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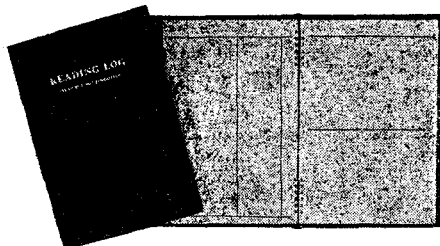
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# November Maples

By Raymond Holden

**L**OOK where the winds unflower  
The once leaf-flowered tree  
But do not look to see  
Green's tragic brevity,  
Rather its history.

This now dismantling hour  
Makes volatile and brief  
The aspect, not the leaf,  
And leaves to time in fief  
A greenness of belief.

When these bright skeletons,  
Gray-jewelled, articulate,  
Quivered in summer's spate  
Of maple-green, their fate  
Was equal green and slate.

We too were covered once  
With morning-colored light.  
Horizons all were bright.  
Winter was but a night  
And the sun's height our height.

Look to the maples now  
That in their veteran dress  
Of wind-spun nakedness  
Profess, as men profess,  
Life that is limitless;

That makes a vital show  
In the grain of flesh and wood  
Of all that ever stood  
For change from ill to good,  
Thought's fuel and action's food;

That says, "When youth is gone  
"It does not lie congealed,  
"It is not lost but sealed  
"In next year's fresher yield  
"Of fertile mind and field;

"Though wind tear trees to bone  
"And man destroy his race  
"This practiced life will place  
"Again before the face  
"Green evidence of grace."

## The Criminal Record

The Saturday Review's Guide to Detective Fiction

Title and Author	Crime, Place, and Sleuth	Summing Up	Verdict
NOBODY LOVES A DEAD MAN M. M. Raison (Murray & Gee: \$2.)	N. Y. dramatic critic, Hollywood bound, meets luscious gal who is mixed up with him in two murders.	Rather confusing jam-boree of crime, cinema cuties, and various varieties of intrigue. Lieut. Holden, of Hollywood homicide squad, keeps matters controlled.	So-so
THE DEAD MEN GRIN Bruno Fischer (McKay: \$2.)	Family connection advises private op. Helm of possible murder. It happens—and several more. But Helm gets the killer.	Up-state New York village and surrounding woodland scene of prettily terrifying crime-sequence. Well-worked-out and suspenseful.	Good
BEWARE AFTER DARK Editor— T. Everett Harré (Emerson: \$2.50)	Twenty-one tales of "mystery, horror, thrills, and terror" by assorted practitioners, American and foreign.	Very good collection. Editor digs up forgotten old-timers, which still pack thrill, and generally avoids too-well-beaten anthologist's path.	Worth-while owning
MURDER BEFORE MIDNIGHT A. B. Cunningham (Dutton: \$2.)	Body of girl at bottom of abandoned cistern on Southern farm gives Sheriff Jess Roden complicated case to untangle.	Roden, Nig, and Big-boy officiate capably throughout dramatic and effective tale of village villainy—with help of gun-totin' female.	Good grade Roden
"IN RE SHERLOCK HOLMES" August Derleth (Mycroft & Moran: \$2.50)	Thirteen stories of Solar Pons, London sleuth, and his faithful follower, Dr. Lyndon Parker.	Frankly modelled on Holmes's stories, these pastiches stand pretty firmly on their own deductive flat-feet.	For specialists
THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY Helen McCloy (Morrow: \$2.)	Scottish estate of Lord Ness, scene of disturbing and violent deeds, unravelled, mainly, by American Lieut. Dunbar, psychiatrist in civil life.	Strange case, set against diverting background, is capably handled—along mental lines—although development is rather slow and denouement far-fetched.	Not quite the real McCloy
THE OPENER OF THE WAY Robert Bloch (Arkham House: \$3.)	Twenty-one tales of supernatural horror most of them fatal to somebody and scened all over the globe.	"Yours Truly, Jack the Ripper," is best of lot but others will satisfactorily chill addicts of this kind of yarn.	Br-r-r!

## Entertaining Capers

UNCLE 'LISH. By Ralph Frye. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. 1945. 197 pp. \$2.

Reviewed by GRACE FRANK

UNCLE 'LISH, a retired old sea-dog whose language would blister the paint off a house, is amusingly presented in these sketches through the innocent eyes of a small boy, his grandnephew. The ancient mariner (no stranger to readers of *The New Yorker*) comes sharply alive on page one when the boy, aged five, announces at school: "My Uncle 'Lish says that the *Mayflower* was a top-heavy old bitch."

How Uncle 'Lish removed four casks of rum from a wrecked ship and then headed the committee appointed by the Selectmen to investigate the theft, and how he took his grandnephew to Boston to see a parade in honor of Queen Liliuokalani, how the Queen unexpectedly turned out to be white instead of black, and how the boy was temporarily left alone with this woman while his relative went upstairs to transact business with the fattest of her painted retinue, these are only the most scandalous capers in an entertaining series.

If your list includes a masculine convalescent with a stomach for strong language and wounds sufficiently healed to warrant laughter, Uncle 'Lish should cheer him. The book provides light refreshment of superior quality.

## ANSWERS TO LITERARY QUIZ

1. "Doctor Faustus," by Christopher Marlowe. 2. Priscilla, in "The Courtship of Miles Standish," by Longfellow. 3. "The Pied Piper," by Browning. 4. "Abou Ben Adhem," by Leigh Hunt. 5. The Wedding Guest, in "The Ancient Mariner," by Coleridge. 6. "Father William," by Lewis Carroll. 7. Porphyro, in "The Eve of St. Agnes," by Keats. 8. "Macbeth," by Shakespeare. 9. "Horatius," by Thomas Macaulay. 10. The Spider, in "The Spider and the Fly," by Mary Howitt. 11. The Pussycat, in "The Owl and the Pussycat," by Edward Lear. 12. "Juggling Jerry," by George Meredith. 13. "The Skeleton in Armor," by Longfellow. 14. "The Forsaken Merman," by Matthew Arnold. 15. Romeo, in "Romeo and Juliet," by Shakespeare. 16. Ko-Ko, in "The Mikado," by W. S. Gilbert. 17. Lord Thomas Howard, in "The Revenge," by Tennyson. 18. The captain's daughter, in "Ballad of the Tempest," by James T. Fields. 19. Little brother, in "Sister Helen," by Dante Gabriel Rossetti. 20. The Duke of Ferrara, in "My Last Duchess," by Browning.

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