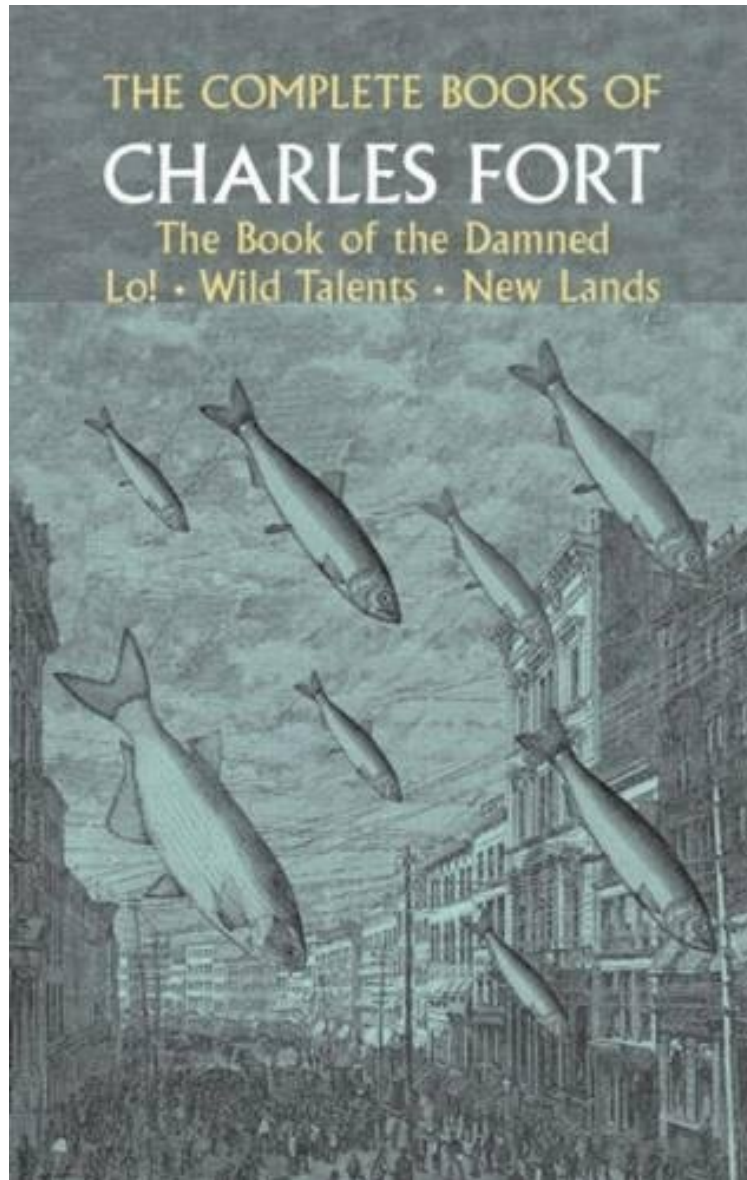



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## The Complete Books of Charles Fort: The Book of the Damned / Lo! / Wild Talents / New Lands

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**Charles Fort : The Complete Books of Charles Fort: The Book of the Damned / Lo! / Wild Talents / New Lands** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Complete Books of Charles Fort: The Book of the Damned / Lo! / Wild Talents / New Lands:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Dense mysteriesBy Dan LindsayFascinating collection of

unexplained phenomena, but Fort's writing is dense at best. His theorizing is very hard to follow, and the science of the last few decades has made much of what he said irrelevant. But the list of inexplicable but verified events is still fascinating, entertaining, and vastly mysterious. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Charles Fort was and is The Man By Marc Maurus Some say Charles Fort is a difficult read, but I didn't find him so. Fort has been trundled under by every railroading editor and reviewer in the business. Why, then, are his books still in print? Because people like me are not satisfied, as Fort was not, with the same old ho-hum approach to the nature of things. I first read Fort in the 1960s, when I was a teenager. I was astonished by his statements, his recounts of people who either could do strange things or to whom strange things happen. Uncounted events of things falling from the sky. All of which were poo-poo-pooed by science of the day. Fort did his research in a completist fashion. Now that I have all four of his books in one volume, I am very happy to be working slowly through them. Some called him the father of paranormal research. They were right. Take him slow. Don't miss anything. Then make up your own mind. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant! By Frayed Edges This work is filled with wit and imagination. If you're not a careful reader and not prepared for sarcasm, and a good peppering of cynicism, you might miss out on the brilliancy of this work. Fort is sometimes subtle, and at other times, quite blatant concerning his attack on the status quo of mainstream science. Yet, it is Fort who appears to have kept an open mind when he examines the wealth of data that is available regarding unusual phenomenon. He sure doesn't skew his presentation like some sort of sensationalist "Myth Buster" that tries to disprove every anomaly under the sun because he thinks that every occurrence on this earth has a "reasonable explanation." And at times the book becomes absolutely hilarious when he presents those "reasonable explanations" held by the Absolute Positivists. My general impressions of the data that Fort presents is that it was well researched, which makes me respect his findings. Also, Fort doesn't force his opinions of what these "unexplained" phenomenon might be. He helped me to continue to develop my open mind's eye. I always try to react to any news media item with "not necessarily"; in this respect, this book was very helpful. I'd recommend this book to anyone who wants to have a look at the underside of the leaf.

"Did beings from outer space visit earth in the past are the various objects seen in the sky evidences of their visits? What is the explanation of falls of frogs, falls of fishes, falls of seagulls, which have been recorded from time to time? How can we account for all the inexplicable astronomical observations that have been made in the past? How can we answer reports of strange animals, disappearances of men from open sight, curious structures in the snow, talents like teleportation and telekinesis?" These are the "damned," by which the late Charles Ford meant all the wide range of mysteries that are ignored by orthodox science or explained away improperly. He worked for 27 years at the British Museum and the New York Public Library gathering material on phenomena from the borderlands between science and fantasy. His research appeared in four books: *The Book of the Damned*, *New Lands*, *Lo!*, and *Wild Talents*. In these four volumes Fort organized and commented on a wild host of phenomena: flying saucers seen in the sky before the invention of aircraft, flying wheels, strange noises in the sky; correlations between volcanic activity and atmospheric phenomena; falls of red snow; falls of frogs, fishes, worms, shells, jellies; finding of "thunderbolts"; discrepancies in the schedules of comets, sightings on Mars and the moon; infra-Mercurian planets; inexplicable footprints in snowfields; flat earth phenomena, disruptions of gravity; poltergeist phenomena; stigmata; surviving fossil animals; the Jersey devil; Kaspar Hauser; spontaneous combustion; and similar weird effects. While Charles Ford never actually explained the phenomena, beyond making vague hints of an organic universe and neo-Hegelianism, through the years his following has grown. At first his work was picked up by literary men such as Theodore Dreiser, Booth Tarkington, Clarence Darrow, Havelock Ellis, and Oliver Wendell Holmes. Later, "Fortean themes" influenced the development of science fiction, and today his work remains the great predecessor to all extraterrestrial speculations.