

The background of the cover is a dark, textured illustration. It depicts a stone wall with a large, shadowed face carved into it. In the foreground, a smaller, more detailed figure of a man with a beard and a hooded cloak is visible, looking towards the right. The overall mood is mysterious and gothic.

The Golem

by Gustav Meyrink

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"He is fumbling his way now along the wall; at this moment he must be laboriously spelling out the letters of my name in the darkness, on my door . . . The door opens, and he comes in . . . with the gait of a man for ever in fear of falling . . . unfamiliar face clean shaven, with prominent cheek bones, eyes slanting . . . Terror takes me by the throat . . ."

This is the first meeting of Athanasius Pernath, gem-cutter with a shadow in his past, with the Golem, the strange supernatural force reputed to haunt the ancient Ghetto of Prague. From this meeting grows an incredible web of experiences, set within the twisted crumbling walls and dark passages of the Ghetto around the turn of the century. Strange mystical visions, wonderful transformations, lurking terrors and perplexing revelations come into being around the twin personalities of Pernath and the Golem, against a background of hatred and frustrated love, malice and cabalistic saintliness.

The legend of the Golem has attracted the attention of many writers, including such important contemporary figures as Isaac Bashevis Singer and Elie Wiesel. Gustav Meyrink's *The Golem* is its most famous fictional treatment and is one of the most famous supernatural novels in modern European literature. Besides being a masterpiece of fantastic fiction, it also has the distinction of being the first important expressionist novel, a work of international stature.

"Not to be missed . . ."—*Los Angeles Times*

"*The Golem* has been a favorite of connoisseurs of works of fantasy for many decades."—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

Republication of the work originally published by Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston & New York, 1928. 13 black-and-white illustrations. Introduction by E. F. Bleiler. 224pp. 5¾ × 8½. Paperbound.

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The Golem (Dover Mystery, Detective, & Other Fiction)
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