepaerd when, at cevven munths, he began too wauc unnacisted, withe falteringz which anuther munth wauz sufishent too remoove.

It wauz sumwhaut aafter this time--on Halowene--dhat a grate blase wauz cene at midnite on the top ov Centinel Hil whare the oald tabel-like stone standz amidst its chumulus ov ainshent boanz. Concidderabel tauc wauz started when Cilas Bishop--ov the undecade Bishops--menshond havving cene the boi running sterdily up dhat hil ahed ov hiz muther about an our befoer the blase wauz remarct. Cilas wauz rounding up a stra heffer, but he neerly forgot hiz mishon when he fletingly spide the too figguerz in the dim lite ov hiz lantern. Dha darted aulmoast noizlesly throo the underbrush, and the astonnisht waucher ceemd too thhinc dha wer entiarly unclodhd. Aafterword he cood not be shure

about the boi, whoo ma hav had sum kiand ov a frinjd belt and a pare ov darc blu trunx or trouserz on. Wilber wauz nevver subceqwently cene alive and consmous widhout complete and tiatly buttond atire, the disarainjment or threttend disarainjment ov which aulwase ceemd too fil him withe an'gher and alarm. Hiz contraast withe hiz sqwaulid muther and grandfaather in this respect wauz thaut verry notabel until the horor ov 1928 sugested the moast vallid ov rezonz.

The next Jannuuary goscpis wer mialdly interested in the fact dhat "Lavinnese blac brat" had comenst too tauc, and at the age ov oanly elevven munths. Hiz speche wauz sumwhaut remarcabel boath becauz ov its differens from the ordinary axents ov the rejon, and becauz it displade a fredom from infantile lispig ov which menny children ov thre or foer mite wel be proud. The boi wauz not taucative, yet when he spoke he ceemd too reflect sum elucive ellement wholly unposest bi Dunnich and its dennisenz. The strainjnes did not reside in whaut he ced, or even in the cimpel iddeyomz he uezd; but ceemd vaigly linct withe hiz intonaishon or withe the internal organz dhat projuest the spoken soundz. Hiz faishal aspect, too, wauz remarcabel for its machurity; for dho he shaerd hiz mutherz and grandfaatherz chinlesnes, hiz ferm and precoashously shaip nose united withe the expreshon on hiz larj, darc, aulmoast Latin ise too ghiv him an are ov qwasi-adult'hood and wel-ni preternatchural intelligens. He wauz, houwevver, exedingly ugly despite hiz aperans ov brilleyancy; dhare beying sumthhing aulmoast gotish or animalistic about hiz thhic lips, larj-pord, yellowish skin, coers crinclly hare, and odly elon'gated eerz. He wauz soone disliact even moer decidedly dhan hiz muther and grandcire, and aul con'gecchuerz about him wer spiast withe refferencez too the bigon madgic ov Oald Whitly, and hou the hilz wuns shooc when he shreet the dredfool name ov *Yog-Sothoth* in the midst ov a cerkel ov stoanz withe a grate booc open in hiz armz befoer him. Dogz abhord the boi, and

he wauz aulwase obliajd too take vareyouz defencive mezhuerz against dhare barking mennace.

3

Meenwhile Oald Whitly continnude too bi cattel widhout mezhurably increcing the cise ov hiz herd. He aulso cut timber and began too repara the unuezd parts ov hiz hous--a spaishous, peect-ruift afare whoose rere end wauz berrede entiarly in the rocky hilcide, and whoose thre leest-ruwind ground-floer ruimz had aulwase bene sufishent for himcelf and hiz dauter. Dhare must hav bene prodidjous reservz ov strength in the oald man too enabel him too acumplish so much hard labor; and dho he stil babbeld dementedly at tiamz, hiz carpentry ceemd too sho the efects ov sound calculaishon. It had reyaly begun az soone az Wilber wauz born, when wun ov the menny toole-shedz had bene poot suddenly in order, clapboarded, and fitted withe a stout fresh loc. Nou, in restoering the abandond upper stoery ov the hous, he wauz a no les thurro craaftzman. Hiz mainyaa shode itcelf oanly in hiz tite boerding-up ov aul the windose in the reclaimd cecshon--dho menny declaerd dhat it wauz a crasy thhing too bother withe the reclamaishon at aul. Les inexpliccabel wauz hiz fitting-up ov anuther dounstaerz roome for hiz nu grandson--a roome which cevveral caulerz sau, dho no wun wauz evver admitted too the cloasly-boerded upper stoery. This chaimber he liand withe taul, ferm shelving; along which he began gradjuwaly too arainj, in aparrently caerfool order, aul the rotting ainshent boox and parts ov boox which juring hiz one da had bene heept promiscuwously in od cornerz ov the vareyouz ruimz.

"I made sum uce ov em," he wood sa az he tride too mend a toern blac-letter page withe paist prepaerd on the rusty kitchen stove, "but the boiz fitten too make better uce ov em. Hede orter hev em az wel

sot az he kin for dhare goin too be aul ov hiz larnin."

When Wilber wauz a yere and cevven munths oald--in Ceptember ov 1914--hiz

cise and acumplishments wer aulmoast alarming. He had grone az larj az a chiald ov foer, and wauz a fluwent and increddiably intelligent tauker. He ran frely about the feeldz and hilz, and acumpanede hiz muther on aul her waunderingz. At home he wood poer dilligently over the qwere picchuerz and charts in hiz grandfaatherz boox, while Oald Whitly wood instruct and cattedkise him throo long, husht aafternuinz. Bi this time the restoraishon ov the hous wauz finnisht, and dhose whoo waucht it wunderd whi wun ov the upper windose had bene made intoo a sollid planc doer. It wauz a windo in the rere ov the eest gabel end, cloce against the hil; and no wun cood imadgine whi a cleted wooden runwa wauz bilt up too it from the ground. About the pereyod ov this werx compleeshon pepel notiast dhat the oald toole-hous, tiatly loct and windolesly claborded cins Wilberz berth, had bene abandond agane. The doer swung listlesly open, and when Erl Soiyer wuns stept within aafter a cattel-celling caul on Oald Whitly he wauz qwite discompoazd bi the cin'gular odor he encounterd--such a stench, he averd, az he had nevver befoer smelt in aul hiz life exept nere the Injan cerkelz on the hilz, and which cood not cum from ennithing sane or ov this erth. But then, the hoamz and shedz ov Dunnich foke hav nevver bene remarcabel for olfactory imacculaitnes.

The following munths wer void ov vizsibel events, save dhat everiwun swoer too a slo but stedly increce in the mistereyous hil noisez. On Ma Eve ov 1915 dhare wer tremmorz which even the Ailzbury pepel felt, whialst the following Halowene projuest an underground rumbling qweerly cincroniazd withe bersts ov flame--"them wich Whitlese doowinz"--from the summit ov Centinel Hil. Wilber wauz growing up uncannily, so dhat he looct like a boi ov ten az he enterd hiz foerth yere. He red aviddly bi himself nou; but tauct much les dhan formerly. A cetteld taciternity wauz abzorbing him, and for the ferst

time pepel began too speke specificaly ov the dauning looc ov evil in hiz gotish face. He wood sumtiamz mutter an unfamilleyar jargon, and chaant in bizar ridhmz which child the liscener withe a cens ov unnexplanabel terror. The averzhon displade tooword him bi dogz had nou becum a matter ov wide remarc, and he wauz obliajd too carry a pistol in order too travers the cuntricide in saifty. Hiz ocaizhonal uce ov the weppon did not enhaans hiz popularrity amungst the onerz ov canine garjanz.

The fu caulerz at the hous wood often fiand Lavinyaa alone on the ground floer, while od crise and footsteps rezounded in the boerded-up cecond stoery. She wood nevver tel whaut her faather and the boi wer doowing up dhare, dho wuns she ternd pale and displade an abnormal degry ov fere when a jocose fish-pedler tride the loct doer leding too the staerwa. Dhat pedler toald the stoer loun'gerz at Dunnich Village dhat he thaut he herd a hors stamping on dhat floer abuv. The loun'gerz reflected, ththinking ov the doer and runwa, and ov the cattel dhat so swiftly disapeerd. Then dha shudderd az dha recauld tailz ov Oald Whitlese ueth, and ov the strainj thhingz dhat ar cauld out ov the erth when a boolloc iz sacrificast at the propper time too certane heethen godz. It had for sum time bene notiast dhat dogz had begun too hate and fere the whole Whitly place az viyolently az dha hated and feerd yung Wilber personaly.

In 1917 the wor came, and Sqwire Soiyer Whitly, az chaerman ov the local draaft boerd, had hard werc fianding a qwotaa ov yung Dunnich men fit even too be cent too a devellopment camp. The guvvernment, alarmd at such cianz ov whoalsale rejonal deccadens, cent cevveral officerz and meddical experts too investigate; conducting a cerva which Nu In'gland nuesday rederz ma stil recaul. It wauz the publiscity atending this investigaishon which cet repoerterz on the trac ov the Whitlese, and cauzd the *Boston Globe* and *Arcam Advertiser* too print flamboiyant Sunda stoerese ov yung Wilberz precoashousnes, Oald Whitlese blac

madgic, the shelvz ov strainj boox, the ceeld cecond stoery ov the ainshent farmhous, and the weerdnes ov the whole rejon and its hil noisez. Wilber wauz foer and a haaf then, and looct like a lad ov fiftene. Hiz lip and cheke wer fuzsy withe a coers darc doun, and hiz vois had begun too brake. Erl Soiyer went out too the Whaitly place withe boath cets ov repoerterz and cammeraa men, and cauld dhare atenshon

too the qwere stench which nou ceemd too trickel doun from the ceeld upper spacez. It wauz, he ced, exactly like a smel he had found in the toole-shed abandond when the hous wauz finaly repaerd, and like the faint odorz which he sumtiamz thaut he caut nere the stone cerkelz on the mountainz. Dunnich foke red the stoerese when dha apeerd, and grind over the obveyous mistaix. Dha wunderd, too, whi the riterz made so much ov the fact dhat Oald Whaitly aulwase pade for hiz cattel in goald pecez ov extreemly ainshent date. The Whaitlese had receevd dhare vizsitorz withe il-conceeld distaist, dho dha did not dare coert ferther publiscity bi a viyolent resistans or refuzal too tauc.

4

For a deccade the annalz ov the Whaitlese cinc indistin'gwishably intoo the genneral life ov a morbid comunity uest too dhare qwere wase and hardend too dhare Ma Eve and Aul-Hallo orgese. Twice a yere dha wood lite fiarz on the top ov Centinel Hil, at which tiamz the mountane rumblingz wood reker withe grater and grater viyolens; while at aul cezonz dhare wer strainj and portentous doowingz at the loanly farmhous. In the coers ov time caulerz profest too here soundz in the ceeld upper stoery even when aul the fammily wer dounstaerz, and dha wunderd hou swiftly or hou lin'gheringly a cou or boolloc wauz uezhuwaly sacrificast. Dhare wauz tauc ov a complaint too the Sociyety for the Prevenshon ov Cruwelty too Annimalz; but nuthhing evver came ov

it, cins Dunnich foke ar nevver ancshous too caul the outcide werldz atenshon too themcelvz.

