



LEE GREENWELL

science fiction



# List f: science fiction

There was a narrow window of time when teenagers gathered around mimeograph machines in basements and garages to publish science fiction fanzines.

Some of these youngsters went on to highly successful careers as authors and editors, and these crudzines are their true first publications. This is the story of “American samizdat”, a history of science fiction, amateur self-publishing, and nerd culture.

Please join us on a chronological past view of the future.

**mark funke**  
bookseller

“Fundamentally, science fiction novels are ‘period pieces,’ historical novels laid against a background of history that hasn’t happened yet.”

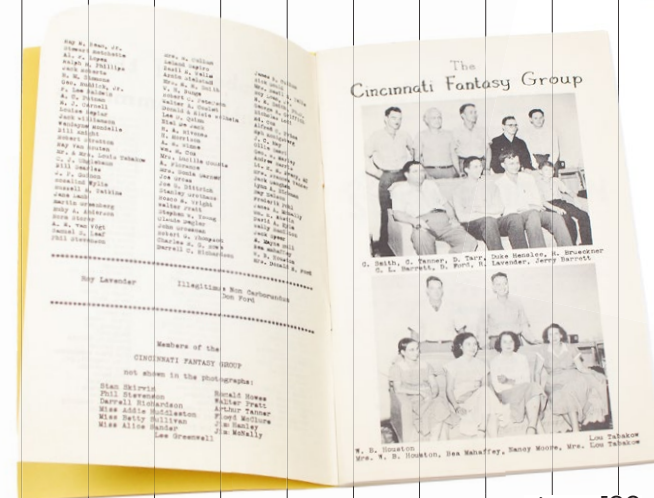
— John W. Campbell “History to Come” editorial in May 1941, *Astounding Science Fiction*



