

GENTLEMAN GTHULHU

EMERITUS MORIBUS MONSTRUM



Dark Fire Press
DIGITAL PREVIEW
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YEAR ONE

from the demented sense of humour of
J. M. DeSantis



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**STORY, ART &
LETTERING**
J. M. DeSantis

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Introduction

I first encountered J.M. DeSantis in the Spring of 2008, as I was collecting material for my short-lived magazine, Planet Lovecraft. To be honest, I wasn't exactly sure what to think of this curious fellow. He dressed like a dandy, had a rather serious, heroic moustache, and he spoke in an outdated, nay, downright antiquated manner.

"What's going on here," I remember thinking to myself. "Is he just another old soul, fond of Lovecraft and Poe, or is something stranger at work here? Could J.M. DeSantis be a time-traveler from perhaps a hundred years past, who had travelled to and then become trapped in our modern world and now makes his way as best he can among the denizens of the future???" Believe me when I tell you that I lost several nights of sleep pondering these questions.

But one thing that was certainly NOT in question was his talent as a writer and an artist. I'm exceptionally proud of the two pieces of weird horror that I published of J.M.'s in Planet Lovecraft magazine (The Thing in the Water in issue #3, and The Thing in the Box, in issue #4), and they definitely helped the magazine make the leap to the next level.

Since then, it's been a pleasure to watch J.M.'s talent and abilities continue to grow as both artist and writer, as well as his insight, as evidenced by his groundbreaking comic Chadhiyana, a medieval Indian fantasy series anchored by a strong, female protagonist; and his Gentleman Cthulhu web comic.

Currently, the weird horror community is in a bit of turmoil, and Lovecraft and his writings are at the center of it. You see, while Lovecraft's aptitude cannot be denied, his personal beliefs and politics are a bit problematic, and certain parties within the weird community have drawn lines in the sand on both ends of the spectrum. But J.M. manages to somehow deftly honor The Old Gent and still poke a little fun with Gentleman Cthulhu, as you'll see in this very collection.

And now I'm more convinced than ever that J.M. DeSantis IS a time-traveler...not from our past, however, but from a hundred years in our future, where we've finally lightened up a bit and managed to balance respect and humor and focus on the things that really matter: proper afternoon tea-time etiquette.

Cheers!
K.L. Young,
Executive Editor
Strange Aeons Magazine

The Unnameable

AS I SAT ONE NIGHT MAKING NOTES ON THE DREADED NECRONOMICON, A FOETID STENCH CAME INTO THE ROOM, AND WITH IT A CHILLING SCRAPING SOUND. I LOOKED UP--



--AND BY THE LIGHT OF MY LANTHORN I SAW A GHASTLY SHAPE SHAMBLING TOWARD ME. STARK RAVING FEAR PARALYSED ME TO THE SPOT, AND AS THE HORROR CAME TOWARD THE LIGHT, I LOOKED UPON THE THING AND SAW THAT IT WAS--



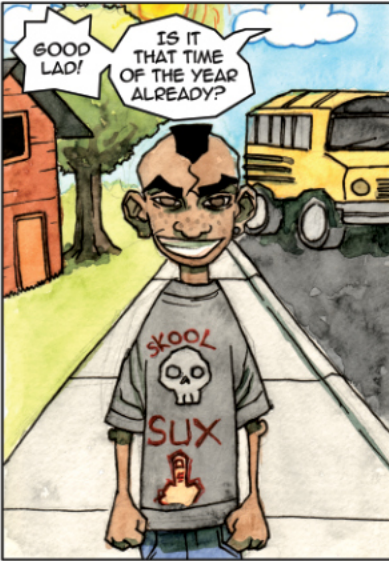
Are We Not Gentlemen?



Dine like a Gentleman



Back to School



No Way to Treat a Lady



To Break One's Mind



Authenticity



Meet my Creator



Exhausted



Special: Get Chadhiyana #1 Free!



Chaperone



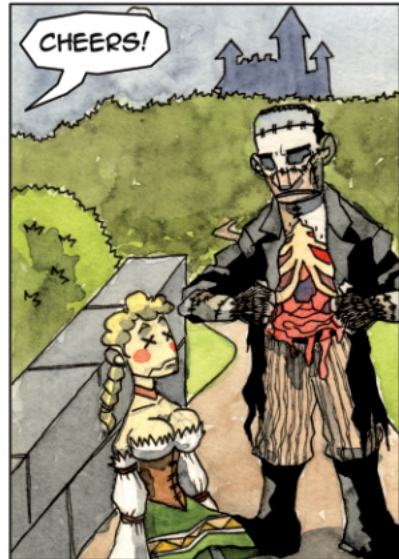
Remember, Remember



Happy Friday the 13th



It's What's on the Inside



Giving Thanks



END PREVIEW



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