About 1923, when Wilber wauz a boi ov ten whoose miand, vois, statchure, and bearded face gave aul the impreshonz ov machurity, a cecond grate ceje ov carpentry went on at the oald hous. It wauz aul incide the ceeld upper part, and from bits ov discarded lumber pepel concluded dhat the ueth and hiz grandfaather had noct out aul the partishonz and even remuivd the attic floer, leving oanly wun vaast open void betwene the ground stoery and the peect roofe. Dha had toern doun the grate central chimney, too, and fitted the rusty rainj withe a flimsy outcide tin stove-pipe.

In the spring aafter this event Oald Whitly notiast the growing number ov whippoowilz dhat wood cum out ov Coald Spring Glen too cherp under hiz windo at nite. He ceemd too regard the cercumstaans az wun ov grate cignifficans, and toald the loun'gerz at Ozbornz dhat he thaut hiz time had aulmoast cum.

"Dha whiscel gest in chune withe mi breethin nayou," he ced, "an I ghes dhare gittin reddy too kech mi sole. Dha no its a-goin ayout, an dunt calclate too mis it. Ule no, boiz, arter Ime gon, whether dha ghit me er not. Ef dha ju, dhale kepe up a-cin'gin an laffin til brake o' da. Ef dha dunt, dhale kiander qwiyet dayoun like. I expec them an the soalz dha hunts fer hev sum pritty tuf tuscelz sumtiamz."

On Lammas Nite, 1924, Dr. Hoton ov Ailzbury wauz haistily summond bi Wilber Whitly, whoo had lasht hiz wun remaning hors throo the darcnes and tellefoand from Ozbornz in the village. He found Oald Whitly in a verry grave state, withe a carjac acshon and stertorous breathing dhat toald ov an end not far of. The shaiples albeno dauter and odly bearded grandson stood bi the bedcide, whialst from

the vacant abis overhed dhare came a disqwiyeting sugeschon ov ridhmical cerging or lapping, az ov the waivz on sum levvel beche. The doctor, dho, wauz cheefly disterbd bi the chattering nite berdz outcide; a cemingly limmitles lejon ov whippoorwilz dhat cride dhare endles message in repetishonz tiamd diyabollicaly too the whesing gaasps ov the dying man. It wauz uncanny and un'natchural--too much, thaut Dr. Hoton, like the whole ov the rejon he had enterd so reluctantly in respons too the ergent caul.

Tooword 1 oacloc Oald Whaitly gaind conshousnes, and interupted hiz whesing too choke out a fu werdz too hiz grandson.

"Moer space, Willy, moer space soone. U grose--an *dhat* grose faaster. Itl be reddy too sarv ye soone, boi. Open up the gaits too Yog-Sothoth withe the long chaant dhat yele fiand on page 751 *ov the complete edishon*, an *then* poot a mach too the prizzon. Fire from aerth caant bern it nohayo!"

He wauz obveyously qwite mad. Aafter a pauz, juring which the floc ov whippoorwilz outcide ajusted dhare crise too the aulterd tempo while sum indicaishonz ov the strainj hil noisez came from afar of, he added anuther centens or too.

"Fede it reglar, Willy, an miand the qwauntity; but dunt let it gro too faast fer the place, fer ef it busts qworterz or ghits ayout afoer ye openz too Yog-Sothoth, its aul over an no uce. Oonly them from beyont kin make it multipli an werc.... Oonly them, the oald unz az waunts too cum bac...."

But speche gave place too gaasps agane, and Lavinyaa screemd at the wa the whippoorwilz follode the chainj. It wauz the same for moer dhan an our, when the final throty rattel came. Dr. Hoton dru shrunken lidz over the glasing gra ise az the chumult ov berdz faded

imperceptibly too cilens. Lavinyaa sobd, but Wilber oanly chuckeld whialst the hil noizez rumbeld faintly.

"Dha didnt ghit him," he mutterd in hiz hevvy bace vois.

Wilber wauz bi this time a scollar ov reyaly tremendous erudishon in hiz wun-cided wa, and wauz qwiyetly none bi corespondens too menny liabrareyanz in distant placez whare rare and forbidden boox ov oald dase ar kept. He wauz moer and moer hated and dredded around Dunnich becauz

ov certane uethfool disaperancez which suspishon lade vaigly at hiz doer; but wauz aulwase abel too cilens inqwiry throo fere or throo uce ov dhat fund ov oald-time goald which stil, az in hiz grandfaatherz time, went foerth reggularly and increcingly for cattel-biying. He wauz nou tremendously machure ov aspect, and hiz hite, havving reecht the normal adult limmit, ceemd incliand too wax beyond dhat figgure. In 1925, when a scollarly corespondent from Miscatonic Univercity cauld uppon him wun da and departed pale and puzseld, he wauz foolly cix and thre-qworterz fete taul.

Throo aul the yeez Wilber had treted hiz haaf-deformd albena muther withe a growing contempt, finally forbidding her too go too the hilz withe him on Ma Eve and Hallomas; and in 1926 the poor crechure complaind too Mamy Bishop ov beying afrade ov him.

"Dhase moer abayout him az I nose dhan I kin tel ye, Mamy," she ced, "an nayouwadase dhase moer nor whaut I no micelf. I vayou afer Gaud, I dunt no whaut he waunts nor whaut hese a-treyin too ju."

Dhat Halowene the hil noizez sounded louder dhan evver, and fire bernd on Centinel Hil az uezhuwal, but pepel pade moer atenshon too the ridhmical screming ov vaast flox ov un'natchuraly belated whippoorwilz which ceemd too be acembeld nere the unlited Whaitly farmhous. Aafter midnite dhare shril noats berst intoo a kiand ov

pandemoanyac cakinaishon which fild aul the cuntrice, and not until daun did dha finally qwiyet doun. Then dha vannisht, hurrying southward whare dha wer folly a munth overju. Whaut this ment, no wun cood qwite be certane til later. Nun ov the cuntrice ceemd too hav dide--but poor Lavinyaa Whaitly, the twisted albino, wauz nevrer cene agane.

In the summer ov 1927 Wilber repaerd too shedz in the farmyard and began mooving hiz boox and efects out too them. Soone aafterword Erl Soiyer toald the loun'gerz at Ozbornz dhat moer carpentry wauz gowing on in the Whaitly farmhous. Wilber wauz closing aul the doerz and windose on the ground floer, and ceemd too be taking out partishonz az he and hiz grandfaather had dun upstaerz foer yeerz befoer. He wauz livving in wun ov the shedz, and Soiyer thaut he ceemd unnuezhuwaly wurrede and tremmulous. Pepel genneraly suspected him ov nowing sumthing about hiz mutherz disaperans, and verry fu evver aproacht hiz naborhood nou. Hiz hite had increest too moer dhan cevven fete, and shode no cianz ov cecing its devellopment.

5

The following winter braut an event no les strainj dhan Wilberz ferst trip outside the Dunnich rejon. Corespondens withe the Widener Liabrary at Harvard, the Bibleyotec Nashonaal in Parris, the Brittish Museyum, the Univercity ov Bwanos Ares, and the Liabrary ov Miscatonnic

Univercity at Arcam had faild too ghet him the lone ov a booc he desperaitly waunted; so at length he cet out in person, shabby, derty, bearded, and uncuith ov diyalect, too consult the copy at Miscatonnic, which wauz the nerest too him geyogafficaly. Aulmoast ate fete taul, and carreying a chepe nu vales from Ozbornz genneral stoer, this darc and gotish gargoil apeerd wun da in Arcam in qwest ov the

dredded vollume kept under loc and ke at the college liabrary--the
hidjous *Necronommicon* ov the mad Arrab Al'hazred in Olous Wormeyus
Latin
verzhon, az printed in Spane in the Cevvteenths Cenchury. He had
nevver
cene a citty befoer, but had no thaut save too fiand hiz wa too the
univercity groundz; whare, indede, he paast heedlesly bi the grate
white-fangd wauchdog dhat barct withe un'natchural fury and enmity, and
tugd frantically at its stout chane.

Wilber had withe him the priasles but imperfect cobby ov Dr. Dese
In'glish verzhon which hiz grandfaather had beqweedhd him, and uppon
receving axes too the Latin cobby he at wuns began too colate the too
texts withe the ame ov discuvering a certane passage which wood hav
cum on the 751st page ov hiz one defective vollume. This much he cood
not civvily refrane from telling the liabrareyan--the same erudite Henry
Armitage (A. M. Miscatonnic, Ph. D. Prinston, Lit. D. Jonz Hopkinz)
whoo had wuns cauld at the farm, and whoo nou poliatly plide him withe
qweschonz. He wauz loocking, he had too admit, for a kiand ov formulaa
or
incantaishon contaning the friatfool name *Yog-Sothoth*, and it puzseld
him too fiand discreppanese, jueplicaishonz, and ambiguwitesse which
made
the matter ov determinaishon far from esy. Az he copped the formulaa
he finaly chose, Dr. Armitage looct involuntarily over hiz shoalder
at the open pagez; the left-hand wun ov which, in the Latin verzhon,
containd such monstrous threts too the pece and sannity ov the werld.

Nor iz it too be thaut [ran the text az Armitage mentaly
traanzlated it] dhat man iz iather the oaldest or the laast ov erths
maasterz, or dhat the common bulc ov life and substans waux alone.
The Oald Wunz wer, the Oald Wunz ar, and the Oald Wunz shal be. Not
in the spacez we no, but *betwene* them. Dha wauc cerene and

primal, undimenshond and too us uncene. *Yog-Sothoth* nose the gate. *Yog-Sothoth* iz the gate. *Yog-Sothoth* iz the ke and garjan ov the gate. Paast, prezsent, fuchure, aul ar wun in *Yog-Sothoth*. He nose whare the Oald Wunz broke throo ov oald, and whare Dha shal brake throo agane. He nose whare Dha hav trod erths feeldz, and whare Dha stil tred them, and whi no wun can behoald Them az Dha tred. Bi Dhare smel can men sumtiamz no Them nere, but ov Dhare cemblans can no man no, *saving oonly in the fechuerz ov dhose Dha hav begotten on mankiand*; and ov dhose ar dhare menny sorts, differing in liacnes from manz truwest idolon too dhat shape widhout cite or substans which iz *Dha*. Dha wauc uncene and foul in loanly placez whare the Werdz hav bene spoken and the Riats hould throo at dhare Cezonz. The wind gibberz withe Dhare voicez, and the erth mutterz withe Dhare consmousnes. Dha bend the forest and crush the citty, yet ma not forest or citty behoald the hand dhat smiats. Cadath in the coald waist hath none Them, and whaut man nose Cadath? The ice dezsert ov the South and the sunken ialz ov Oashan hoald stoanz wharon Dhare cele iz en'graven, but whoo hath cene the depe frozen citty or the ceeld touwer long garlanded withe cewede and barnakelz? Grate Cthuill'hu iz Dhare cuzsin, yet can he spi Them oonly dimly. *Eyaa Shub-Niggurath!* Az a foulnes shal ye no Them. Dhare hand iz at yor throats, yet ye ce Them not; and Dhare habitaishon iz even wun withe yor garded threshoald. *Yog-Sothoth* iz the ke too the gate, whaerbi the sfeerz mete. Man ruelz nou whare Dha rueld wuns; Dha shal soone rule whare man ruelz nou. Aafter summer iz winter, and aafter winter summer. Dha wate paishent and potent, for here shal Dha rane agane.

