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## The Unknown

for to us, space itself has but three dimensions; and it is because of this fact that even our wildest flights of imagina-tion bring no tangible image of a four-dimensional figure before our mental

"That is all, gentlemen."

In another moment, the lecture room was empty, save for the Professor and the student, Ames, who sat drumming on the arm of his seat and gazing dreamily out of the window at the approaching

storm.

"And now, Mr. Ames, I shall be glad to have you tell me what you know of the Fourth Dimension." Ridgley settled back in his chair and regarded the young fellow before him with keen disapproval. Ames got to his feet in leisurely fashion, stouched to the blackboard and with

a few strokes of the emer, obliterated the diagrams that the Professor land drawn. Pulling the model stand forward, he placed a wooden cube in position, and with a piece of chalk, slowly and deliberately sketched in its outlines on the blackbaset. blackboard.

blackboard.

It was an extremely simple process; but it appeared to take considerable time; and Ridgley had yawned several times before the drawing was completed. Ames stepped back a pace or two and regarded his work critically, his head on one side.

An ironical smile curved the Professor's line.

sor's lips.
"Well, Mr. Ames?" he suggested.
The boy started slightly and passed his hand over his forchead.

"I was just considering how best to make it clear to you, sir." He picked up the cube from the model stand and turned back to the board.

RUMBLE of thunder came faintly through the open window. The heat A RUMBLE of thunder came faintly through the open window. The heat was very oppressive. The Professor caught himself nodding. He yawned again, as with half closed eyes, he watched the deliberate journey of the piece of chalk.

"I think you will find this correct, sir." Ames was speaking. "Here is the original cube, with its three dimensions." original cube, with its three dimensions."
He pointed to the drawing he had made from the model. "And here"—he rapidly indicated a number of dotted lines with the point of the erayon—"is the body of four dimensions, of which the cube is but the shadow. You can see the four-dimensional body—the cuboid, Professor?" fessor ? !

"Yes," The word was almost a whis-"Yes." The word was almost a whisper. Ridgley scarcely recognized his own voice. It was strained and harsh, and seemed to come from a vast distance off. "That rather strikes a blow at the law of the impenetrability of matter, doesn't it, Ames. Apparently two bodies can occupy the same space at the same time." His eyes were blinking uncertainly behind his classes.

glasses,

'May I go now, Professor?''

Ridgley did not answer; his head had dropped to his hands. He was amazed, bewildered, stunned at the stupendous revelation. Ames—a mere boy—had discovered and proven the existence of the Fourth Dimension? He had achieved the inverse the concerned the inverse that the inverse the concerned the inverse the concerned the inverse the concerned the inverse that the concerned th impossible, conquered the insurmountable obstacle!

And if Ames could demonstrate so clearly the absolute certainty of this

incredible discovery, could not he — Ridgley — lecture upon it before all the greatest scientists in the world. To what eights might he not climb? Ames must explain how

The Professor lifted his head. He was alone. Ames had gone. A dense twilight filled the room.

On the blackboard was a white blurr;

Ames had rubbed out his diagram before

going to his rooms,
"The cube is but the shadow," murmured Ridgley. He rose and picked up the chalk, drawing in the cube on the blackboard with swift, accurate strokes. "The lines of the four-dimensional body

The chalk elattered to the floor, as the Professor leaned heavily against the desk for support. He could not remember the figure Ames had constructed!

There was the shadow, but whence had come the outlines of the substance? In

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