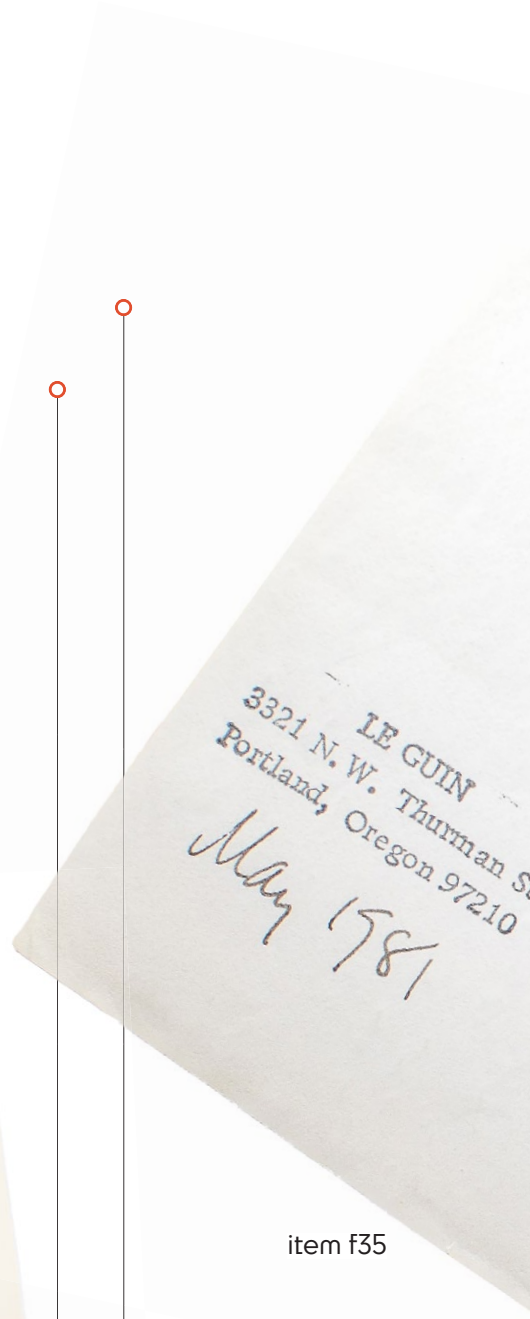
item f01



item f05



item f09



item f35



- Mabel's Utopia f01
- Used Tractors and Science Fiction f02
- The [Unobtainable] Brooklyn Reporter f03
- R.H. Barlow pays \$0.00 f04
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- First Edition Buck Nelson f23
- Zine of International Fandom f24
- Not Written by Heinlein, Clarke & Bradbury f25
- First English Fanzine from Holland f26
- President of the NFFF f27
- Another Hugo Nominated Fanzine f28
- Bradbury on Race Relations f29
- "dulled to a stupor" f30
- Clarke & Pohl on the Future of Transport f31
- Hodgen's Unpublished Novellas f32
- Dean Koontz College Publication f33
- UFO Archives, the Beginning f34
- Unpublished Neil R. Jones f35
- Freewheeling Alfred Bester f36
- Unpublished Ursula Le Guin f37
- Asimov Insults a Teenager for Being Jewish f38

> the future that hasn't happened yet...

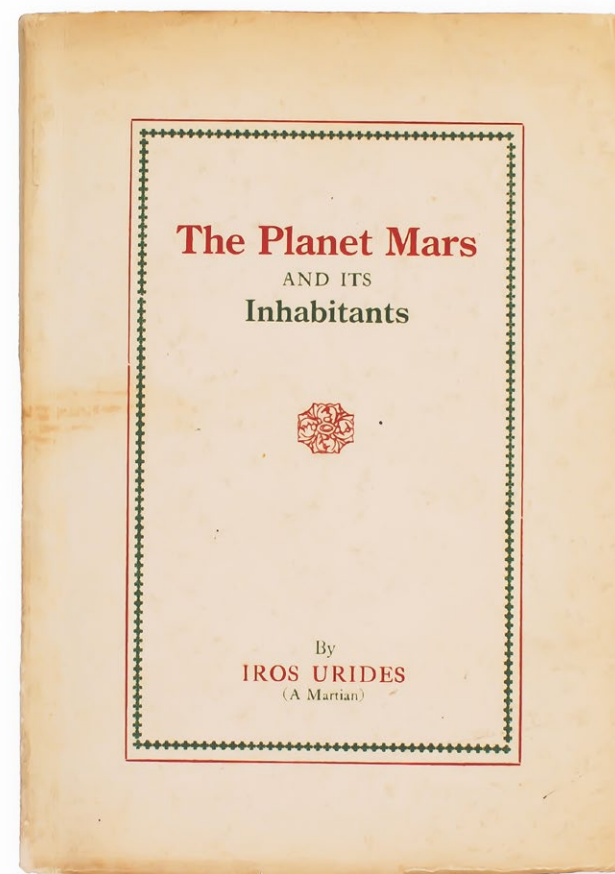
1922

[San Francisco]:  
[Mabel J. McKean]  
195 by 135mm  
7¾ by 5¼ inches

# Mabel's Martian Utopia

## The Planet Mars and its Inhabitants: A Psychic Revelation

Urides, Iros (pseudonym)



Staple bound original wrappers; [1 lv. with plate], 112 pp. First edition (there is a different 1956 edition with "Eros" as author and not "Iros"). With an illustration of the hemispheres of Mars and a plate depicting a Martian plateau.

Very good plus: light soiling and wear to covers; price erase markings to flyleaf; inscribed in 1922 by prior owner to a friend on recto of 1st leaf; text block very crisp.

**SOLD**

Mars is a socialist anti-material utopia with no formal political system. Martians are ruled only by love and Jesus Christ. Earth is becoming a menace to neighboring planets and the Martians are concerned and want to help. Iros Urides, a dead Martian from the City of Urid, has sent his spirit as an envoy to enlighten the millions of God's children on Earth who are enthralled in darkness. The book combines elements of science fiction, religious utopia, and socialism.