Dr. Armitage, asoasheyating whaut he wauz reding withe whaut he had herd
ov Dunnich and its brooding prezsencez, and ov Wilber Whaitly and hiz

dim, hidjous oraa dhat strecht from a jubeyous berth too a cloud ov probbabel matricide, felt a wave ov frite az tan'gibel az a draaft ov the tuimz coald clammines. The bent, gotish giyant befoer him ceemd like the spaun ov anuther plannet or dimenshon; like sumthhing oanly partly ov mankiand, and linct too blac gulfs ov escens and entity dhat strech like titan fantazmz beyond aul sfeerz ov foers and matter, space and time.

Prezsently Wilber raizd hiz hed and began speking in dhat strainj, rezzonant fashon which hinted at sound-projucing organz unlike the run ov mankiandz.

"Mr. Armitage," he ced, "I calclate Ive got too take dhat booc home. Dhase thhingz in it Ive got too tri under sarten condishonz dhat I caant ghit here, an it ud be a mortal cin too let a red-tape rule hoald me up. Let me take it along, cer, an Ile swar dha wunt nobody no the differens. I dunt nede too tel ye Ile take good kere ov it. It waant me dhat poot this De cobby in the shape it iz...."

He stopt az he sau ferm deniyal on the liabrareyanz face, and hiz one gotish fechuerz gru craafy. Armitage, haaf reddy too tel him he mite make a cobby ov whaut parts he neded, thaut suddenly ov the poscibel conceqvencez and chect himcelf. Dhare wauz too much responcebilly in ghivving such a beying the ke too such blasfemous outer sfeerz. Whitly sau hou thhingz stood, and tride too aancer liatly.

"Wal, aul rite, ef ye fele dhat wa abayout it. Maby Harvard wunt be so fuscly az u be." And widhout saying moer he rose and strode out ov the bilding, stooping at eche doerwa.

Armitage herd the savvage yelping ov the grate wauchdog, and studded Whitlese gorillaa-like lope az he crost the bit ov campus vizsibel from the windo. He thaut ov the wiald tailz he had herd, and

recauld the oald Sunda stoerese in the *Advertiser*; these thhingz, and the loer he had pict up from Dunnich rustix and villagerz juring hiz wun vizsit dhare. Uncene thhingz not ov erth--or at leest not ov tri-dimenshonal erth--rusht fetid and horibel throo Nu In'glandz glenz, and brooded obceenly on the mountane tops. Ov this he had long felt certane. Nou he ceemd too cens the cloce prezsens ov sum terribel part ov the intruding horor, and too glimps a hellish advaans in the blac dominyon ov the ainshent and wuns pascive niatmare. He loct awa the *Necronommicon* withe a shudder ov disgust, but the roome stil reect withe an unholy and unnidentifiyabel stench. "Az a foulnes shal ye no them," he qwoted. Yes--the odor wauz the same az dhat which had cickend him at the Whitly farmhous les dhan thre yeerz befoer. He thaut ov Wilber, gotish and omminous, wuns agane, and laaft mockingly at the village rumorz ov hiz parentage.

"Inbreeding?" Armitage mutterd haaf aloud too himcelf. "Grate God, whaut cimpeltonz! Sho them Arthher Mackenz *Grate God Pan* and dhale thhinc it a common Dunnich scandal! But whaut thhing--whaut kerst shaiples influwens on or of this thre-dimenshond erth--wauz Wilber Whitlese faather? Born on Candelmas--nine munths aafter Ma Eve ov 1912, when the tauc about the qwere erth noizez reecht clere too Arcam--whaut wauct on the mountainz dhat Ma Nite? Whaut Ruidmas horor faacend itcelf on the werld in haaf-human flesh and blud?"

Juring the ensuwing weex Dr. Armitage cet about too colect aul poscibel dataa on Wilber Whitly and the formles prezsencez around Dunnich. He got in comunicaishon withe Dr. Hoton ov Ailzbury, whoo had atended Oald Whitly in hiz laast ilnes, and found much too ponder over in the grandfaatherz laast werdz az qwoted bi the fisishan. A vizsit too Dunnich Village faild too bring out much dhat wauz nu; but a cloce cerva ov the *Necronommicon*, in dhose parts which Wilber had saut so avvidly, ceemd too supli nu and terribel cluse too the nachure, methodz, and desiarz ov the strainj evil so vaigly threttening this plannet. Taux

withe cevveral schudents ov arcayic loer in Boston, and letterz too menny utherz elswhare, gave him a growing amaizment which paast sloly throo varede degrese ov alarm too a state ov reyaly acute spirrichuwal fere. Az the summer dru on he felt dimly dhat sumthhing aut too be dun about the lerking terrorz ov the upper Miscatonic vally, and about the monstrous beying none too the human werld az Wilber Whaitly.

6

The Dunnich horror itcelf came betwene Lammas and the eqwinox in 1928, and Dr. Armitage wauz amung dhose whoo witnest its monstrous prolog. He had herd, meenwhile, ov Whaitlese grotesc trip too Caimbrij, and ov hiz frantic efforts too boro or copy from the *Necronommicon* at the Widener Liabrary. Dhose efforts had bene in vane, cins Armitage had ishude warningz ov the kenest intencity too aul liabrareyanz havving charj ov the dreddeed vollume. Wilber had bene shockingly nervous at Caimbrij; ancshous for the booc, yet aulmoast eeqwaly ancshous too ghet home agane, az if he feerd the rezults ov beying awa long.

Erly in August the haaf-expected outcum devellopt, and in the smaul ourz ov the thherd Dr. Armitage wauz awakend suddenly bi the wiald, feers crise ov the savvage wauchdog on the college campus. Depe and terribel, the snarling, haaf-mad groulz and barx continnude; aulwase in mounting vollume, but withe hidjously cignifficant pausez. Then dhare rang out a screme from a wholly different throte--such a screme az rouzd haaf the sleperz ov Arcam and haunted dhare dreemz evver aafterword--such a screme az cood cum from no beying born ov erth, or wholly ov erth.

Armitage hacend intoo sum cloathing and rusht across the strete and laun too the college bildingz, sau dhat utherz wer ahed ov him; and herd the eccose ov a berglar-alarm stil shrilling from the liabrary.

An open window shone black and gaping in the moonlight. What had come had indeed completed its entrance; for the barking and the screaming, now fast fading into a mix of growling and moaning, proceeded unmistakably from within. Some instinct warned Armitage that what was taking place was not a thing for unfortified eyes to see, so he brushed back the crowd with authority as he unlocked the vestibule door. Among the others he saw Professor Wren Rice and Dr. Francis Morgan, men to whom he had told some of his conjectures and misgivings; and these too

he managed to accompany him inside. The inward sounds, except for a watchful, droning whine from the dog, had by this time quite subsided; but Armitage now perceived with a sudden start that a loud chorus of whippoorwills among the shrubbery had commenced a damnably rhythmic piping, as if in unison with the last breath of a dying man.

The building was full of a faint stench which Dr. Armitage knew too well, and the three men rushed across the hall to the small general ledger room when the low whining came. For a second nobody dared to turn on the light; then Armitage summoned up his courage and snapped the switch. When of the three--it is not certain which--shrieked aloud at what sprang before them among disorderly tables and overturned chairs. Professor Rice declared that he wholly lost consciousness for an instant, though he did not stumble or fall.

The thing that lay half-bent on its side in a fetid pool of greenish-yellow color and tarry stickiness was almost nine feet tall, and the dog had torn off all the clothing and some of the skin. It was not quite dead, but twitched silently and spasmodically while its chest heaved in monstrous unison with the mad piping of the expectant whippoorwill outside. Bits of shoe-leather and fragments of apparel were scattered about the room, and just inside the window an empty canvas sack lay where it had evidently been thrown. Near the central desk a revolver had fallen, a dented but undischarged cartridge later explaining why it had not been fired. The thing itself, however,

crowded out aul uther imagez at the time. It wood be trite and not wholly accurate too sa dhat no human pen cood describe it, but wun ma properly sa dhat it cood not be vividly vizhuwaliazd bi enniwun whose ideyaaz ov aspect and contor ar too cloasly bound up withe the common life-formz ov this plannet and ov the thre none dimenshonz. It wauz partly human, beyond a dout, withe verry manlike handz and hed, and the gotish, chinles face had the stamp ov the Whaitlese uppon it. But the torso and lower parts ov the boddy wer teratologicaly fabbulous, so dhat oanly gennerous cloathing cood evver hav enabeld it too wauc on erth unchallenjd or unneraddicated.

Abuv the waist it wauz cemmy-anthropomorfic; dho its chest, where the dogz rending pazs stil rested wauchfooly, had the lethery, reticulated hide ov a crocodile or alligator. The bac wauz pibauld withe yello and blac, and dimly sugested the sqwamous cuvvering ov certane snaix. Belo the waist, dho, it wauz the werst; for here aul human resemblans left of and shere fantasy began. The skin wauz thhicly cuvverd withe coers blac fer, and from the abdomen a scoer ov long grenish-gra tentakelz withe red sucking mouths protruded limply. Dhare arainjment wauz od, and ceemd too follo the cimmetrese ov sum cozmik geyommetry un'none too erth or the solar cistem. On eche ov the hips, depe cet in a kiand ov pinkish, cilleyated orbit, wauz whaut ceemd too

be a rudimentary i; whialst in lu ov a tale dhare depended a kiand ov trunc or feler withe perpel annular markingz, and withe menny evvidencez ov beying an undevellopt mouth or throte. The limz, save for dhare blac fer, rufly resembeld the hiand legz ov prehistoric erths giyant soreyanz; and terminated in ridgy-vaind padz dhat wer niather huivz nor clauz. When the thhing breedhd, its tale and tentakelz ridhmicaly chainjd cullor, az if from sum cerculatory cauz normal too the non-human cide ov its ancestry. In the tentakelz this wauz observabel az a depening ov the grenish tinj, whialst in the tale it wauz mannifest az a yellowish aperans which aulternated withe a cicly grayish-white in the spacez betwene the perpel ringz. Ov genuwine blud dhare wauz

nun; oonly the fetid grenish-yello icor which trickeld along the painted floer beyond the rajus ov the stickines, and left a cureyous disculloraishon behiand it.

