

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

A Haunted Mind

By Dr. Bob Curran

- H.P. Lovecraft might be described as a rather strange individual. How do you think this strangeness influenced his work?
- Why do you think that his work has continued to be extremely popular down the years?
- Do you *really* think that he had access to knowledge which is usually denied to normal people?
- There is a theory that Earth might have been somehow colonised from space in the dim and distant past. Do you think that Lovecraft's fiction suggests that he believed this?
- There have been some suggestions that Lovecraft may have taken drugs in order to envisage some of the bizarre landscapes – particularly in the Dreamlands. What's your view on that? Was he a dope fiend?
- Would you consider Lovecraft to be a writer in the horror genre or as a science fiction writer?
- The Cthulhu Mythos is an incredibly complicated and interconnected work of fiction. Who were the Great Old Ones which are central to it?
- How much do you think that Lovecraft was influenced by the esoteric teachings of the time particularly of, say, Madam Blavatsky?
- How much do you think that Lovecraft's own fears and prejudices shaped his work?
- Still on that subject - I've heard it said that Lovecraft was something of a racist. How much do you subscribe to that point of view?

- One of the central facets of Lovecraft's work are the "blasphemous tomes". You seem to be suggesting that some of them *might* be based on genuine works. How far do you think this is true?
- Are places like "decaying Innsmouth" and Dunwich based on actual locations which Lovecraft knew?
- There is sometimes a real sense of history in some of Lovecraft's tales. How important do you think this was to him?
- A lot of the later writers have introduced new characters and have moved locations all over the world. In doing so they have extended and expanded the Mythos? How successful do you think these have been?
- What is your favourite Mythos story?