*It is lamentable that the dwellers of your earth are divided against one another. Not only are your false ideals of racial, sociological and religious distinctions a bar to your spiritual and material progress, but your political and economic falsities are millstones around your necks which will ultimately lead to your destruction. (pg. 26)*

For context, McKean's 1922 description of Mars predates Hugo Gernsback's 1926 founding of *Amazing Stories* and Fritz Lang's 1927 movie *Metropolis*.

Iros Urides (the dead Martian) dictates through the medium of J.L. Kennon (another pseudonym). The copyright for the book is held by Mabel J. McKean (1890–1944). McKean was a stenographer and an occultist who wrote articles on the evolving spirit of mankind. A review of this book in the December 1923 edition of *Science and Invention* states, "Mabel J. McKean [was] the medium who says she saw the wonderful things which appear in this little volume." This indicates that McKean was the author. However, utopian bibliographer Lyman Tower Sargent attributes authorship of the book to James Scott Marshall. Even if McKean was not the author, she was the copyright holder and appears to be the publisher.

One does not have to be a statistician to prove that there were exceedingly few women publishers of science fiction in the 1920's.

OCLC Number: 13401758 with nine copies worldwide (eight in the United States and one in Canada); UCSB copy in poor condition. Objectively rare in the trade and infrequently available for sale. No known auction records.

Thank you to colleague Lloyd Currey, ABAA for reference assistance.

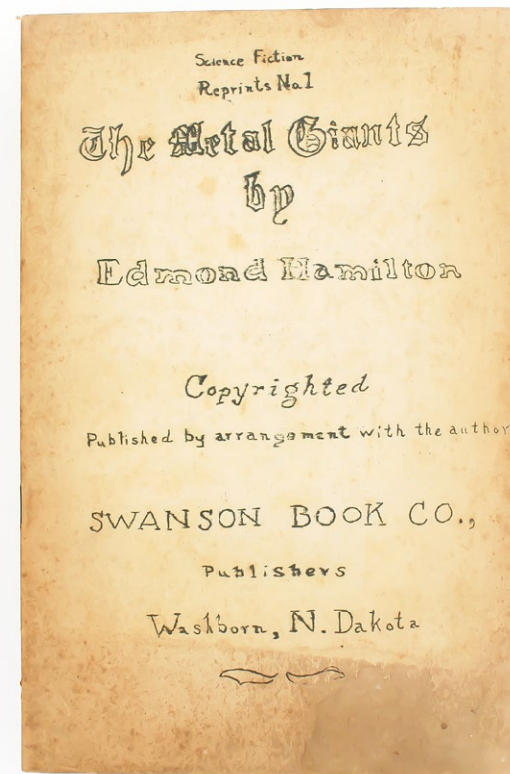
# Used Tractors and Science Fiction

1932 ?

Washborn (sic), N. Dakota:  
Swanson Book Co.  
215 by 140mm  
8½ by 5½ inches

## The Metal Giants

Hamilton, Edmond



Original paper wrappers, stapled; 34, [4] pp. Mimeographed. One full page illustration entitled "The Robots Crash!"

Very good except for heavy tanning and poor mimeograph quality (as is the case in all copies of this book).

**SOLD**

Publisher Carl Swanson (1902–1974) was a rural farmer in Washburn, ND (misspelled Washborn on cover). He was a dealer of used tractors and farm equipment, ran a mail-order science fiction bookstore (see Item f05 for copies of his catalogues), corresponded copiously with H.P. Lovecraft and *Superman* creator Jerome Siegel, and attempted to start a magazine of weird science fiction called *Galaxy*. To prepare for its publication he secured publishing rights, including the rights for *The Metal Giants* from Edmond Hamilton. Nothing came of the *Galaxy* publication, and the booklet on offer here is apparently the only item Swanson ever published.