Az the prezsens ov the thre men ceemd too rouz the diyng thhing, it began too mumbel widhout terning or rasing its hed. Dr. Armitage made no ritten reccord ov its mouthingz, but acerts confidently dhat nuthhing in In'glish wauz utterd. At ferst the cillabelz defide aul corelaishon withe enny speche ov erth, but tooword the laast dhare came sum disjointed fragments evvidently taken from the *Necronommicon*, dhat monstrous blaasfemy in qwest ov which the thhing had perrisht. Dhose fragments, az Armitage recaulz them, ran sumthhing like "N'gai, n'gha'ghaa, bugg-shoggog, y'hah; Yog-Sothoth, Yog-Sothoth...." Dha traild of intoo nuthhingnes az the whippoorwilz shreect in ridhmical creshendose ov unholy anticipaishon.

Then came a halt in the gaasping, and the dog raizd hiz hed in a long, lugubreyous houl. A chainj came over the yello, gotish face ov the prostrate thhing, and the grate blac ise fel in apaulingly. Outside the windo the shrilling ov the whippoorwilz had suddenly ceest, and abuv the mermerz ov the gathering croud dhare came the sound ov a pannic-struc whuuring and fluttering. Against the moone vaast cloudz ov fethery waucherz rose and raist from cite, frantic at dhat which dha had saut for pra.

Aul at wuns the dog started up abruptly, gave a fritend barc, and leept nervously out the windo bi which it had enterd. A cri rose from the croud, and Dr. Armitage shouted too the men outside dhat no wun must be admitted til the polece or meddical examminer came. He wauz thancfool dhat the windose wer just too hi too permit ov pering in, and dru the darc kertainz caerfooly doun over eche wun. Bi this time too poleesmen had ariavd; and Dr. Morgan, meting them in the

vestibule, wauz erging them for dhare one saix too poastpone entrans too the stench-fild reding-roome til the examminer came and the prostrate thhing cood be cuvverd up.

Meenwhile friatfool chain'gez wer taking place on the floer. Wun nede not describe the *kiand* and *rate* ov shrincage and dicintegraishon dhat okerd befoer the ise ov Dr. Armitage and Professor Rice; but it iz permiscibel too sa dhat, acide from the external aperans ov face and handz, the reyaly human ellements in Wilber Whitly must hav bene verry smaual. When the meddical examminer came, dhare wauz oonly a sticky whitish mas on the painted boerdz, and the monstrous odor had neerly disapeerd. Aparrently Whitly had had no scul or bony skelleton; at leest, in enny tru or stabel cens. He had taken sumwhaut aafter hiz un'none faather.

7

Yet aul this wauz oonly the prolog ov the acchuwal Dunnich horror. Formallitese wer gon throo bi bewilderd ofishalz, abnormal detailz wer july kept from pres and public, and men wer cent too Dunnich and Ailzbury too looc up propperty and notifi enny whoo mite be aerz ov the late Wilber Whitly. Dha found the cuntricide in grate agitaishon, both becauz ov the growing rumblingz beneeth the doamd hilz, and becauz ov the unwoanted stench and the cerging, lapping soundz which came increcingly from the grate empty shel formd bi Whitlese boerded-up farmhous. Erl Soiyer, whoo tended the hors and cattel juring Wilberz abscens, had devellopt a wofooly acute cace ov nervz. The ofishalz deviazd excucez not too enter the noizome boerded place; and wer glad too confine dhare cerva ov the deceests livving qworterz, the nuly mended shedz, too a cin'ghel vizsit. Dha fiold a ponderous repoert at the coert-hous in Ailzbury, and litigaishonz

concerning aership ar ced too be stil in proagres amungst the inumerabel Whaitlese, decade and undecade, ov the upper Miscatonic vally.

An aulmoast interminabel mannuscript in strainj carracterz, ritten in a huge ledger and ajujd a sort ov diyary becauz ov the spacing and the vareyaishonz in inc and penmanship, presented a baffling puzsel too dhose whoo found it on the oald buro which cervd az its onerz desc. Aafter a weke ov debate it wauz cent too Miscatonic Univercity, tooghether withe the deceests colecshon ov strainj boox, for studdy and poscibel traanzlaishon; but even the best lin'gwists soone sau dhat it wauz not liacz too be unriddeld withe ese. No trace ov the ainshent goald withe which Wilber and Oald Whaitly aulwase pade dhare dets haz yet bene discuvverd.

It wauz in the darc ov Ceptember nianth dhat the horror broke looce. The hil noisez had bene verry pronounst juring the evening, and dogz barct frantically aul nite. Erly riserz on the tenth notiast a peculeyar stench in the are. About 7 oacloc Luthher Broun, the hiard boi at Jorj Corese, betwene Coald Spring Glen and the village, rusht frenseedly bac from hiz morning trip too Ten-Aker Meddo withe the couz. He wauz aulmoast convulst withe frite az he stumbeld intoo the kitchen; and in the yard outcide the no les fritend herd wer pauwing and lowing pittifooly, havving follode the boi bac in the pannic dha shaerd withe him. Betwene gaasps Luthher tride too stammer out hiz tale too Mrs. Cory.

"Up dhar in the rud beyont the glen, Mis Cory--dhase shuethin ben dhar! It smelz like thunder, an aul the booshez an littel trese iz poosht bac from the rud like dhade a hayous ben muivd along ov it. An dhat aint the wust, nuther. Dhase *prints* in the rud, Mis Cory--grate rayound prints az big az barrel-hedz, aul sunc dayoun depe

like a ellefant had ben along, *oanly dhase a cite moer nor foer fete cood make*. I looct at wun or too afoer I run, an I ce evvery wun wauz cuvverd withe lianz spredin ayout from wun place, like az if big paalm-lefe fanz--twict or thre tiamz az big az enny dha iz--hed ov ben payounded dayoun intoo the rud. An the smel wauz aufool, like whaut it iz arayound Wizzard Whitlese ol hayous...."

Here he faulterd, and ceemd too shivver afresh withe the frite dhat had cent him fliying home. Mrs. Cory, unnabel too extract moer informaishon, began tellefoning the naborz; dhus starting on its roundz the overchure ov pannic dhat herralded the major terrorz. When she got Sally Soiyer, houskeper at Ceth Bishops, the nerest place too Whitlese, it became her tern too liscen insted ov traanzmit; for Sallese boi Chauncy, whoo slept poorly, had bene up on the hil tooword Whitlese, and had dasht bac in terror aafter wun looc at the place, and at the paaschurage whare Mr. Bishops couz had bene left out aul nite.

"Yes, Mis Cory," came Sallese tremmulous vois over the party wire, "Chancy he just cum bac a-poast-in, and coodnt haf tauc fer bene scaert! He cez Ol Whitlese hayous iz aul blode up, withe the timberz scatterd rayound like dhade ben dinamite incide; oanly the bottom floer aint throo, but iz aul cuvverd withe a kiand o' tarlike stuf dhat smelz aufool an drips dayoun offen the agez ontoo the grayoun whar the cide timberz iz blode awa. An dhase aufool kiander marx in the yard, tu--grate rayound marx biggher rayound dhan a hogz'hed, an aul sticky withe stuf like iz on the blode-up hayous. Chancy he cez dha leedz of intoo the medderz, whar a grate swauth widern a barn iz matted dayoun, an aul the stun waulz tumbeld evvery which wa wharevver it gose.

"An he cez, cez he, Mis Cory, az hayo he sot too looc fer Ceths cayouz, frited ez he wauz; an fayound em in the upper paaschure ni the

Devvilz Hop Yard in an afool shape. Haf on emz clene gon, an ni haf o' them dhats left iz suct moast dri o' blud, withe soerz on em like dhase ben on Whaitlese cattel evver cenct Lavinnese blac brat wauz born. Ceth hese gon ayout nayou too looc at em, dho Ile vayou he wunt kere ter ghit verry ni Wizzard Whaitlese! Chancy didnt looc keerfool ter ce whar the big matted-dayoun swauth led arter it lef the paaschurage, but he cez he thhinx it pinted toowordz the glen rud too the village.

"I tel ye, Mis Cory, dhase shuethin abraud az hadnt orter be abraud, an I fer wun thhinc dhat blac Wilber Whaitly, az cum too the bad eend he dezarvd, iz at the bottom ov the bredin ov it. He waant aul human hiscelf, I aulus cez too evveriboddy; an I thhinc he an Ol Whaitly must a raizd shuethin in dhat dhare naild-up hayous az aint even so human az he wauz. Dhase aulus ben uncene thhingz arayound Dunnich--livin thhingz--az aint human an aint good fer human foax.

"The grayoun wauz atalkin las nite, an toowordz mornin Chancy he heerd the whippoowilz so layoud in Col Spring Glen he coodnt slepe nun. Then he thaut he heerd anuther faintlike sayound over toowordz Wizzard Whaitlese--a kiander rippin or charin o' wood, like sum big box or crate wauz bene opend fer of. Whaut withe this an dhat, he didnt ghit too slepe at aul til sunnup, an no sooner wauz he up this mornin, but hese got too go over too Whaitlese an ce whauts the matter. He ce enuf, I tel ye, Mis Cory! This dunt mene no good, an I thhinc az aul the men-foax aut too ghit up a party an doo shuethin. I no shuethin afoolz abayout, an fele mi time iz ni, dho oanly Gaud nose gest whaut it iz.

"Did yor Luthher take accayount o' whar them big trax led tu? No? Wal, Mis Cory, ef dha wauz on the glen rud this cide o' the glen, an aint got too yor hayous yet, I calclate dha must go intoo the glen itcelf. Dha wood doo dhat. I aulus cez Col Spring Glen aint no helthhy nor decent place. The whippoowilz an fiarflise dhare nevver

did act like dha wauz creyaterz o' Gaud, an dhase them az cez ye kin here strainj thhingz a-rushin an a-talkin in the are dayoun dhar ef ye stand in the rite place, atwene the roc faulz an Baerz Den."

* * * * *

Bi dhat noone folly thre-qworterz ov the men and boiz ov Dunnich wer trooping over the roadz and meddose betwene the nu-made Whaitly ruwinz

and Coald Spring Glen; exammining in horror the vaast, monstrous prints, the maimd Bishop cattel, the strainj, noizome rec ov the farmhous, and the bruezd, matted vegetaishon ov the feeldz and rode-ciadz.

Whautevver had berst looce uppon the werld had ashuerdly gon doun intoo

the grate cinnister ravene; for aul the trese on the banx wer bent and broken, and a grate avvenu had bene goujd in the prescipice-hanging underbrush. It wauz az dho a hous, launcht bi an avvalaansh, had slid doun throo the tan'gheld groaths ov the aulmoast vertical slope. From belo no sound came, but oonly a distant, undefinabel fetor; and it iz not too be wunderd at dhat the men preferd too sta on the ej and argu, raather dhan decend and beerd the un'none Ciaclopeyan horror in its lare. Thre dogz dhat wer withe the party had barct fureyously at ferst, but ceemd coud and reluctant when nere the glen. Sumwun tellefoand the nuse too the *Ailzbury Traanscript*; but the edditor, acustomd too wiald tailz from Dunnich, did no moer dhan concoct a humorous parragraaf about it; an item soone aafterword reprojuest bi the Asoasheyated Pres.

