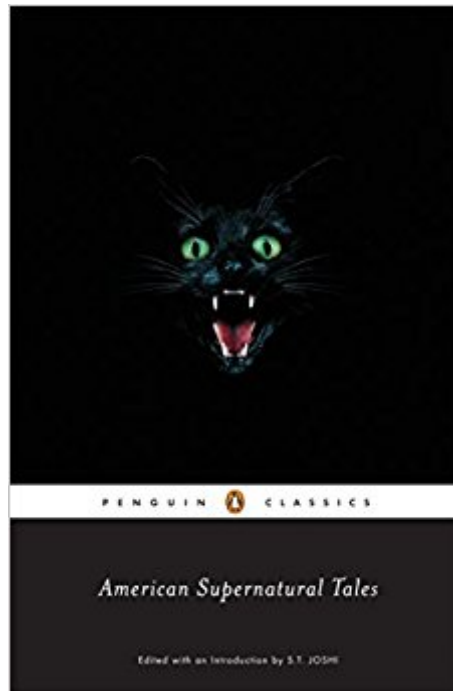


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# American Supernatural Tales (Penguin Classics)



## Synopsis

As Stephen King will attest, the popularity of the occult in American literature has only grown since the days of Edgar Allan Poe. *American Supernatural Tales* celebrates the richness of this tradition with chilling contributions from some of the nation's brightest literary lights, including Poe himself, H. P. Lovecraft, Shirley Jackson, Ray Bradbury, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and of course Stephen King. By turns phantasmagoric, spectral, and demonic, this is a frighteningly good addition to Penguin Classics. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

## Book Information

Series: Penguin Classics

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Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 24 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #76,159 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #54 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Horror > Anthologies #609 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Horror > Occult #638 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Short Stories & Anthologies > Anthologies

## Customer Reviews

Praise for Penguin Horror Classics: "The new Penguin Horror editions, selected by Guillermo del Toro, feature some of the best art-direction (by Paul Buckley) I've seen in a cover in quite some time." — Cory Doctorow, *Boing Boing* "Each cover does a pretty spectacular job of evoking the mood of the title in bold, screenprint-style iconography." — Dan Solomon, *Fast Company* --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

S. T. Joshi is a freelance writer and editor. He has edited Penguin Classics editions of H. P. Lovecraft's *The Call of Cthulhu and Other Weird Stories* (1999), and *The Thing on the Doorstep and Other Weird Stories* (2001), as well as Algernon Blackwood's *Ancient Sorceries and Other Strange Stories* (2002). Among his critical and biographical studies are *The Weird Tale* (1990), *Lord Dunsany: Master of the Anglo-Irish Imagination* (1995), *H. P. Lovecraft: A Life* (1996), and *The Modern Weird Tale* (2001). He has also edited works by Ambrose Bierce, Arthur Machen, and H. L. Mencken, and is compiling a three-volume *Encyclopedia of Supernatural Literature*. He lives with his wife in Seattle, Washington.

For any lover of either short stories or horror, there's something in here to catch anyone's attention. Filled to the brim with various authors, most of whom I've embarrassingly never heard of, these are the fantastic tales that will make you squirm and tuck the blanket under your feet at night on top of smile with a fanatical satisfaction. Admittedly this book is various horror and sci-fi and covers nearly the entire spectrum of the two genres. That being said...there are a few in here that will make you yawn and seem out of place. I won't name any because peoples' tastes are different, and you may enjoy the more tame mentally taunting pieces than I did. But regardless, you can read them for their historical value and the contribution to the series or bypass them because you won't have to wait long for something else with that special glimmer to grip your attention again. ....just...don't read it to children before bed time.

This was a great collection of horror throughout American history. The forward and discussions of the authors were very interesting and offered great insights to the stories themselves. The short stories included were interesting and appropriate, though readers may note that the writing styles drastically change from tale to tale as the collection moves forward in time. It was a really fun read for someone interested in horror!

I had to get this book for a class I'm taking, and ended up really enjoying it. The variety of selected stories is vast, and covers many different aspects of the Horror genre. Great read!

Bought this for one of my college classes. From the selection we read, the stories were interesting to read and were well-written! Plus, this is a fraction of the price I'd pay if I got it at the campus bookstore.

Great, classic tales of terror! buy this if your into reading thriller/horror novels.

Teacher required this book for literature course, very good pick!

This book has a lot of great short stories in it. Well worth purchasing to read.I would recommend anyone to buy it.

This is a truly great collection of short works by seminal Horror authors at a reasonable price. Joshi knows Horror and this is a great introductory volume as well as a pleasurable addition to any Horror bookshelf.

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