

# GENTLEMAN GTHULHU

TWICE THE FEARS AND CHEERS



Dark Fire Press

DIGITAL PREVIEW

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a second year of bizarre humour from

J. M. DeSantis



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# Introduction

by Dave Felton

I first encountered the art of J.M. DeSantis in 2013 at a small art show in Northern New Jersey that focused mainly on fantasy illustration, where J.M. had brought along early issues of his comic Chadhiyana, a beautifully colored and highly stylized story that is a joy to behold. On the wall next to his table hung impressive paintings that could've easily been covers to Dungeon and Dragons modules, but one image struck a chord in this horror fan: a seated figure in a dark room with the tentacled head of Cthulhu on its shoulders, a cup of tea in its claw, a portrait of H.P. Lovecraft hung on an unseen wall behind the chair. This enigmatic character fit perfectly with the work of other Lovecraftian artists in attendance, like Kurt Komoda, myself, and the late C.J. Henderson, but there was an underlying humor in J.M.'s illustration that set it apart and above the others, a humor that held such rare potential... who would've suspected such an eldritch horror could be so charming and debonair? But who was he?

It must've been this question and the response of fans that provided J.M. reason to give the figure both a name and a voice with the start of the Gentleman Cthulhu webcomic in 2015. Since then, Cthulhu has become a foil for literary and political satire as DeSantis explores his genre interests and acknowledges current events, and with this second volume of collected strips, he breathes new life into a Great Old One.

Cheers!


-Dave Felton



The author is also pleased to feature this rendering of Gentleman Cthulhu by Dana Sanguir.

**Abhorred Disappointment**

IT WAS WITH A MIXTURE OF SHAME AND HORROR THAT I LOOKED UPON THE STATUE PERCHED UPON MY DESK, FOR LINEQUIVOCABLY I FELT IN DEATH I WAS POSSIBLY EVEN LESS SUCCESSFUL THAN IN LIFE FOR SUCH AN ABHORRED THING TO HAVE OCCURRED.



THAT MAN--IF MAN HE CAN BE CALLED-- HAD TAKEN IT UPON HIMSELF TO MAKE SUCH JESTS FROM THAT WHICH HAD BEEN MY LIFE'S WORK--A SERIOUS PURSUIT OF HIDDEN KNOWLEDGE AND ARCANES TRUTHS NOW REDUCED TO VULGAR TRASH AND A ONE-WORD PUNCHLINE...

OH, COME NOW OLD BOY!



IT'S NOT AS DREAD AS ALL THAT.

I RATHER LIKE THIS DASHING CUT I MAKE AS A GENTLEMAN.

CHEERS!



**And They Call it Mummy Love - Part 4**

GOOD CTHULHU!

ARE YOU STILL TRYING TO WIN THAT WOMAN'S HEART?!



PERHAPS IT IS ALL THOSE RAGS GETTING IN THE WAY OF HER AFFECTIONS.

WHY NOT REMOVE A FEW AND SHOW HER THE MAN BENEATH?

LET HER LOOK UPON HER SUITOR AND KNOW HIM.

HERE. LET ME HELP.

OH!

HOLD STILL, MAN!

IT'S ONLY A LITTLE PULL AND THEN...



CHEERS!

CLAK

CLAK

CLAK



**Young Frankenstein**

DEAR ME, DOCTOR!

WHERE'S YOUR SENSE OF PRIDE?

YOUR SENSE OF FAMILY?



YOU'RE THE DESCENDANT OF THE GREAT VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN!

EMBRACE YOUR HERITAGE.

HAVE COURAGE, AS HE ONCE DID.

AFTER ALL, WHAT'S THE WORST THAT COULD HAPPEN?

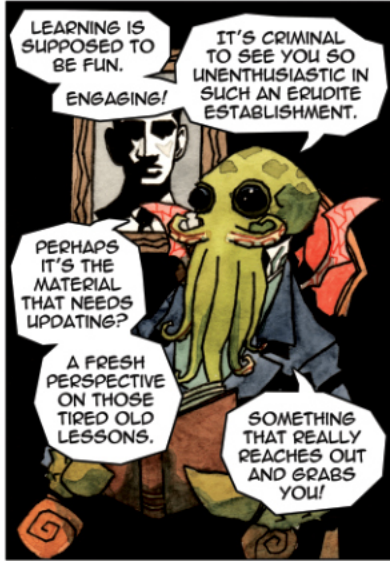


CHEERS!

IN MEMORY OF GENE WILDER



New Material



Not a Real Vampyre



And They Call it Mummy Love - Part 5



Catch Their Attention



Bragging Rights



And They Call it Mummy Love - Part 6





The Very Best Costume



Happy Halloween 2016



Happy Birthday, J. M.!



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