Author Edmond Hamilton (1904–1977) is one of the deans of science fiction. His career started in 1926 and continued for over five decades. Hamilton was one of the central writers in the early years of *Weird Tales*, writing 79 stories for that publication between 1926 and 1948. *The Metal Giants* was Hamilton's third work, originally printed December 1926 in *Weird Tales*.

The story is a fun one: An outcast engineer creates monster robots that get away from him. They produce molten metal by sucking ore out of the earth's crust and are tearing through West Virginia destroying all in their path. The same engineer is instrumental in stopping the robots through huge metal wheels with spikes.

OCLC Numbers 13676391 & 474450516; scarce with only four holdings (UC Riverside, UoT, Temple & BYU). No known auction records.

From the collection of Allen R. Charpentier, member of the Science Fiction League as early as 1935 and attendee of the First World Science Fiction Convention in 1939.

# The [Unobtainable] Brooklyn Reporter

1935

Brooklyn:  
Brooklyn Science Fiction League  
279 by 216 mm  
11 by 8 1/2 inches

## The Brooklyn Reporter

Clark, G.G. (i.e. George Gordon Clark)—publisher

Issues 1 and 2 (5 published in toto). Letter sized stapled mimeographed zine.

Issue 1, February 25, 1935: [1], 8 pp. along with a 1/2-page mimeographed note "Attention! Directors!" pertaining to Science Fiction league membership cards that has an original pencil signature of Clark in his capacity as "Director—Brooklyn Science Fiction League"; and 1/2-page petition to request production of science fiction movies.

Issue 2, March 25, 1935: [1], 10, [2] pp. along with a 1/3 page of text stapled in the fanzine (original and intentional).

Good with some foxing, tanning, and light soiling. Rusting staples on issue 1 (last page detached); staples only lightly rusting on issue 2.

**SOLD**

**Gateway to professional writing and editing success for early science fiction writers and genesis of the Futurians.** Published by G.G. Clark, the first member of the Science Fiction League. Clark founded the first chapter of the Science Fiction League in Brooklyn, which published this first chapter fanzine as its official organ.

