



**The Room in the Dragon Volant by J. Sheridan
Lefanu, Fiction, Horror**

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J. Sheridan LeFanu -- Irish author of such classics as the short vampire novel *Carmella* (reputed to be the inspiration for Bram Stoker's *Dracula*) and *A Chapter in the History of the Tyrone Family* (said to be the tale that gave rise to Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights* -- lived from 1814 until 1873. He wrote all sorts of tales, but he's best remembered as a writer of mysteries and horror.

The Room in the Dragon Volant by J. Sheridan Lefanu, Fiction, Horror Details

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Author : J. Sheridan Le Fanu

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From Reader Review The Room in the Dragon Volant by J. Sheridan LeFanu, Fiction, Horror for online ebook

Sylvester says

Did Le Fanu mean for us to be surprised? Perhaps the plot was innovative at the time, but I found it irritating knowing what was coming while the protagonist was oblivious. Not Le Fanu's best work.

Kelly Nielsen says

Reads like E.A.Poe

Oscar says

Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu (1818-1873) es considerado el padre de la *ghost story*, además de ser el creador del doctor Martin Hesselius, experto en lo sobrenatural, y uno de los primeros detectives de lo oculto, que posteriormente daría lugar a otras figuras similares, como John Silence de Algernon Blackwood, Thomas Carnacki de W.H. Hodgson, o el profesor Van Helsing de Bram Stoker.

‘La habitación del Dragón Volador y otros cuentos de terror y misterio’ incluye una novela corta y seis relatos, que sin ser geniales, sí se leen con placer.

La habitación del Dragón volador. Beckett, el protagonista, nos narra ciertos hechos que le sucedieron viajando por Francia. Es una novela corta que transcurre de manera tranquila, soltándonos pistas que nos preparan para la parte final, quizás algo previsible.

El fantasma y el colocahuesos. Historia encontrada entre los papeles del reverendo Purcell sobre el curioso encuentro entre un hombre y un fantasma. No está mal.

Schalken el pintor. Donde se narra la historia de Schalken, discípulo de Gerard Douw, y de la hija de este. No está mal.

El espectro del madam Crowl. La vieja madam Crowl cuenta una historia de fantasmas que le acaeció de joven. Buen relato.

Relato de ciertos sucesos extraños en la calle Aungier. Donde se narra lo que les sucedió a dos primos, estudiantes ambos, mientras residían en una vieja casa. No está mal.

Historias de fantasmas en la casa de los azulejos. Que incluye dos cuentos que tienen como protagonista dicha casa. Buen relato.

El gato blanco de Drumgunniol. Según una superstición, si un gato blanco se aparece a alguien, ese alguien no tarda en fallecer.

Ovidio says

A Estalagem do Dragão Voador (Sheridan Le Fanu).

Não sei se haverá colecção mais 'de culto' do que esta - Livro B, livro maldito, histórias góticas, fantásticas e do horror de fim de século, em livros altos e estreitos de páginas azuis, que cabem no bolso do casaco ou da gabardina, para ler numa taberna em frente a uma aguardente, ou de noite, quando todos se foram deitar, esse tempo de "fantasmas nocturnos visionários, ou desfilar de espectros mortuários" de que fala Antero de Quental.

Le Fanu é um vários autores que, em todo o séc.XIX e XX, escreveram contos naquele limiar entre a ciência e o sobrenatural, e em que novidades em certas disciplinas como o magnetismo, a electricidade, o estudo da mente, a medicina, a química, a farmácia e os efeitos das drogas, enchiam o mundo de uma realidade tão fantástica como a mais pura fantasia. Assim surgem obras como esta, em que (sem querer revelar nada que possa estragar o prazer de quem for ler o livro) até mais de metade do livro sem que se passe a menor sugestão de algo sobrenatural, apenas a elegante e prazerosa escrita que nos transporta para outros tempos, de carruagens e estalagens, de bailes e saraus, de paixões e traições, bandidos e actos de cavalheirismo, e de incidentes que desafiam os sentidos e exigem o maior sangue-frio e coragem.

