



## **The Devil in Iron**

**Robert E. Howard (1906 - 1936)**

---

Read by:	Phil Chenevert	Format:	MP3 CD in DVD case
Length:	1 hour and 35 minutes	Catalog:	DB-1208
Language:	English	UPC:	0701236969269
Style:	Solo	MSLP:	\$9.99
Genre:	Fantasy Fiction, Science Fiction		

---

*The Devil in Iron* is one of the original Conan stories written by Robert E. Howard and published in *Weird Tales* in August 1934. We begin with greedy fisherman awakening an ancient demon, Khosatral Khel, on the remote island of Xapur. The demon then resurrects the island's dormant ancient fortress and its long-dead citizens, giant pythons, and labyrinthine ramparts. Conan, engaged in leading the Vilayet kozaks, is tricked by Jehungir Agha, the nefarious governor of Turan, and lured to the island in pursuit of the ravishing Octavia. The awakening of the demon and the resurrection thwart the governors plot. Conan arrives alive and kicking and defeats the forces of the Agha, a giant python, and the demon Khosatral Khel itself.

**Robert Ervin Howard** (January 22, 1906 – June 11, 1936) was an American pulp fiction author best known for his character Conan the Barbarian and considered the father of the “sword and sorcery” fantasy fiction subgenre. Born and raised in Texas, his father was a country doctor who had a penchant for get-rich-quick schemes. The resulting financial problems led to marital difficulties and frequent moves. His mother, who suffered from tuberculosis his entire life, felt she had married beneath her station. As a child Howard dreamed of becoming an author of adventure fiction and achieved his first success at age 23. His writings were published in a wide selection of magazines, journals, and newspapers in several genres. The main outlet for his stories was the Depression-era pulp magazine *Weird Tales*, which featured Conan the Barbarian, a character whose cultural impact has been compared to that of such icons as Batman, Count Dracula, James Bond, Sherlock Holmes, and Tarzan. Howard remains a popular author, with his best works still continuously in print. His suicide at the age of 30 led to speculation about his mental health: when he learned that his mother had entered a permanent coma, he walked out to his car and shot himself in the head.