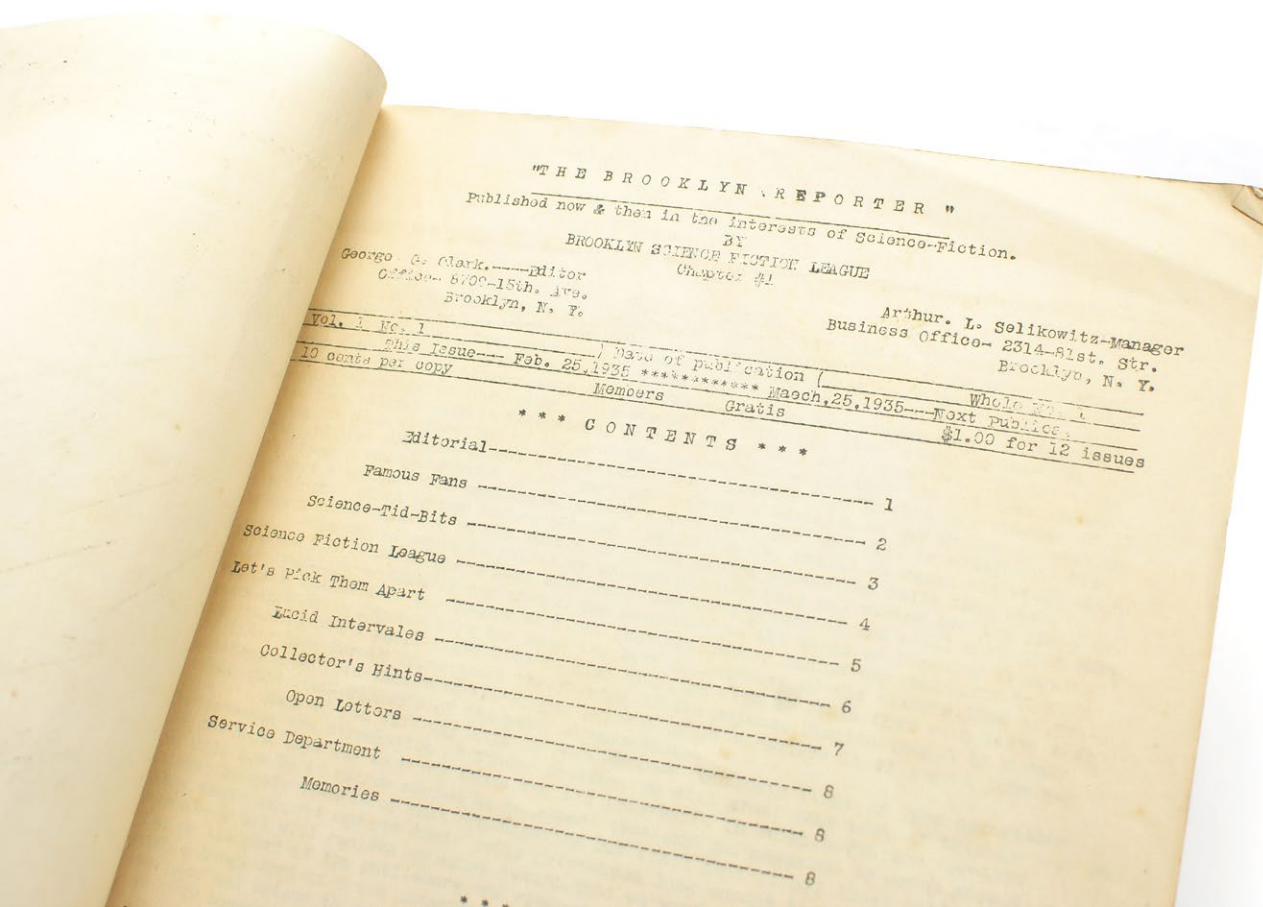
**The Brooklyn Reporter is the first ever publication by Frederick Pohl. The first of the first!** Edited (without credit) by 14 year old Frederick Pohl because he was the only chapter member with a typewriter. (Source: Pohl's autobiography, *The Way the Future Was*).