Julian Gyll-Murray says

Le Fanu should be celebrated more.

This might be not be Exhibit A for that argument (that would be Carmilla) but it's pretty close. Here, Le Fanu shows yet again that he can take old elements of stories (notably from Poe) and conjure something that would have an influence on genre literature centuries later. Here, he mixes in a Gothic atmosphere and dread, romance, and a puzzle-box mystery.

Not all of it works- but that doesn't detract from LeFanu's achievement. Along with Fitz O'Brien, he is credited with first mixing the detective-thriller and horror, and even without the knock-out denouement this would be a great curio for genre history fans.

EvilWebBoy says

The Room in the Dragon Volant By Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu was first published 1872

This gothic mystery story was about a Long con of a wealthy young Englishman named Richard Beckett. Beckett helps the Count de St Alyre and his younger wife the Countess de St Alyre (with her exotic Violet eyes).

He then is infatuated with the married woman and plans to run off with her.

For most of the novel I kept trying to figure out who was in on the con.

After the Napoleonic Wars the French resented English Tourists, and I suspected every French person Beckett came in contact with was in on the confidence game.

A really enjoyable read from one of my new favorite authors!

Benjamin Stahl says

As with Le Fanu's uniquely enjoyable *House by the Churchyard*, one cannot help feeling somewhat disappointed when this Gothic novella, marketed as a ghost story - (at least with the anthology I find it in) - ends up just being a maudlin romance-mystery with only the faintest hint of supernaturalism. However, the tale is still told well enough and it's hard to really criticise it for the most part. The climax, also, is excellent. Le Fanu utilises a fairly notorious trope of the genre, and manages to make it terrifying. The unfortunate deus-ex-machina does not deal too much damage to the story's ending.

Laura LVD says

Le doy entre 2 y 3 estrellas. Los relatos son bastante ordinarios y para nada terroríficos. Salvo algún momento esporádico donde pasa algo interesante son bastante zonzos. Olvidables. Una pena, porque Carmilla, del mismo autor, me gustó muchísimo más.

Holly Lopez says

Pretty good mystery.

Lia says

I listened to this book on the Classic Tales podcast. While it was interesting enough for me to make it through the whole 5-6 hours or so, the plot is very melodramatic and fairly transparent. Except for one or two small surprises, it's pretty easy to guess who is friend or foe pretty early on.

To sum up: it has some merits, but there's so much that's better out there that I wouldn't recommend it.

Ignacio Senao f says

Un buen escrito que machaca los manidos temas de su siglo. Bien narrado, pero da muchas vueltas a los diálogos dejando de lado la atmosfera tan necesaria en este género.

EL relato de la mano fantasmal brilla por su originalidad, más propio de la cultura asiática.

Dfordoom says

Sheridan le Fanu is just about my favourite 19th century writer of supernatural and gothic tales. The Room in the Dragon Volant is somewhat unusual for le Fanu, since it's not really a supernatural tale. It does however have plenty of gothic elements and some genuine horror, and it's an ingenious and entertaining tale. It's set in France just after the end of the Napoleonic Wars, and involves a young rich Englishman who falls in love with a beautiful but mysterious, and unhappily married, countess. It also involves a room at the inn, The Dragon Volant, which has been the scene of mysterious disappearances.

Diana Serbanica says

Another The Classic Tales Podcast listening. And an enjoyable one back and forth from work. I would say it's a book typical of the age when it was created in its subject and structure. But this does not make it a bad one, or out of fashion. The story gives the impression, at first, to be a ghost / supernatural one, but then it spins more into mystery, losing all traces of supernatural. And yet, it's nice.

Marts (Thinker) says

Loaded with mystery and suspense and ready for anyone who likes classics in these genres, the 'Dragon Volant' can be summed up thus... 'having a handsome fortune and maybe also seeking a bit of adventure, a young man leaves his home country to do some travels but is enraptured by a beautiful woman who causes him to become as his slave, who makes him a victim of her poisons, whose actions only lead to death...'

Do enjoy reading this book :):)

ClareC says

I can't decide if I liked this or not. I enjoyed the mystery, but not the narrator.
