

## MACHEN, ARTHUR (1863 - 1947), formerly JONES, ARTHUR LLEWELLIN, writer

**Name:** Arthur Machen  
**Date of birth:** 1863  
**Date of death:** 1947  
**Spouse:** Amelia Hogg  
**Spouse:** Dorothe Purefoy Hudleston  
**Child:** Hilary Machen  
**Child:** Janet Machen  
**Parent:** Janet Robina Jones (née Machen)  
**Parent:** John Edward Jones  
**Gender:** Male  
**Occupation:** writer  
**Area of activity:** Literature and Writing  
**Author:** Cecil John Layton Price

Born 3 March 1863. He spent his early years at Llanddewi Fach rectory, three miles north of Caerleon-on-Usk, Monmouth; he attended Hereford Cathedral School until he was seventeen. After a period of near starvation in London, he enjoyed an independent income for a time and brought out some of his best early stories.

He had already written a translation of Casanova and two imitative works, *The Anatomy of tobacco* and *The Chronicle of Clemendy*. In 1900 he acted with F.R. Benson's touring company. He entered journalism and two of his best-known works were originally published in the newspaper for which he worked. *The Bowman* (*Evening News*, 29 September 1914) gave rise during World War I to the story of the Angel of Mons. The first of his autobiographical works, *Far off things* (1923), was printed under another title in the *Evening News* in 1915, and contains pleasing reminiscences written in a mellow spirit.

Machen was celebrated for his stories of the other-world, fringing reality; terror is their keynote. *Hieroglyphics*, *The Hill of dreams*, and *The children of the pool* contain the best known of them. In his later years, Machen became a Roman Catholic.

He married twice, and had a son and daughter by his second wife. He retired to Amersham in 1929 and was noted as a conversationalist. He was awarded a Civil List pension in 1932. He died 15 December 1947.

### Author

**Cecil John Layton Price**, (1915 - 1991)

### Sources

*The Times*, 16 December 1947

information from Leslie Millar

D. P. M. Michael, *Arthur Machen* (Cardiff 1971)

Meic Stephens (ed), *The New Companion to the Literature of Wales* (Cardiff 1998)

### Further Reading

NLW Archives: [The Chain Papers: C 2/14/12: "Luncheon... in honour of a man of Gwent, Arthur Machen" leaflet](#)

Wikipedia Article: [Arthur Machen](#)

### Images

NLW: [Arthur Machen in the garden, Lynwood, Amersham, July 1930](#)

NLW: Photograph of Arthur Machen when with the Benson Company

NLW: Mr & Mrs Arthur Machen on Turville Heath, Bucks where A.M. lived in 1893

## Works

Arthur Machen, *The great god Pan and The inmost light*(London 1894)

## Additional Links

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