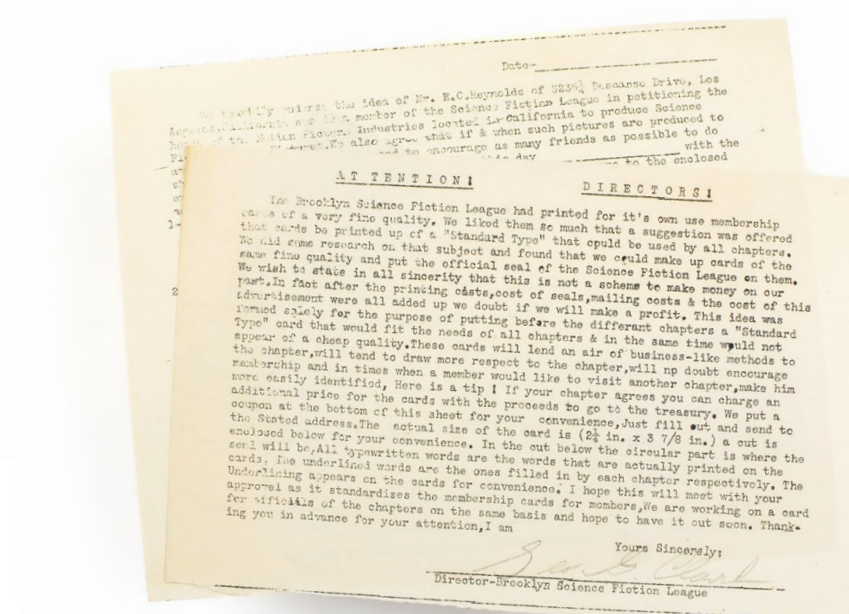
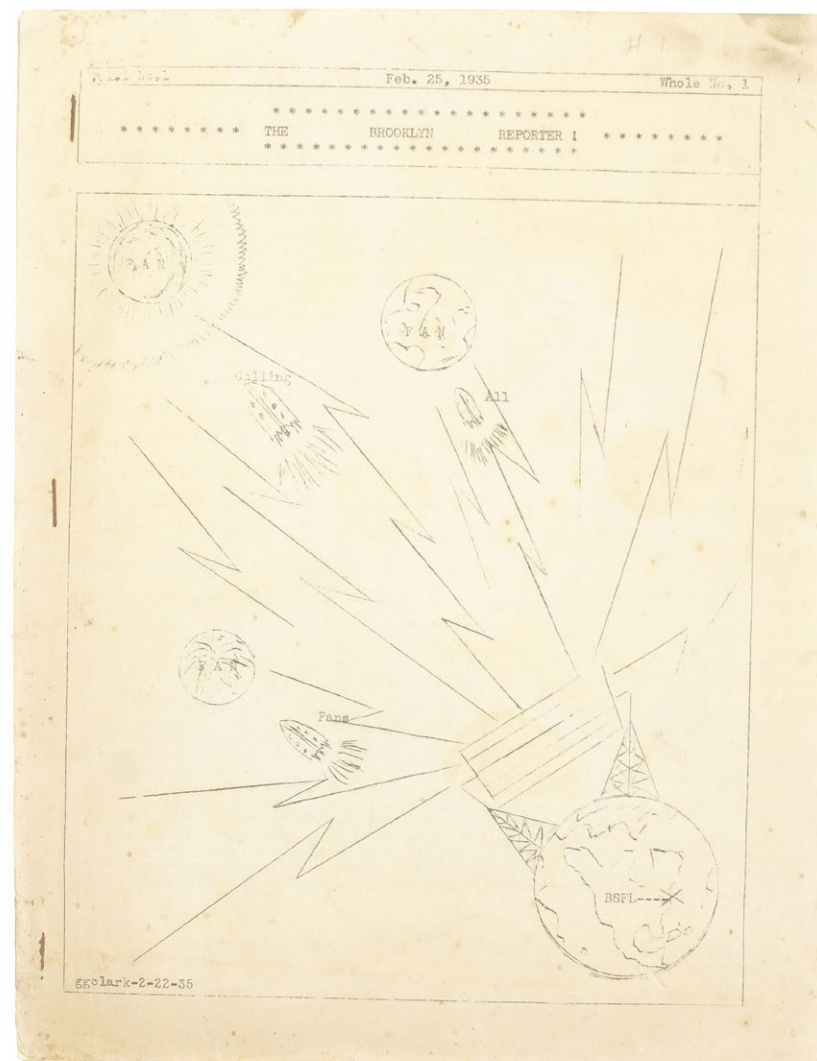
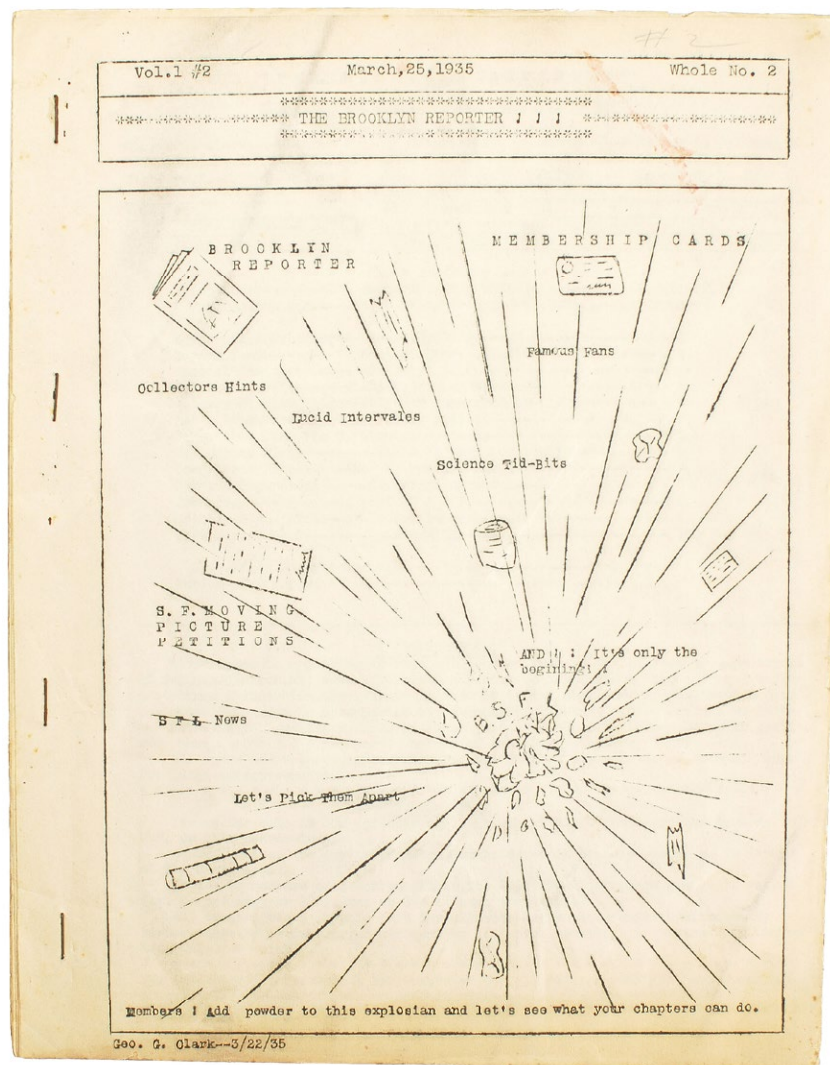
In *The Science Fiction News Letter*, Vol. 1, Nr. 2 (1937) it states:

