



Chateau D If and Other Stories (Paperback)

By Jack Vance

Spatterlight Press, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Jack Vance mastered his craft over more than sixty years, garnering awards including the Nebula, Edgar, two Hugos, and the 1997 SFWA Grandmaster. The stories in this collection were written through the early-mid period of his career, spanning twenty years from the early 50 s on. Vance would dismiss his early work as juvenile, gadget -oriented, lacking subtlety and polish. Even so, these stories are hearty and entertaining. Vance s perception, imagination and eventful personal experience are all visible, staking the way for significant things to come. Extraterrestrials are difficult to portray, but Vance takes a swing with Phalid s Fate (1951), Nopalgarth (1966), and The Narrow Land (1967). Shape-Up and Crusade to Maxus are classic SF. The Augmented Agent and Milton Hack from Zodiac are intrigues, with recognizable prototypes of Magnus Ridolph and Miro Hetzel. The conflict between conservers and exploiters is a theme Vance would return to with Maske: Thaery and The Cadwal Chronicles. The Gift of Gab (1955) throws in a twist: the challenge to communicate with a non-human race having no language. Chateau d If (1950) highlights the collection....



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