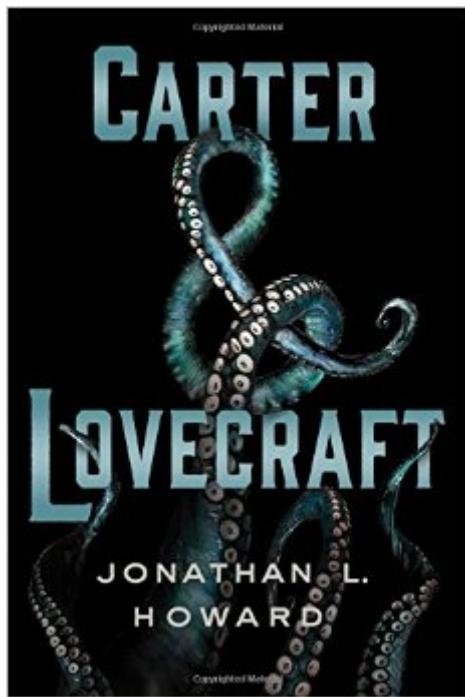


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Carter & Lovecraft



Synopsis

A Shelf Awareness Best Book of the Year" Carter & Lovecraft is a Pandora's box loaded with all the wonderfully twisted stuff I love, including a two-fisted homicide cop turned PI, warped realities, a mysterious bookstore, the Cthulhu mythos, a dash of romance, and creepy fish-men. What's not to love? Jonathan L. Howard knows how to show his readers a wickedly good time." •Christopher Golden, New York Times bestselling author *Dead Ringers* Daniel Carter used to be a homicide detective, but his last case—the hunt for a serial killer—went wrong in strange ways and soured the job for him. Now he's a private investigator trying to live a quiet life. Strangeness, however, has not finished with him. First he inherits a bookstore in Providence from someone he's never heard of, along with an indignant bookseller who doesn't want a new boss. She's Emily Lovecraft, the last known descendant of H.P. Lovecraft, the writer from Providence who told tales of the Great Old Ones and the Elder Gods, creatures and entities beyond the understanding of man. Then people start dying in impossible ways, and while Carter doesn't want to be involved, he's beginning to suspect that someone else wants him to be. As Carter reluctantly investigates, he discovers that H. P. Lovecraft's tales were more than just fiction, and he must accept another unexpected, and far more unwanted, inheritance.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars • See all reviews (45 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I will admit I've been curious about HP Lovecraft but his work always seemed a bit inaccessible to me. JL Howard, on the other hand, has been one of my favorite novelists from page one of

Johannes Cabal Necromancer. Howard is highly literate, wickedly smart and inventive and just generally a great writer for anyone who likes good prose and inventive story lines. His new novel, Carter & Lovecraft is both a continuation and extension of those qualities and I found in this book that he is CLEARLY a Lovecraft fan and in fact has referenced those works in The Cabal series. A series I still follow with great enthusiasm, pleasure and joy. The man is just a great author in a time when editing seems to have virtually gone out the window and creative stories which don't follow predictable "guidelines" are usually tossed aside the way Hollywood tosses aside new movies in favor of established "blockbusters" that will generate more predictable box-office earnings. Carter & Lovecraft is both a detective story/mystery and a voyage through "the mountains of madness" as we follow the central characters while they work to suspend their own disbelief and jump down the rabbit hole in order to solve a series of related murders and deaths which seem, on the surface, to be both impossible and factual at the same time. All the while making discoveries about each other, their respective ancestors and the relationships between all of the above, "deaths" included, and the roles they seem destined to play in all of it | which is not to say there isn't some machinations going on behind the scenes as well.

**** 4 out of 5 stars
Review by: Mark Palm
The Statement of Carter...and Lovecraft.
The work of H.P. Lovecraft casts a long shadow over the genre of supernatural and horror fiction, despite the fact that only a dozen or so of his stories are really timeless. It wasn't his execution, but his concepts that still have enormous power. A lot of his work is painfully purple, and overwrought, but those few times when he was really on, his fiction packed a massive wallop, so much so that writers like Stephen King, Neil Gaiman and Michael Chabon still occasionally touch their toes in his pond.
Jonathan L. Howard is the latest to do so, with his novel Carter and Lovecraft. Daniel Carter was a homicide detective, until his last case, the hunt for a bizarre serial killer, to a strange, maybe supernatural turn, and ended with his partner committing suicide as they apprehended the killer. Having lost his zeal for the job, Carter becomes a P.I. trying to pay his bills and live a quiet life. However he inherits a property from someone he has never heard of, which turns out to be a bookstore in Providence. Running the store is one Emily Lovecraft, who turns out to be the last living descendant of the fiction writer. She cares little for her descendant, and doesn't want a new boss, particularly one who knows nothing about the book business. After meeting her and her blue-blood boyfriend, Carter decides to share the bookstore with Lovecraft, leaving her in charge and returning to his business as a P.I. Strange things begin to happen, of course, as Carter begins suffering from hallucinations and fugue states, and an anonymous phone call ties him to the mysterious death of a

man who seemingly drowns to death inside of a locked car.

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