*We are not, as we thought, pioneers. At a meeting of the New York Fantasy Association last Sunday, Donald A. Wollheim, took great delight in informing us that the first weekly science fiction publication was concocted by George Gordon Clark, of Brooklyn Reporter fame (or infamy, whichever). This unnamed whatnot ran for eight weeks or thereabouts.*

*The Brooklyn Reporter* was Clark's only publication; it was however monthly and not weekly.

Contributors to the five issues of the *Reporter* include Forrest J. Ackerman (19 years old), C.A. Brandt, Hugo Gernsback, William L. Crawford, Charles D. Hornig (19 years old), Henry James, A.L. Selikowitz (14 years old), Vic Shea, T. O'Connor Sloane, Frederick Orlin Termaine, Bob (Wilson) Tucker, Art Widner (18 years old), and Donald Wollheim (20 years old). These first two issues deal primarily with the formation and expansion of the Science Fiction League around the country.





Frederick Pohl, in his autobiography, said that the origin of the Futurians was the Brooklyn Science Fiction League. The Futurians (1937-1945) were a major force in the development of science fiction writing and fandom with strong left-wing leanings. The founding members met working on *The Brooklyn Reporter* or through correspondence with subscribers of the fanzine.

Exceedingly rare. As of this writing, not indexed in OCLC nor known auction records. MoPop holds Issue 2; University of Iowa holds Issues 3, 4, and 5.

In 2009 Pohl wrote that he had not seen *The Brooklyn Reporter* in years and personally had no surviving issues. 112 copies were made of Issue 1. The publication run of Issue 2 is unknown (120 copies were made of Issue 3; 144 copies were made of Issue 4).