Dhat nite evveriwun went home, and evvery hous and barn wauz barricaded

az stoutly az poscibel. Needles too sa, no cattel wer aloud too remane in open paaschurage. About 2 in the morning a friatfool stench and the savvage barking ov the dogz awakend the hous'hoald at Elmer Frise,

on the eastern ej ov Coald Spring Glen, and aul agrede dhat dha cood here a sort ov muffeld swishing or lapping sound from sumwhare outcide. Mrs. Fri propoazd tellefoning the naborz, and Elmer wauz about too agry when the noiz ov splintering wood berst in uppon dhare deliberaishonz. It came, aparrently, from the barn; and wauz qwicly follode bi a hidjous screming and stamping amungst the cattel. The dogz slaverd and croucht cloce too the fete ov the fere-numd fammily. Fri lit a lantern throo foers ov habbit, but nu it wood be deth too go out intoo dhat blac farmyard. The children and the wimmen-foke whimperd, kept from screming bi sum obscure, vestidjal instinct ov defens which toald them dhare liavz depended on cilens. At laast the noiz ov the cattel subcided too a pittifool moning, and a grate snapping, crashing, and cracling ensude. The Frise, huddeld tooghether in the citting-roome, did not dare too moove until the laast eccose dide awa far doun in Coald Spring Glen. Then, amidst the dizmal moanz from the stabel and the demoniyac piping ov late whippoowilz in the glen, Celenaa Fri totterd too the tellefone and spred whaut nuse she cood ov the cecond fase ov the horror.

The next da aul the cuntricide wauz in a pannic; and coud, uncomunicative griups came and went whare the feendish thhing had okerd. Too titan swauths ov destrucshon strecht from the glen too the Fri farmyard, monstrous prints cuvverd the bare patchez ov ground, and wun cide ov the oald red barn had compleetly caivd in. Ov the cattel, oonly about a qworter cood be found and identifide. Sum ov these wer in cureyous fragments, and aul dhat cerviavd had too be shot. Erl Soiyer sugested dhat help be aasct from Ailzbury or Arcam, but utherz maintaind it wood be ov no uce. Oald Sebbulon Whaitly, ov a braanch dhat hovverd about haaf-wa betwene soundnes and deccadens, made darcly wiald sugeschonz about riats dhat aut too be practiast on the hiltops. He came ov a line whare tradishon ran strong, and hiz memmorese ov chaantingz in the grate stone cerkelz wer not aultooghether conected withe Wilber and hiz grandfaather.

Darcnes fel uppon a stricken cuntrice too pascive too organise for reyal defens. In a fu cacez cloasly related fammilese wood band tooghether and wauch in the gloome under wun rooffe; but, in genneral dhare

wauz oonly a repetishon ov the barricading ov the nite befoer, and a futile, inefective geschure ov loding muskets and cetting pichforx handily about. Nuthhing, houwevver, okerd exsept sum hil noisez; and when the da came dhare wer menny whoo hoapt dhat the nu horror had gon az swiftly az it had cum. Dhare wer even boald soalz whoo propoazd an ofencive expedishon down in the glen, dho dha did not venchure too cet an acchuwal exaampel too the stil reluctant majority.

When nite came agane the barricading wauz repeted, dho dhare wauz les hudling tooghether ov fammilese. In the morning both the Fri and the Ceth Bishop hous'hoaldz repoerted exiatment amung the dogz and vaghe

soundz and stencchez from afar, while erly exploererz noted withe horror a fresh cet ov the monstrous trax in the rode skerting Centinel Hil.

Az befoer, the ciadz ov the rode shode a brusing indicative ov the blasfemously schupendous bulc ov the horror; whialst the conformaishon ov the trax ceemd too argu a passage in too direcshonz, az if the mooving mountane had cum from Coald Spring Glen and reternd too it along

the same paath. At the bace ov the hil a thherty-foot swauth ov crusht shrubbery and saplingz led steeply upword, and the cekerz gaaspt when dha sau dhat even the moast perpendicular placez did not deflect the inexorabel trale. Whautevver the horror wauz, it cood scale a shere stony clif ov aulmoast complete verticality; and az the investigatorz cliamd around too the hilz summit bi safer ruits dha sau dhat the trale ended--or raather, reverst--dhare.

It wauz here dhat the Whaitlese uest too bild dhare hellish fiarz and chaant dhare hellish ritchuwalz bi the tabel-like stone on Ma Eve and Hallomas. Nou dhat verry stone formd the center ov a vaast space

thrasht around bi the mountanous horror, whialst uppon its sliatly concave cerface wauz a thhic fetid depozsit ov the same taary stickines observd on the floer ov the ruwind Whaitly farmhous when the horror escaipt. Men looct at wun anuther and mutterd. Then dha looct doun the hil. Aparrently the horror had decended bi a roote much the same az dhat ov its acent. Too specculate wauz futile. Rezon, lodgic, and normal ideyaaz ov motivaishon stood confounded. Oonly oald Sebbulon, whoo

wauz not withe the groope, cood hav dun justice too the cichuwaishon or sugested a plausibel explanaishon.

Thherzda nite began much like the utherz, but it ended les happily. The whippoorwilz in the glen had screemd withe such unnuezhuwal percistens dhat menny cood not slepe, and about 3 a. m. aul the party tellefoanz rang tremmulously. Dhose whoo tooc doun dhare receverz herd a frite-mad vois shreke out, "Help, o, mi Gaud!..." and sum thaut a crashing sound follode the braking of ov the exclamaishon. Dhare wauz nuthhing moer. No wun daerd doo ennithhing, and no wun nu

til morning whens the caul came. Then dhose whoo had herd it cauld evveriwun on the line, and found dhat oonly the Frise did not repli. The trueth apeerd an our later, when a haistily acembeld groope ov armd men trujd out too the Fri place at the hed ov the glen. It wauz horibel, yet hardly a cerprise. Dhare wer moer swauths and monstrous prints, but dhare wauz no lon'gher enny hous. It had caivd in like an eg-shel, and amungst the ruwinz nuthhing livving or ded cood be discuvverd--oonly a stench and a taary stickines. The Elmer Frise had bene eraizd from Dunnich.

8

In the meentime a qwiyeter yet even moer spirrichuwaly poinyant fase ov the horror had bene blacly unwinding itself behiand the cloazd doer ov

a shelf-liand roome in Arcam. The cureyous mannuscript reccord or diyary
ov

Wilber Whaitly, delivverd too Miscatonic Univercity for traanzlaishon,
had cauzd much wurry and baffelment among the experts in lan'gwagez
boath ainshent and moddern; its verry alfabet, notwithstanding a genneral
resemblans too the hevvely shaded Arrabic uezd in Mesopotameyaa,
beying

absoluetly un'none too enny avalabel authority. The final concluezhon ov
the lin'gwists wauz dhat the text represented an artifishal alfabet,
ghivving the efect ov a cifer; dho nun ov the uezhuwal methodz ov
criptograffic solueshon ceemd too fernish enny clu, even when aplide
on the baxis ov evvery tung the riter mite concevably hav uezd.

The ainshent boox taken from Whaitlese qworterz, while abzorbingly
interesting and in cevveral cacez prommicig too open up nu and terribel
lianz ov recerch amung filossoferz and men ov ciyens, wer ov no
acistans whautevver in this matter. Wun ov them, a hevvy tome withe
an iarn claasp, wauz in anuther un'none alfabet--this wun ov a verry
different caast, and resembling Sanscrit moer dhan ennithhing els. The
oald ledger wauz at length ghivven wholly intoo the charj ov Dr. Armitage,
boath becauz ov hiz peculeyar interest in the Whaitly matter, and
becauz ov hiz wide lin'gwistic lerning and skil in the mistical
formula ov antiqwity and the Middel Agez.

Armitage had an ideyaa dhat the alfabet mite be sumthhing esoterricaly
uezd bi certane forbidden cults which hav cum down from oald tiamz,
and which hav inherrited menny formz and tradishonz from the wizzardz
ov

the Saracenic werld. Dhat qweschon, houwevver, he did not deme vital;
cins it wood be un'necesary too no the origin ov the cimbolz if,
az he suspected, dha wer uezd az a cifer in a moddern lan'gwage. It
wauz hiz belefe dhat, conciddering the grate amount ov text involvd, the
riter wood scaersly hav wisht the trubbel ov using anuther speche
dhan hiz one, save perhaps in certane speshal formula and incantaishonz.
Acordingly he atact the mannuscript withe the preliminary asumpshon

dhat the bulc ov it wauz in In'glish.

Dr. Armitage nu, from the repeted faluerz ov hiz colleegz, dhat the riddel wauz a depe and complex wun, and dhat no cimpel mode ov solueshon cood merrit even a triyal. Aul throo late August he fortifide himcelf withe the mast loer ov criptografy, drauwing uppon the foollest rezoercez ov hiz one liabrary, and wading nite aafter nite amidst the arcaanaa ov Triathhemeyus *Poligraafeyaa*, Jambateestaa *Portaaz De Fervivis Literarum Notis*, De Vejenaerz *Trata dez Sheferz*, Faulconerz *Criptomenecis Patefactaa*, Davese and Thhicnecez Ateenth Cenchury tretesez, and such faerly moddern authoritese az Blare, von Marten, and Cloobberz *Criptografic*. He intersperst hiz studdy ov the boox withe atax on the mannuscript itcelf, and in time became convinst dhat he had too dele withe wun ov dhose sutlest and moast in'geenyous ov criptogramz, in which menny cepparate lists ov coresponding letterz ar arainjd like the multiplicaishon tabel, and the message bilt up withe arbitrary ke-werdz none oonly too the inisheyated. The oalder authoritese ceemd raather moer helpfool dhan the nuwer wunz, and Armitage concluded dhat the code ov the mannuscript wauz wun ov grate antiqwity, no dout handed down throo a long line ov mystical experrimenterz. Cevveral tiamz he ceemd nere dalite, oonly too be cet bac bi sum unfoercene obstakel. Then, az Ceptember aproacht, the cloudz began too clere. Certane letterz, az uezd in certane parts ov the mannuscript, emerjd deffiniatly and unmistacably; and it became obveyous dhat the text wauz indede in In'glish.

On the evening ov Ceptember cecond the laast major barreyer gave wa, and

Dr. Armitage red for the ferst time a continnuwous passage ov Wilber Whitlese annalz. It wauz in trueth a diyary, az aul had thaut; and it wauz coucht in a stile cleerly showing the mixt ocult erudishon and genneral ilitteracy ov the strainj beying whoo rote it. Aulmoast the

ferst long passage dhat Armitage deciferd, an entry dated November 26, 1916, pruivd hily startling and disqwiyeting. It wauz ritten, he rememberd, bi a chiald ov thre and a haaf whoo looct like a lad ov twelv or thhertene.

