



Crossroads, The (Science Fiction & Fantasy Short Stories Collection)

L. Ron Hubbard

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Think you know what's going on in the world? Think again. Long before Rod Serling took us into The Twilight Zone, L. Ron Hubbard brought us to The Crossroads—a place where thought-provoking twists and turns are delivered with plenty of wit and wisdom.

Farmer Eben Smith is fed up with big government telling him how to run his life and his business. They pay him to bury his crops while folks starve in the streets, and he's not going to take it anymore. He's declaring his independence, loading up his fruits and vegetables, and heading for the city to wheel and deal. . . .

But before he can trade in his turnips, Eben'll have to deal with something bigger—a break in the space/time continuum. He's at The Crossroads, where reality is turned upside-down and inside out. And before it's over, he'll turn his turnips into liquor, and the liquor into guns and gold, as he plunges into strange new worlds . . . finding ways to wreak havoc in all of them.

The Crossroads first appeared in the February 1941 issue of Unknown Fantasy Fiction. By then Hubbard's stature as a writer was well established. As author and critic Robert Silverberg puts it: he had become a "master of the art of narrative." Hubbard's editors urged him to apply his gift for succinct characterization, original plot, deft pacing and imaginative action to a genre that was new, and essentially foreign, to him—science fiction and fantasy. The rest is history.

Also includes the fantasy adventures, Borrowed Glory, the haunting story of two immortals who wager on two mortals given a single day of love . . . a wager that leads to heartbreak and tragedy; and The Devil's Rescue based on the legend of The Flying Dutchman, in which the sole survivor of a disaster at sea is "rescued" by the devil himself and finds that fate rests on a roll of the dice.

"Amusing . . . a nostalgic delight." —Publishers Weekly

* An International Book Awards Finalists

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