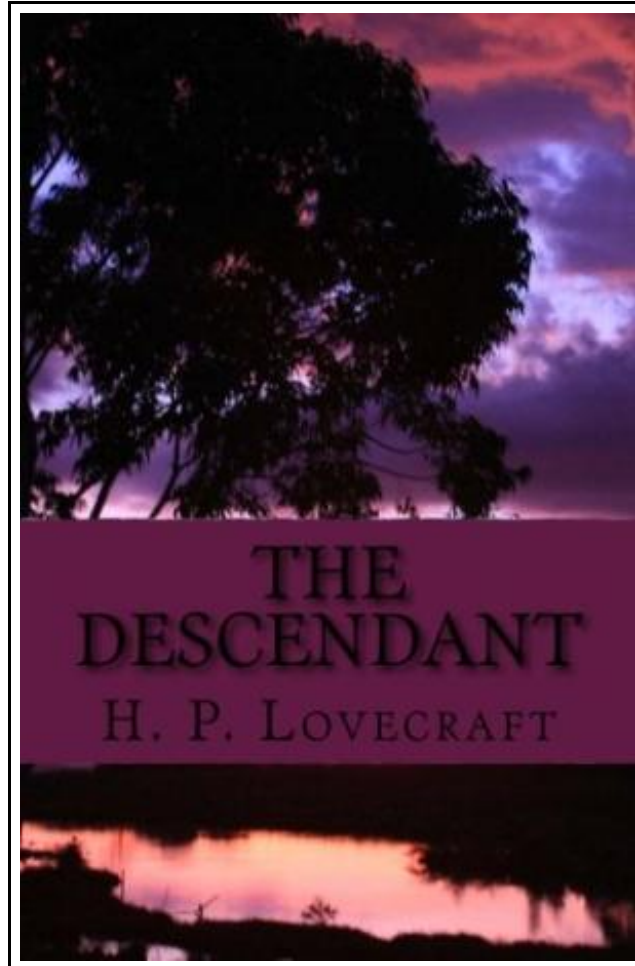


## The Descendant



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## THE DESCENDANT

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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 198 x 129 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. The Descendant is a story fragment by American horror fiction writer H. P. Lovecraft, believed to have been written in 1927.[1] It was first published in the journal *Leaves* in 1938, after Lovecraft's death. Lovecraft may have been referring to this attempt at a story when he wrote that he was making a very careful study of London in order to get background for tales involving richer antiquities than America can furnish. Lord Northam is a harmlessly mad Londoner who screams when the church bells ring. Once a scholar and aesthete who studied at Harrow and Oxford, he has become thin and grey and wrinkled before his time and seeks not to think through books of the tamest and most puerile kind. He only begins to explain the fear he lives under when confronted with a copy of the *Necronomicon*. The details of the character evoke two of Lovecraft's favorite British writers: He lives in Gray's Inn, where Arthur Machen lived for many years, and is the nineteenth Baron of a line whose beginnings went uncomfortably far back into the past, recalling Lord Dunsany, who was the eighteenth baron of a line founded in the 12th century. Northam's sampling of various worldviews is similar to Randolph Carter's quest for meaning in Lovecraft's *The Silver Key*. Northam's description as a dreamer who found life tame and unsatisfying also links him to Carter. Northam is also linked to Lovecraft's *The Nameless City*, perhaps even being the main character therein: He would travel leagues to follow up a furtive village tale of abnormal wonder, and once went into the desert of Araby to seek...



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