Tooda lernd the Aclo for the Sabayoth, [it ran] which did not like, it beying aancerabel from the hil and not from the are. Dhat upstaerz moer ahed ov me dhan I had thaut it wood be, and iz not like too hav much erth brane. Shot Elam Hutchinsez colly Jac when he went too bite me, and Elam cez he wood kil me if he dast. I ghes he woant. Grandfaather kept me saying the D'ho formulaa laast nite, and I thhinc I sau the inner citty at the 2 magnettic poalz. I shal go too dhose poalz when the erth iz cleerd of, if I caant brake throo withe the D'ho-Hnaa formulaa when I comit it. Dha from the are toald me at Sabbat dhat it wil be yeerz befoer I can clere of the erth, and I ghes Grandfaather wil be ded then, so I shal hav too lern aul the an'ghelz ov the plainz and aul the formulaaz betwene the Er and the Nhhngr. Dha from outside wil help, but dha can not take boddy widhout human blud. Dhat upstaerz loox it wil hav the rite caast. I can ce it a littel when I make the Urish cine or blo the pouwer ov Ibn Gasy at it, and it iz nere like them at Ma Eve on the Hil. The uther face ma ware of sum. I wunder hou I shal looc when the erth iz cleerd and dhare ar no erth beyingz on it. He dhat came withe the Aclo Sabayoth ced I ma be transfiguerd, dhare beying much ov outside too werc on.

Morning found Dr. Armitage in a coald swet ov terror and a frensy ov waicfool concentraishon. He had not left the mannuscript aul nite, but sat at hiz tabel under the electric lite terning page aafter page withe shaking handz az faast az he cood decifer the criptic text. He had nervously tellefoand hiz wife he wood not be home, and when she braut him a breccfast from the hous he cood scaersly dispose ov a mouthfool. Aul dhat da he red on, nou and then halted maddeningly az a reyaplicaishon ov the complex ke became nescenary. Lunch and dinner

wer braut him, but he ate oonly the smaulest fracshon ov iather. Tooword the middel ov the next nite he drouzd of in hiz chare, but soone woke out ov a tan'ghel ov niatmaerz aulmoast az hidjous az the trueths and mennacez too manz existens dhat he had uncuvverd.

On the morning ov Ceptember foerth Professor Rice and Dr. Morgan incisted on ceying him for a while, and departed trembling and ashen-gra. Dhat evening he went too bed, but slept oonly fitfooly. Wednzda--the next da--he wauz bac at the mannuscript, and began too take copeyous noats boath from the current cecshonz and from dhose he had aulreddy deciferd. In the smaul ourz ov dhat nite he slept a littel in an esy-chare in hiz office, but wauz at the mannuscript agane befoer daun. Sum time befoer noone hiz fisishan, Dr. Hartwel, cauld too ce him and incisted dhat he cece werc. He refuezd, intimating dhat it wauz ov the moast vital importans for him too complete the reding ov the diyary, and prommicin an explanaishon in ju coers ov time.

Dhat evening, just az twilite fel, he finnisht hiz terribel peruzal and sanc bac exausted. Hiz wife, bringing hiz dinner, found him in a haaf-comatose state; but he wauz conshous enuf too worn her of withe a sharp cri when he sau her ise waunder tooword the noats he had taken. Weecly rising, he gatherd up the scribbeld paperz and ceeld them aul in a grate envelope, which he imejaitly plaist in hiz incide cote pocket. He had sufishent strength too ghet home, but wauz so cleerly in nede ov meddical ade dhat Dr. Hartwel wauz summond at wuns. Az the doctor poot him too bed he cood oonly mutter over and over agane, "*But whaut, in Godz name, can we doo?*"

Dr. Armitage slept, but wauz partly delereyous the next da. He made no explanaishonz too Hartwel, but in hiz caalmer moments spoke ov the imperrative nede ov a long conferens withe Rice and Morgan. Hiz wialder

waunderingz wer verry startling indede, including frantic apeelz dhat sumthhing in a boerded-up farmhous be destroid, and fantastic refferencez too sum plan for the exterpaision ov the entire human race and aul annimal and vedgetabel life from the erth bi sum terribel elder race ov beyingz from anuther dimenshon. He wood shout dhat the werld wauz in dain'ger, cins the Elder Thhingz wisht too strip it and drag it awa from the solar cistem and cozmos ov matter intoo sum uther plane or fase ov entity from which it had wuns faulen, vigintilleyonz ov eyonz ago. At uther tiamz he wood caul for the dredded *Necronommicon* and the *Demonolatreyaa* ov Remijus, in which he ceemd hoopfool ov fianding sum formulaa too chec the perril he cunjuerd up.

"Stop them, stop them!" he wood shout. "Dhose Whaitlese ment too let them in, and the werst ov aul iz left! Tel Rice and Morgan we must doo sumthhing--its a bliand biznes, but I no hou too make the pouder.... It haznt bene fed cins the cecond ov August, when Wilber came here too hiz deth, and at dhat rate...."

But Armitage had a sound fiseke despite hiz cevventy-thre yeerz, and slept of hiz disorder dhat nite widhout develloping enny reyaf fever. He woke late Frida, clere ov hed, dho sober, withe a nauwing fere and tremendous cens ov responcibility. Satterda aafternoone he felt abel too go over too the liabrary and summon Rice and Morgan for a conferens, and the rest ov dhat da and evening the thre men torchuerd dhare brainz in the wialdest speculaishon and the moast desperate debate. Strainj and terribel boox wer draun voluminosly from the stac shelvz and from ceure placez ov stoerage, and diyagramz and formula wer coppede withe feverish haist and in bewildering abundans. Ov skepticizm dhare wauz nun. Aul thre had cene the boddy ov Wilber Whaitly az it la on the floer in a roome ov dhat verry bilding, and aafter dhat not wun ov them cood fele even sliatly incliand too trete the diyary az a madmanz raving.

Opinyonz wer divided az too notifying the Masachucets State Polece, and the neggative finaly wun. Dhare wer thhingz involvd which cimply cood not be beleevd bi dhose whoo had not cene a saampel, az indede wauz

made clere juring certane subceqwent investigaishonz. Late at nite the conferens disbanded widhout havving devellopt a deffinite plan, but aul da Sunda Armitage wauz bizsy comparing formula and mixing kemmicalz obtaind from the college laboratoery. The moer he reflected on the hellish diyary, the moer he wauz incliand too dout the efficacy ov enny matereyal agent in stamping out the entity which Wilber Whitly had left behiand him--the erth-threttening entity which, un'none too him, wauz too berst foerth in a fu ourz and becum the memmorabel Dunnich horror.

Munda wauz a repetishon ov Sunda withe Dr. Armitage, for the taasc in hand reqwiard an infinny ov recerch and experriment. Ferther consultaishonz ov the monstrous diyary braut about vareyous chain'gez ov plan, and he nu dhat even in the end a larj amount ov uncertainty must remane. Bi Chuezda he had a deffinite line ov acshon mapt out, and beleevd he wood tri a trip too Dunnich within a weke. Then, on Wednzda, the grate shoc came. Tuct obscuery awa in a corner ov the *Arcam Advertiser* wauz a faceeshous littel item from the Asoasheyated Pres, telling whaut a reccord-braking monster the buitleg whisky ov Dunnich had raizd up. Armitage, haaf stund, cood oonly tellefone for Rice and Morgan. Far intoo the nite dha discust, and the next da wauz a wherlwind ov preparaishon on the part ov them aul. Armitage nu he wood be medling withe terribel pouwerz, yet sau dhat dhare wauz no uther wa too anul the deper and moer maline medling which utherz had dun befoer him.

Frida morning Armitage, Rice and Morgan set out by motor for Dunnich, arriving at the village about 1 in the afternoon. The day was pleasant, but even in the brightest sunlight a kind of quiet dread and portent seemed too however about the strangely doomed hills and the deep, shadowy ravines of the stricken region. Now and then on some mountain top a gaunt circle of stones could be glimpsed against the sky. From the air of hushed fate at Osborn's storehouse and the something hideous had happened, and soon learned of the annihilation of the Elmer Fri household and family. Throughout that afternoon he rode around Dunnich, questioning the natives concerning all that had occurred, and trying for themselves with rising pang of horror the dreary Fri ruins with the dark lingering traces of the taunting stickiness, the blasphemous track in the Fri yard, the wounded Ceth Bishop cattle, and the enormous swaths of disturbed vegetation in various places. The trail up and down

Centinel Hill seemed too Armitage of almost cataclysmic significance, and he looked long at the sinister altarlike stone on the summit.

At length the visitors, advised of a party of State Police which had come from Ailbury that morning in response to the first telephone reports of the Fri tragedy, decided to check out the officers and compare notes as far as practicable. This, however, he found more easily planned than performed; since no one of the party could be found in any direction. There had been five of them in a car, but now the car stood empty near the ruins in the Fri yard. The natives, all of whom had talked with the policemen, seemed at first as perplexed as Armitage and his companions. Then old Sam Hutchins thought of something

and turned pale, nudging Fred Far and pointing to the dark, deep hollow that yawned close by.

"Gaud," he gasped, "I told em not to go daylong into the glen, and I never thought nobody would do it with them tracks and that smell and the whippoorwill's screech daylong there in the dark o' nowdays...."

A cold shudder ran throo natiavz and vizitorz alike, and evvery ere ceemd straind in a kiand ov instinctive, unconshous liscening. Armitage, nou dhat he had acchuwaly cum uppon the horror and its monstrous werc, trembeld withe the responcebilly he felt too be hiz. Nite wood soone faul, and it wauz then dhat the mountanous blaasfemy lumberd uppon its eldrich coers. *Negotium perambulans in tenebris*.... The oald liabrareyan reherst the formula he had memmoriazd, and clucht the paper contaning the aulternative wunz he had not memmoriazd. He sau dhat hiz electric flashlite wauz in werking order. Rice, beside him, tooc from a valse a mettal sprayer ov the sort uezd in combating incepts; whialst Morgan uncaist the big-game rifel on which he relide despite hiz colleegz worningz dhat no matereyal weppon wood be ov help.

Armitage, havving red the hidjous diyary, nu painfooly wel whaut kiand ov a manifestaishon too expect, but he did not ad too the frite ov the Dunnich pepel bi ghivving enny hints or cluse. He hoapt dhat it mite be conkerd widhout enny revelaishon too the werld ov the monstrous thhing it had escaipt. Az the shaddose gatherd, the natiavz comenst too dispers hoamword, ancshous too bar themcelvz indoerz despite the prezsent evvidens dhat aul human lox and bolts wer uesles befoer a foers dhat cood bend trese and crush housez when it chose. Dha shooc dhare hedz at the vizitorz plan too stand gard at the Fri ruwinz nere the glen; and az dha left, had littel expectancy ov evver ceying the waucherz agane.

Dhare wer rumblingz under the hilz dhat nite, and the whippoorwilz piapt thretteningly. Wuns in a while a wind, sweping up out ov Coald Spring Glen, wood bring a tuch ov ineffabel fetor too the hevvy nite are; such a fetor az aul thre ov the waucherz had smeld wuns befoer, when dha stood abuv a dying thhing dhat had paast for fiftene yeez and a haaf az a human beying. But the looct-for terror did not apere.

