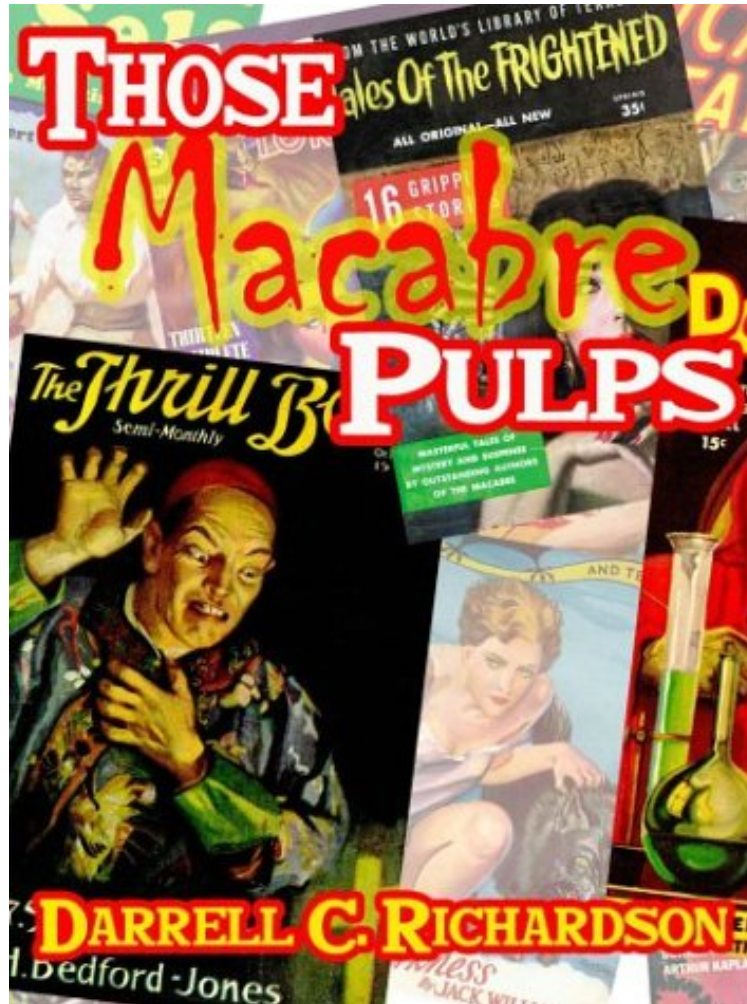


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Those Macabre Pulps

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Darrell C. Richardson : Those Macabre Pulps before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Those Macabre Pulps:

26 of 28 people found the following review helpful. Skimpy Grabbag By John Benson What a ripoff! First of all, of the 25 magazine titles featured, only 8 could be called "macabre pulps" in the generally accepted meaning of the term. (And if you count cover images rather than titles, the macabre pulp representation is even smaller.) And at most only five more titles could be considered pulps at all, even if you stretch the term to include some quasi-pulp publications. As to the rest, though most are fantasy or occult related, very few are in the "macabre" category, and none of them are pulps by any stretch! These include: seven post-pulp era digests published as recently as 1973, including one that contains no fiction; a fanzine; three standard size (8 by 11) non-macabre magazines published during the pulp era, including two that contain no fiction; and a standard sized post-pulp era non-fiction magazine. The book's text is

extremely skimpy, for the most part merely recounting some publishing information gleaned from the indicia of the magazines. If the author is an expert on pulps, you'd never know it from this book. For each title there's a listing of all the articles and stories, by author, which is OK, although for the most part these writers are probably best forgotten. The biggest problem with the book is that the text is artificially bulked up, with the checklists in large type and spread out across the pages. There are only 104 cover reproductions in this 111 page book, but because text and checklists take up so much space, many of the covers are reproduced quite small. (I know--this is like the classic complaint about the restaurant that serves terrible food--and in such small portions!) If the contents checklists had been printed in small type two or three columns per page (preferably in the back of the book), the cover illustrations printed in a larger size, more pulp titles added to the book, and the book's title changed to "Some Randomly Selected, Mostly Rare, Short-Run, Macabre, Occult and Fantasy Magazines Published Between 1919 and 1973," the book would still be a ripoff, but might barely be worth the discount price to the curious. This is the bottom of the barrel from Adventure House! If you want a good book on the pulp era, try their UNCOVERED, THE HIDDEN ART OF THE GIRLIE PULPS, which is chock full of pulp covers and has an extremely informative text by Douglas Ellis, or their reasonably priced Belarski cover collection.

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Overview On An Obscure Subject! By Danny G. I don't understand the harsh 1-star reviews. This book is designed for the general public new to the subject of "macabre pulps," and it is not designed for the specialist collector. It's an over-sized paperback with numerous color photographs and I enjoyed it because the subject matter was well presented! End of story! When I buy a book like this I'm not looking for an encyclopedia!

8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. It's a Pass By J. Arvizu I'd have to agree with the first reviewer. this one is not worth your time. i had very high expectations as i love this genre of illustration and graphic design... and there was hardly any content! i'm not even sure how they actually had enough pages to bind this book. the cover was the most exciting part. Look to some great titles like "UNCOVERED: the hidden art of the girlie pulps" and you'll be much more satisfied.

Macabre is defined as "dwelling on the gruesome" and "tending to produce horror in the beholder." It is also defined as "having death as a subject, comprising of or including a personalized representation of death." Represented here are magazines dealing with horror, terror, suspense, supernatural, occult, weird menace, bizarre, and off-trail stories and articles. The choice of these titles has been governed in part by their rarity. All the titles in this collection are scarce and difficult to locate. Many of these titles are not to be found in libraries and private collections. Deliberately includes magazines that had short runs and thus tended to be little known and scarce, including some of the rarest and best magazines in this genre such as The Thrill Book, Tales of Magic and Mystery, Strange Tales, Mind Magic, Mystic Magazine, and True Mystic Science. Stories are classified according to length as short stories, novelettes, novels, or serials. Non-fiction has been classified as articles, features or series. Poetry has also been included in the index. The publisher, editor, and artists have been identified whenever possible. Complete checklists of all issues published, with dates and volume numbers are given. This book mainly consists of an alphabetical index by authors, with stories and articles listed in chronological order, under title published.