

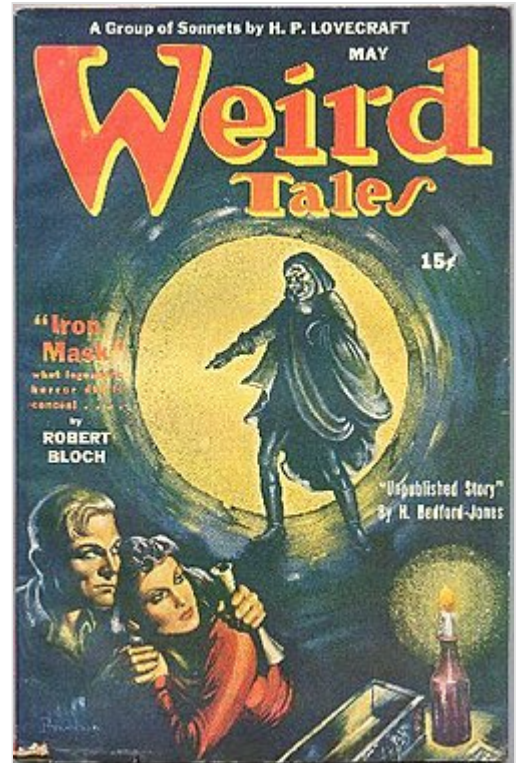


The Lake (short story)

"**The Lake**" is a short story by American author Ray Bradbury. It was first published in the May 1944 edition of *Weird Tales*, and later collected in Bradbury's collections *Dark Carnival*, *The October Country*, and *The Stories of Ray Bradbury*. In an article written by Bradbury called "Run Fast, Stand Still" which was later collected in his book *Zen in the Art of Writing*, "The Lake" was written in two hours and led to him believing it was the finest story he'd ever written at that point in time.

Plot

The story focuses on a young man named Harold and his recollection of a traumatic experience from his childhood where a close friend of his named Tally drowns in the lake where they often played together. Her body was never found. Visiting the lake once more as an adult alongside his newlywed wife, he finds that a lifeguard has recovered the wet corpse of a child who is soon revealed to be that of his beloved Tally.



"The Lake" was originally published in the May 1944 issue of *Weird Tales*.

References

- <http://www.lghs.net/ourpages/auto/2013/3/1/55741734/The%20Lake.pdf>
- <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0683220/>
- <http://www.cliffsnotes.com/literature/b/bradburys-short-stories/summary-and-analysis-the-october-country/the-lake>

External links

- "The Lake" (<https://www.isfdb.org/cgi-bin/title.cgi?58399>) title listing at the Internet Speculative Fiction Database
- "The Lake" (https://archive.org/details/Weird_Tales_v37n05_1944-05_LPM-AT/page/n77/mode/2up) at the Internet Archive