Whautevver wauz doun dhare in the glen wauz biding its time, and Armitage toald hiz colleegz it wood be suwical too tri too atac it in the darc.

Morning came waunly, and the nite-soundz ceest. It wauz a gra, bleke da, withe nou and then a drizsel ov rane; and hevveyer and hevveyer cloudz ceemd too be piling themcelvz up beyond the hilz too the northwest. The men from Arcam wer undecided whaut too doo. Ceking shelter from the increcing rainfaul beneeth wun ov the fu undestroid Fri outbildingz, dha debated the wizdom ov wating, or ov taking the agrescive and gowing doun intoo the glen in qwest ov dhare naimles, monstrous qwory. The dounpor waxt in hev vines, and distant peelz ov thunder sounded from far horizonz. Shete liatning shimmerd, and then a forky bolt flasht nere at hand, az if decending intoo the akerst glen itcelf. The ski gru verry darc, and the waucherz hoapt dhat the storm wood proove a short, sharp wun follode bi clere wether.

It wauz stil grusumly darc when, not much over an our later, a confuezd babel ov voicez sounded doun the rode. Anuther moment braut too vu a fritend groope ov moer dhan a duzen men, running, shouting, and even whimpering histerrically. Sumwun in the lede began sobbing out werdz, and the Arcam men started violently when dhose werdz devellopt a coherent form.

"O, mi Gaud, mi Gaud!" the vois choact out; "its a-goin aghin, *an this time bi da!* Its ayout--its ayout an a-movin this verry minnute, an oonly the Lord nose when itl be on us aul!"

The speker panted intoo cilens, but anuther tooc up hiz message.

"Ni on a hayor ago Seb Whaitly here heerd the fone a-rin'gin, an it wauz Mis Cory, Jorgez wife dhat livz dayoun bi the juncshon.

She cez the hiard boi Luthher wauz ayout drivin in the cayouz from the storm arter the big bolt, when he ce aul the trese a-bendin at the mayouth o' the glen--opposite cide ter this--an smelt the same aufool smel like he smelt when he fayound the big trax las Munda mornin. An she cez he cez dha wauz a swishin, lappin sayound, moer nor whaut the bendin trese an booshez cood make, an aul on a suddent the trese along the rud begun ter ghit poosht wun cide, an dha wauz a aufool stompin an splashin in the mud. But miand ye, Luthher he didnt ce nothin at aul, oonly gest the bendin trese an underbrush.

"Then fer ahed whare Bishops Brooc gose under the rud he heerd a aufool crekin an stranin on the brij, an cez he cood tel the sayound o' wood a-startin too crac an split. An aul the whialz he nevver ce a thhing, oonly them trese an booshez a-bendin. An when the swishin sayound got verry fer of--on the rud toowordz Wizzard Whaitlese an Centinel Hil--Luthher he had the guts ter step up whar hede heerd it fust an looc at the grayound. It wauz aul mud an wauter, an the ski wauz darc, an the rane wauz wipin ayout aul trax abayout az faast az cood be; but beginnin at the glen mayouth, whar the trese bed muivd, dha wauz stil sum o' them aufool prints big az barlz like he cene Munda."

At this point the ferst exited speker interupted.

"But *dhat* aint the trubbel nayou--dhat wauz oonly the start. Seb here wauz callin foax up an evveriboddy wauz a-listenin in when a caul from Ceth Bishops cut in. Hiz hayouskeper Sally wauz carreyin on fit ter kil--shede gest cede the trese a-bendin becide the rud, an cez dha wauz a kiand o' mushy sayound, like a ellefant puffin an tredin, a-hedin fer the hayous. Then she up an spoke suddent ov a feerfool smel, an cez her boi Chancy wauz a-scremin az hayo it wauz gest like whaut he smelt up too the Whaitly ruwinz Munda mornin. An the dogz wauz aul barkin an whinin aufool.

"An then she let ayout a turribel yel, an cez the shed dayoun the rud hed gest caivd in like the storm hed blode it over, oanly the wind waant strong enuf too ju dhat. Evveriboddy wauz a-listenin, an ye cood here lots o' foax on the wire a-gaspin. Aul too wunst Sally she yeld aghin, an cez the frunt yard picket fens bed gest crumpeld up, dho dha waant no cine o' whaut dun it. Then evveriboddy on the line cood here Chancy an ol Ceth Bishop a-yellin, tu, an Sally wauz shrekin ayout dhat shuethin hevvy hed struc the hayous--not liatnin nor nothin, but shuethin hevvy agin the frunt, dhat kep a-launchin itcelf aghin an aghin, dho ye coodnt ce nuthin ayout the frunt wianderz. An then ... an then...."

Lianz ov frite depend on evvery face; and Armitage, shaken az he wauz, had baerly poiz enuf too prompt the speker.

"An then ... Sally she yeld ayout, 'O help, the hayous iz a-cavin in ... an on the wire we cood hoer a turribel crashin, an a hul floc o' scremin ... gest like when Elmer Frise place wauz tooc, oanly wus...."

The man pauzd, and anuther ov the croud spoke.

"Dhats aul--not a sayound nor sqweke over the fone arter dhat. Gest stil-like. We dhat heerd it got ayout Foerdz an waggonz an rayounded up az menny abel-boddede men-foax az we cood ghet, at Corese place, an cum up here ter ce whaut u thaut best ter ju. Not but whaut I thhinc its the Lordz jujment fer our iniqwitesse, dhat no mortal kin evver cet acide."

Armitage sau dhat the time for pozsitive acshon had cum, and spoke deciciavly too the faltering groope ov fritend rustix.

"We must follo it, boiz." He made hiz vois az reyashuring az poscibel.

"I beleve dhaerz a chaans ov pootting it out ov biznes. U men no dhat dhose Whaitlese wer wizzardz--wel, this thhing iz a thhing ov wizardry, and must be poot doun bi the same meenz. Ive cene Wilber Whaitlese diyary and red sum ov the strainj oald boox he uest too rede, and I thhinc I no the rite kiand ov a spel too recite too make the thhing fade awa. Ov coers, wun caant be shure, but we can aulwase take a chaans. Its invizibel--I nu it wood be--but dhaerz a powder in this long-distans sprayer dhat mite make it sho up for a cecond. Later on wele tri it. Its a friatfool thhing too hav alive, but it iznt az bad az whaut Wilber wood hav let in if hede livd lon'gher. Ule nevver no whaut the werld haz escaipt. Nou weve oonly this wun thhing too fite, and it caant multipli. It can, dho, doo a lot ov harm; so we musnt hezsitate too rid the comunity ov it.

"We must follo it--and the wa too beghin iz too go too the place dhat haz just bene rect. Let sumbody lede the wa--I doant no yor roadz verry wel, but Ive an ideyaa dhare mite be a shorter cut acros lots. Hou about it?"

The men shuffeld about a moment, and then Erl Soiyer spoke softly, pointing withe a grimy fin'gher throo the steddily lescening rane.

"I ghes ye kin ghit too Ceth Bishops qwickest bi cuttin acrost the lower medder here, wadin the brooc at the lo place, an climbin throo Carreyerz mouwin an the timber-lot beyont. Dhat cumz ayout on the upper rud mity ni Ceths--a letel tuther cide."

Armitage, withe Rice and Morgan, started too wauc in the direcshon indicated; and moast ov the natiavz follode sloly. The ski wauz growing liter, and dhare wer cianz dhat the storm had woern itcelf awa. When Armitage inadvertently tooc a rong direcshon, Jo Ozborn wornd him and wauct ahed too sho the rite wun. Currage and confidens wer mounting; dho the twilite ov the aulmoast perpendicular woodded hil which la tooword the end ov dhare short cut, and amung whose fantastic

ainshent trese dha had too scrambel az if up a ladder, poot these qwaulitese too a cevere test.

At length dha emerjd on a muddy rode too fiand the sun cumming out. Dha wer a littel beyond the Ceth Bishop place, but bent trese and hidjously unmistacabel trax shode whaut had paast bi. Oanly a fu moments wer conshuemd in cervaying the ruwinz just around the bend. It wauz the Fri incident aul over agane, and nuthhing ded or livving wauz found in iather ov the colapst shelz which had bene the Bishop hous and barn. No wun caerd too remane dhare amidst the stench and the taary stickines, but aul ternd instinctiavly too the line ov horibel prints leding on tooword the rect Whaitly farmhous and the aultar-cround sloaps ov Centinel Hil.

Az the men paast the cite ov Wilber Whaitlese abode dha shudderd vizsibly, and ceemd agane too mix hezsitancy withe dhare sele. It wauz no joke tracking down sumthhing az big az a hous dhat wun cood not ce, but dhat had aul the vishous malevvolens ov a demon. Opposite the bace ov Centinel Hil the trax left the rode, and dhare wauz a fresh bending and matting vizsibel along the braud swauth marking the monsterz former roote too and from the summit.

Armitage projuest a pocket tellescope ov concidderabel pouwer and scand the stepe grene cide ov the hil. Then he handed the instrument too Morgan, whoose cite wauz kener. Aafter a moment ov gasing Morgan cride out sharply, paacing the glaas too Erl Soiyer and indicating a certane spot on the slope withe hiz fin'gher. Soiyer, az clumsy az moast non-userz ov optical devicez ar, fumbeld a while; but evenchuwaly focust the lensez withe Armitagez ade. When he did so hiz cri wauz les restrained dhan Morganz had bene.

"Gaud aulmity, the graas an booshez iz a-movin! Its a-goin up--slo-like--crepin up ter the top this minnute, hevven oanly nose

whaut fer!"

Then the germ ov pannic ceemd too spread among the cekez. It wauz wun thhing too chace the naimles entity, but qwite anuther too fiand it. Spelz mite be aul rite--but suppose dha wernt? Voicez began qweschoning Armitage about whaut he nu ov the thhing, and no repli ceemd qwite too sattisfi. Evveriwun ceemd too fele himcelf in cloce proximmiti too fasez ov nachure and ov beying utterly forbidden, and wholly outside the sane expereyens ov mankiand.

10

In the end the thre men from Arcam--oald, white-bearded Dr. Armitage, stocky, iarn-gra Professor Rice, and lene, youn'gish Dr. Morgan--acended the mountane alone. Aafter much paishent instrucshon regarding its focucing and uce, dha left the tellescope withe the fritend groope dhat remaind in the rode; and az dha cliamd dha wer waucht cloasly bi dhose among whoome the glaas wauz paast around. It wauz hard gowing, and Armitage had too be helpt moer dhan wuns. Hi abuv the toiling groope the grate swauth trembeld az its hellish maker repaast withe snale-like delibberaitnes. Then it wauz obveyous dhat the pershuwerz wer ganing.

Kertis Whaitly--ov the undecade braanch--wauz hoalding the tellescope when the Arcam party detoord raddicaly from the swauth. He toald the croud dhat the men wer evvidently triying too ghet too a subordinate peke which overlooct the swauth at a point concidderably ahed ov whare the shrubbery wauz nou bending. This, indede, pruivd too be tru; and the party wer cene too gane the minor elevaishon oonly a short time aafter the invizibel blaasfemy had paast it.

