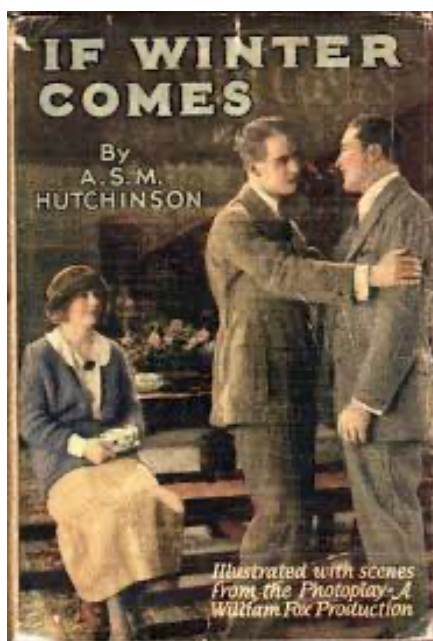


1925-2025

un an avec Howard Phillips Lovecraft

#284 | 17 octobre 1925



[1925, samedi 17 octobre]

Up early — write — out on errands — suit perfect — return & read &
write — down to meet SH — dinner Automat — search for cinema in vain
— sub. to Bklyn — groceries — home — finish If Winter Comes — retire.

*Levé tôt. J'écris. Sorti pour des courses. Le costume maintenant me va
parfaitement. Reour, lu et écrit. Je pars rejoindre Sonia, on mange à
l'Automat, on cherche un cinéma sans rien trouvé. Retour Brooklyn métro.
Passage à l'épicerie. Maison. Fini « Si l'hiver arrive », couché.*

« A. S. M. Hutchinson, *If Winter Comes* (1921), un roman best-seller à propos des difficultés conjugales d'un couple marié », nous précise S.T. Joshi, était-ce lecture appropriée quand justement Sonia revient après trois semaines ? Plausible alternative : c'est elle-même qui l'a lu à Cleveland et lui en a proposé lecture. Effet habituel de la présence de Sonia, leurs habitudes reprises (on se retrouve centre-ville une fois qu'elle a fini ses rendez-vous professionnelles d'acheteuse pour son grand magasin de Cleveland, on déjeune au Milan ou ailleurs, aujourd'hui l'Automat : gageons qu'il a repris de la tourte à la viande hachée, mais comment peut-il se faire, dans la vague des films qui déferlent en permanence dans les cinémas de Broadway, qu'ils ne trouvent rien à leur convenance ? Le cinéma comme fuite, et la fuite elle-même se fait impossible, zut, surtout ne pas interpréter. On rentre à la maison, on fait des courses, on lit on se couche.

New York Times, 17 octobre 1925. Des rumeurs concernant l'apparition étrange d'une image de la Vierge à l'Enfant sur le mur intérieur de l'église catholique romaine Saint-Martin à Central Park, D. I., se sont répandues hier dans toute la campagne et, bien qu'il n'y ait pas eu de service religieux, l'église a été remplie à moitié pendant la majeure partie de l'après-midi. Les paroissiens et les visiteurs décrivent un assombrissement du mur brun-gris recouvert d'un enduit rugueux sur une surface d'environ deux pieds carrés, dont la forme ressemble à la tête et aux épaules de la Vierge tenant l'Enfant dans ses bras. Les opinions divergent quant à la ressemblance. Le bas de l'image se trouve à environ quatre mètres au-dessus du sol. L'observation du phénomène hier semblait indiquer, d'après sa position sur le mur, qu'il ne s'agissait pas d'un reflet d'une autre figure similaire ailleurs dans l'église, ni d'une projection par la lumière extérieure d'une image qui pourrait se trouver dans les vitraux des fenêtres opposées. D'après ce que l'on a pu apprendre, aucune figure n'a jamais été peinte ou placée d'une autre manière sur le mur, de sorte qu'il est peu probable que l'image soit une peinture oubliée qui vient d'être révélée à nouveau. L'église n'est ouverte que depuis environ un an. Une explication a été avancée hier par un membre de la paroisse, qui a déclaré qu'une violente tempête s'était abattue pendant la construction de l'église, brisant une partie du mur juste au-dessus de l'endroit où l'image est visible. « Il est probable que le béton du mur ait été imprégné par la pluie, a-t-il déclaré, et qu'il n'ait

pas complètement séché avant que le plâtre ne soit appliqué. Il me semble que cette humidité a maintenant traversé le plâtre, ce qui est une explication tout à fait naturelle. Mais la façon dont elle a pris la forme d'une image aussi évidente de la Vierge et de l'Enfant est pour moi un miracle. » Le révérend Daniel A. Dwyer, recteur de la paroisse, a déclaré hier soir qu'il n'était pas en mesure de se prononcer sur cette image. « Peut-être que le Bord nous dira plus tard ce que tout cela signifie », a-t-il déclaré. Il a ajouté qu'un cœur enflammé situé juste en dessous de la croix sur la poitrine de l'Enfant était devenu plus visible au cours des deux derniers jours, une affirmation également faite par les paroissiens.

