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THE DRACULA PAPERS

PART ONE: THE SCHOLAR'S TALE

By Reggie Oliver

Foreword by Dr. Abraham Van Helsing

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Can a book include high adventure, occult philosophy, whimsical and bawdy humour, the macabre and the pensive all in one arras of harmonious fabric? Apparently so.

If you thought that nothing more could be done with the vampire myth, Reggie Oliver's *The Dracula Papers* is the book to change your mind. Bram Stoker's immortal **DRACULA** told us about Count Dracula as an undead vampire. But how did this come to be? Who was Dracula in real life? There has always been speculation, but *The Dracula Papers* now offers the ultimate answer. It takes us back to the year 1576, to the wild land of Transylvania and to the early life of Prince Vladimir who came to be the horror known as Dracula. The result is a story as remarkable and extraordinary as the Bram Stoker classic. Battles, intrigues, sorcery, sexual passion, hauntings, a mechanical tortoise and a burning rhinoceros all have their part to play in a thrilling narrative that nevertheless plunges deep into the mystery of Evil.

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With *The Dracula Papers* Reggie Oliver presents a grand tour of the sixteenth century, and of every variety of occult lore surrounding the vampire myth.

Reggie Oliver is a stage actor and playwright. His biography of Stella Gibbons was praised as "a triumph" by Hilary Spurling in the *Daily Telegraph*, his play *Winner Takes All*, was described as "the funniest evening in London", by Michael Billington in *The Guardian*, and his adaptation of Hennequin and Delacour's *Once Bitten* opens at the Orange Tree Theatre in London in December 2010.

He is the author of four highly-praised volumes of short fiction. His stories have appeared in over 25 anthologies and, for the third year running, one of his stories appears in *The Mammoth Book of Best New Horror*, the most widely read contemporary horror anthology.

For more information or a review copy, please contact Stina on stina@smemo.no or 07740 303255.

What People Say:

"Oliver's ability to create a sense of time and place in every one of these stories is exemplary.... As a work of spiritual terror it has few peers.... *The Dreams of Cardinal Vittorini* is unquestionably brilliant."

Jim Rockhill, All Hallows

"Reggie Oliver rediscovers many if not all the qualities which make the English Ghost Story classic."

Ramsey Campbell, Dark Horizons

"Reggie Oliver has a controlled and vivid wit, a precise eye and ear for style, and a powerful sense of the strange.... an infernally talented writer..."

Roger Johnson, All Hallows

"Poignancy in love, farcical and dream-consistent, this novella is a masterpiece..."

D. F. Lewis, Weirdmonger

Chômu Press in an independent UK publisher dedicated to publishing fiction that is both imaginative and unhindered by considerations of genre. They've been described as the publisher equivalent of art house cinema and move beyond the narrow fixations of genre that so many of the big publishers are restrained by. Their mission is to publish books that inspire and excite them and their readers.