Then Wezly Cory, whoo had taken the glaas, cride out dhat Armitage wauz ajusting the sprayer which Rice held, and dhat sumthhing must be about

too happen. The croud sterd unnesily, recauling dhat this sprayer wauz expected too ghiv the uncene horror a moment ov visibillity. Too or thre men shut dhare ise, but Kertis Whaitly snacht bac the tellescope and strained hiz vizhon too the utmoast. He sau dhat Rice, from the partese point ov vaantage abuv and behiand the entity, had an exelent chaans ov spredding the potent pouder withe marvelous efect.

Dhose widhout the tellescope sau oonly an instants flash ov gra cloud--a cloud about the cise ov a modderaitly larj bilding--nere the top ov the mountane. Kertis, whoo had held the instrument, dropt it withe a peercing shreke intoo the ankel-depe mud ov the rode. He reeld, and wood hav crumpeld too the ground had not too or thre utherz ceezd and steddede him. Aul he cood doo wauz mone haaf-inaudibly:

"O, o, grate Gaud ... *dhat ... dhat....*"

[Ilustraishon: "O, o, grate Gaud ... *dhat ... dhat.*"]

Dhare wauz a pandemoanyum ov qweschoning, and oonly Henry Wheler thaut

too rescu the faulen tellescope and wipe it clene ov mud. Kertis wauz paast aul coherens, and even isolated replise wer aulmoast too much for him.

"Biggher 'n a barn ... aul made o' sqwermin roaps ... hul thhing sort o' shaipt like a henz eg bigghern ennithhing, withe duzsens o' legz like hogz'hedz dhat haf shut up when dha step ... nothin sollid abayout it--aul like gelly, an made o' ceprit riglin roaps poosht clost tooghether ... grate bulgin ise aul over it ... ten or twenty mayouths or trunx a-stickin ayout aul along the ciadz, big az stoavpiaps, an aul a-toscin an openin an shuttin ... aul gra, withe kiander blu or perpel ringz ... *an Gaud in Hevven--dhat haf face on top!...*"

This final memory, whatever it was, proved too much for poor Kertis, and he collapsed completely before he could see his mother. Fred Far and Wil Hutchins carried him to the roadside and laid him on the damp grass. Henry Wheeler, trembling, turned the rescue telescope on the mountain to see what he might find. Through the lenses were discernible three tiny figures, apparently running toward the summit as fast as the steep incline allowed. Only these--nothing more. Then everywhere noticed a strangely unreasonable noise in the deep valley behind, and even in the underbrush of Sentinel Hill itself. It was the piping of unnumbered whippoorwills, and in their shrill chorus there seemed too clear a note of tension and evil expectancy.

Erl Soyer now took the telescope and reported the three figures as standing on the topmost ridge, very nearly level with the altar-stone but at a considerable distance from it. One figure, he said, seemed to be raising its hands above its head at rhythmic intervals; and as Soyer mentioned the circumstances the crowd seemed too here a faint, half-musical sound from the distance, as if a loud chant were accompanying the gestures. The weird illusion on that remote peak must have been a spectacle of infinite grotesqueness and impressiveness, but no observer was in a mood for esthetic appreciation. "I guess these say in the play," whispered Wheeler as he snatched back the telescope. The whippoorwill was piping wildly, and in a singularly curious irregular rhythm quite unlike that of the visible ritual.

Suddenly the sunshine seemed too lessened without the intervention of any discernible cloud. It was a very peculiar phenomenon, and was plainly marked by a rumbling sound seemed brewing beneath the hills, mixed strangely with a concordant rumbling which clearly came from the sky. Lightning flashed aloft, and the wondering crowd looked in vain for the portents of storm. The chanting of the men from Arcam now became unmistakable, and Wheeler saw through the glass that they were all

raising dhare armz in the ridhmic incantaishon. From sum farmhous far awa came the frantic barking ov dogz.

The chainj in the qwaulity ov the dalite increest, and the croud gaizd about the horizon in wunder. A perplish darcnes, born ov nuthhing moer dhan a spectral depening ov the skise blu, prest down uppon the rumbling hilz. Then the liatning flasht agane, sumwhaut briter dhan befoer, and the croud fancede dhat it had shode a certane mistines around the aultar-stone on the distant hite. No wun, houwevver, had bene using the tellescope at dhat instant. The whippoorwilz continnude dhare iregular pulsaishon, and the men ov Dunnich braist themcelvz tensly against sum imponderabel mennace withe which the atmosfere ceemd cercharjd.

Widhout worning came dhose depe, cract, raucous vocal soundz which wil nevver leve the memmory ov the stricken groope whoo herd them. Not from enny human throte wer dha born, for the organz ov man can yeeld no such acuistic perverzhoz. Raather wood wun hav ced dha came from the pit itcelf, had not dhare soers bene so unmistacably the aultar-stone on the peke. It iz aulmoast eroanyous too caul them *soundz* at aul, cins so much ov dhare gaastly, infraa-bace tambr spoke too dim ceets ov consousnes and terror far sutler dhan the ere; yet wun must doo so, cins dhare form wauz indisputably dho vaigly dhat ov haaf-articulate *werdz*. Dha wer loud--loud az the rumblingz and the thunder abuv which dha eccode--yet did dha cum from no vizsibel beying. And becauz imaginaishon mite sugest a con'gechural soers in the werld ov non-vizsibel beyingz, the huddeld croud at the mountainz bace huddeld stil clocer, and winst az if in expectaishon ov a blo.

"Ygnaiih ... ygnaiih ... thflthkh'ngha ... Yog-Sothoth...." rang the hidjous croking out ov space. "Y'bthnk ... h'ehye ... n'grkdl'lh...."

The speking impuls ceemd too faulter here, az if sum friatfool

cikic strugghel wer gowing on. Henry Wheler straind hiz i at the tellescope, but sau oonly the thre grotescly ciloowetted human figguerz on the peke, aul mooving dhare armz fureyously in strainj geschuerz az dhare incantaishon dru nere its culminaishon. From whaut blac welz ov Akerontic fere or feling, from whaut unplumd gulfs ov extraa-cozmic consmousnes or obscure, long-latent hereddy, wer dhose haaf-articulate thunder-crokingz draun? Prezently dha began too gather renude foers and coherens az dha gru in starc, utter, ultimate frensy.

"*Eh-ya-ya-ya-yahaah ... e'yaya-yayaaaa ... ngh'aaaa ... ngh'aaaa ...*
heyuuh ... heyuuh ... HELP! HELP! ... *ff--ff--ff--FAATHER! FAATHER!*
YOG-SOTHOTH!..."

But dhat wauz aul. The pallid groope in the rode, stil reling at the *indisputably In' glish* cillabelz dhat had poerd thhicly and thunderously doun from the frantic vacancy becide dhat shocking aultar-stone, wer nevver too here such cillabelz agane. Insted, dha jumpt viyolently at the terriffic repoert which ceemd too rend the hilz; the deffening, cataclizmic pele whose soers, be it inner erth or ski, no herer wauz evver abel too place. A cin'ghel liatning bolt shot from the perpel sennith too the aultar-stone, and a grate tidal wave ov vules foers and indescribabel stench swept doun from the hil too aul the cuntricide. Trese, graas, and underbrush wer whipt intoo a fury; and the fritend croud at the mountainz bace, wekend bi the leethal fetor dhat ceemd about too asficshate them, wer aulmoast herld of dhare fete. Dogz hould from the distans, grene graas and foleyage wilted too a cureyous, cicly yello-gra, and over feeld and forest wer scatterd the boddese ov ded whippoowilz.

The stench left qwicly, but the vegetaishon nevver came rite agane. Too this da dhare iz sumthhing qwere and unholy about the groaths on and around dhat feersum hil. Kertis Whaitly wauz oonly just reganing

consciousness when the Arcam men came slowly down the mountain in the beams of a sunlight more brilliant and untainted. Dha wer grave and quiet, and seemed shaken by memories and reflections even more terrible than those which had rejected the group of natives to a state of quivering. In reply to a jumble of questions dha only shook their heads and reaffirmed their vital fact.

"The thing has gone for ever," Armitage said. "It has been split up into what it was originally made of, and can never exist again. It was

an impossibility in a normal world. Only the least fraction was really matter in any sense we know. It was like its father--and most of it has gone back to him in some vague realm or dimension outside our material universes; some vague abyss out of which only the most akers' riots of human blasphemy could ever have caused him for a moment on the hill."

Dha was a brief silence, and in that pause the scattered pieces of poor Kertis Whitely began to fit back into a sort of continuity; so that he put his hands to his head with a moan. Memory seemed to pick itself up where it had left off, and the horror of the city that had prostrated him burst in upon him again.

"O, o, my Gaud, that half face ... that half face on top of it ... that face with the red iris and crinkly albino hair, and no chin, like the Whitlese.... It was an octopus, centipede, spider kind of thing, but dha was a half-sha'pt man's face on top of it, and it loo'd like Wizard Whitlese, only it was yards and yards across...."

He paused exhausted, as the whole group of natives stared in a bewilderment not quite crystallized into fresh terror. Only old Sebulon Whitely, who was wanderingly remembering absent things but who had been silent hitherto, spoke aloud.

"Fiftene yere gon," he rambeld, "I heerd Ol Whaitly sa az hayo sum da wede here a chiald o' Lavinnese a-callin its faatherz name on the top o' Centinel Hil...."

But Jo Ozborn interupted him too qweschon the Arcam men anu.

"*Whaut wauz it, ennihayo*, an hayouwever did yung Wizzard Whaitly caul it ayout o' the are it cum from?"

Armitage chose hiz werdz caerfooly.

"It wauz--wel, it wauz moastly a kiand ov foers dhat duznt belong in our part ov space; a kiand ov foers dhat acts and grose and shaips itcelf bi uther lauz dhan dhose ov our sort ov Nachure. We hav no biznes caulng in such thhingz from outcide, and oanly verry wicked pepel and verry wicked cults evver tri too. Dhare wauz sum ov it in Wilber Whaitly himcelf--enuf too make a devvil and a precoashous monster ov him, and too make hiz paacing out a pritty terribel cite. Ime gowing too bern hiz akerst diyary, and if u men ar wise ule dinamite dhat aultar-stone up dhare, and pool doun aul the ringz ov standing stoanz on the uther hilz. Thhingz like dhat braut doun the beyingz dhose Whaitlese wer so fond ov--the beyingz dha wer gowing too let in tan'gibly too wipe out the human race and drag the erth of too sum naimles place for sum naimles perpoce.

"But az too this thhing weve just cent bac--the Whaitlese raizd it for a terribel part in the doowingz dhat wer too cum. It gru faast and big from the same rezon dhat Wilber gru faast and big--but it bete him becauz it had a grater share ov the *outciadnes* in it. U neednt aasc hou Wilber cauld it out ov the are. He didnt caul it out. *It wauz hiz twin bruther, but it looct moer like the faather dhan he did.*"

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