Say Madonna Image Has Appeared in Church; Long Island Parishioners View It as Miracle

Rumors of the strange appearance of an image of the Madonna and Child on the inner wall of St. Martin's Roman Catholic Church at Central Park, L. I., spread over the countryside yesterday and, although there was no service, the church was half filled with persons most of the afternoon.

What parishioners and visitors describe is a darkening of the brownish-gray rough-plastered wall of the church over an area about two feet square in a shape which resembles the head and shoulders of the Madonna holding the Child in her arms. Opinions differ as to the closeness of the likeness. The bottom of the image is about fourteen feet above the floor line.

Observation of the phenomenon yesterday seemed to show from its position on the wall that it was not a reflection of any other similar figure elsewhere in the church or a projection by exterior light of an image that might be in the stained glass of opposite windows. So far as could be learned, no figure was ever painted or otherwise placed on the wall, so that it is unlikely the image is a forgotten picture

just revealed again. The church has been opened for only about a year.

An explanation was advanced by a member of the parish yesterday, who said that there had been a severe storm while the church was being built, which had broken off a section of the wall down to a point just above where the image may be seen.

"It is probable that the concrete in the wall became soaked through with rain," he said, "and did not thoroughly dry out before the plaster was put on. It seems to me this moisture has now come through the plaster, a very natural explanation. But how it has formed itself into such an unmistakable likeness of the Madonna and the Child is a miracle to me."

The Rev. Daniel A. Dwyer, rector of the parish, said last night he was not in a position to form any judgment on the figure. "Perhaps the Lord will tell us later what it all means," he said. He said that a flaming heart just below the cross on the infant's breast had grown plainer in the last two days, an assertion also made by parishioners.

\$4,000,000 Hotel Is Planned for Brooklyn; Willow St. Project to Be Largest in Borough

Plans for a \$4,000,000 Brooklyn hotel, which will be the largest in the borough, were announced yesterday by the Leverich Realty Corporation of 143 Montague Street, Brooklyn. The hotel will be erected immediately in Willow Street, between Clark and Pineapple Streets. The work of demolishing the frame and brick buildings occupying more than half a block on which the hotel is to be built will start next Monday.

Consummation of the plans for the project, which had been delayed since they were discussed half a year ago, was brought about by Daniel P. Ritchey of White Plains, a hotel promoter, who signed a forty-two-year lease of the hotel property last Saturday. The lease involves payments of \$12,000,000. The hotel is expected to be opened in December, 1926. Starrett & Van Vleck are the architects.

The Leverich Corporation, through a

subsidiary, the Brookhold Construction Corporation, will have charge of the erection of the new building. It will be sixteen stories high, with at least 600 rooms. Located in the centre of the Brooklyn Heights district, it will be near both the waterfront and the borough business section and within easy access of Manhattan.

A roof garden and a banquet hall seating 1,600 will be provided. The main entrance of the hotel will be on Willow Street. On an adjoining site another structure will be erected which will contain a swimming pool, tennis and squash courts and a gymnasium.

It is understood that Mr. Ritchey will form a corporation for the management of the hotel, which will be known as the Leverich Towers.

Mr. Ritchey was connected with the management of the Grunewald Hotel in New Orleans and the promotion of the Hotel Mayflower in Washington.

MOTION PICTURES.

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 POLA NEGRI IN "FLOWER OF
 NIGHT"—BEG. TOMORROW.

RIALTO TOM MIX in
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 BEN BERNIE & The Rialto
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ASTOR MATINEE TO-DAY, 2:15.
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
 with LON CHANEY
 A Universal Production presented by Carl Laemmle
 THEATRE, 5th Ave. at 48th Street
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PLAZA "HIS MAJESTY,
 BUNKER BEAN"
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 DOROTHY DEVORE
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CAPITOL Ramon Novarro in
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MONDAY, OCT. 19, AT 8:15 P. M.

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MOTION PICTURES.

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HIPPODROME Daily Mat.
 10th Ave. 10th St.
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 Tom Brown, Lillian Shaw, Patricia,
 Bert Loya, Roy & Mary Evans, etc.
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MOTION PICTURES.

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 who, at the age of 19, talks of his
 projected flight of 2,000 miles across
 the North Pole to Alaska. The New
 York Times tomorrow (Sunday)—Adv.