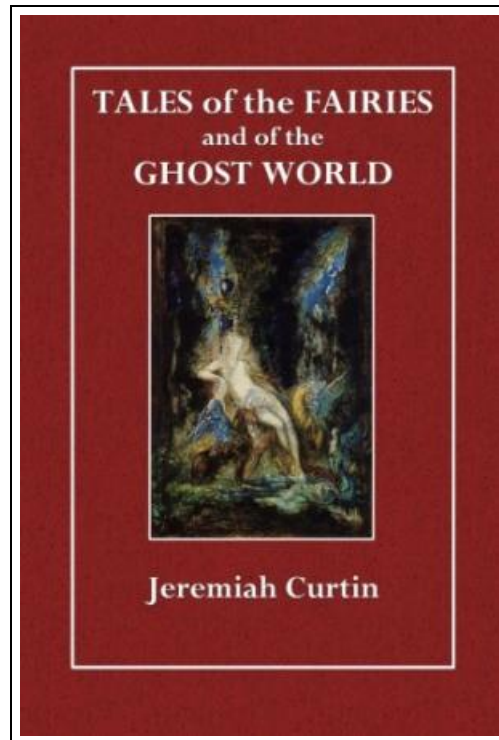


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## TALES OF THE FAIRIES AND OF THE GHOST WORLD: COLLECTED FROM ORAL TRADITION IN SOUTH-WEST MUNSTER

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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.IF we were asked to designate by a single epithet most of the stories in this little volume, that epithet would be weird. Within the compass of an equal number of pages we hardly know a collection of folk-lore, at any rate of recent date, containing so many thoroughly uncanny stories. Mr. Curtin is an indefatigable and successful collector. Hitherto his publications have been of marchen and hero-tales allied to marchen in their Celtic magnificence and repudiation of the conventions of ordinary romance. The present volume deals with sagas which, told, as they usually are in Ireland, among a believing peasantry, must go near to making each particular hair to stand an-end, must at least rouse the imagination of the hearers and surround them with terrible sights and sounds long strange to us who dwell in the garish daylight of a different world. All the stories, it is true, are not of this kind. Some of them witness to a livelier humour, such as we meet in the tales told from East to West of woman s tricks and woman s wiles. But they bear a small proportion to the rest, and even they are touched with the same uncanny tone. Scientifically the chief question raised by the stories, as pointed out by Mr. Alfred Nutt in his excellent preface, is that of the connection between the different classes of supernatural beings. The attributes of a ghost-that is to say, the spirit of a dead man-are indistinguishable from those of a fairy. Witches are not brought so prominently before us as ghosts and fairies; it is equally certain, however, from what we know elsewhere, that the attributes of...



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