From the collection of Allen R. Charpentier, member of the Science Fiction League as early as 1935 and attendee of the First World Science Fiction Convention in 1939.



## R.H. Barlow Pays \$0.00

[Typed letter from Farnsworth Wright to R.H. Barlow on *Weird Tales* Letterhead & Draft Handwritten Letter by R.H. Barlow]

Wright, Farnsworth

1935

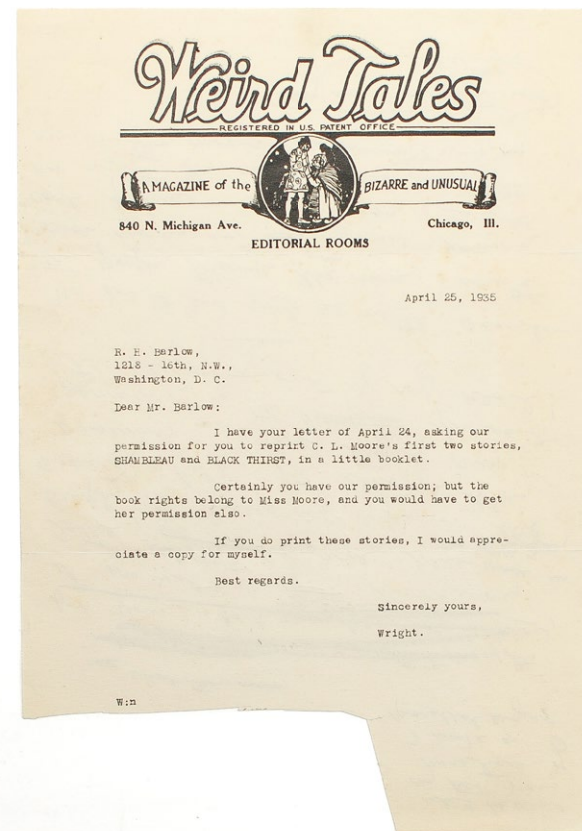
Chicago Ill.:

*Weird Tales*

April 25, 1935

265 by 185mm

10½ by 7¼ inches



Single page typed letter from Wright (1888–1940) to R.H. Barlow (1918–1951) discussing reprint rights of two works by Catherine L. Moore (1911–1987). On back, handwritten pencil notes of complaint that are very likely Barlow’s (based on a comparison to 1935 notes of his at Brown University).

Good with a 105 by 35 mm (4 by 1 1/2 inch) cutout from the letter—likely by Barlow as the writing on the back is not affected by the cutout.

\$650

At first glance the letter is unassuming: A chunk is missing; it’s not signed; and the back is covered in pencil scrawl. Like a good Lovecraft yarn, the letter only reveals itself by peeling back each layer.

We apologize in advance, as it’s a complicated story.

The addressor, Farnsworth Wright, was the editor of *Weird Tales* for 179 issues from 1924 to 1940. Wright had Parkinson’s disease and by 1930 was no longer able to sign his letters, which explains the missing signature. Letters by Wright are rare and desired because *Weird Tales* is where Lovecraft developed his *Cthulhu* series.

The addressee, R.H. Barlow, is the controversial friend, co-author with, and literary executor of H.P. Lovecraft. This letter was written when Barlow was 17 years old. Brown University’s H.P. Lovecraft collection digitized thousands of documents from Barlow and Lovecraft, including correspondence directly related to the subject of this letter.

The subject of the letter, C.L. Moore (i.e. Catherine Lucille Moore, 1911–1987) was among the first women to successfully write science fiction. Moore’s first professional sale was her phenomenally successful short story “Shambleau”, which appeared in the November 1933 issue of *Weird Tales* (edited by Wright). Wright in this letter informs Barlow that the rights to “Shambleau” reside with Moore and not *Weird Tales*.

Barlow and Moore were friends and wrote each other copiously. Brown University holds letters from Moore to Barlow. In those letters in late 1934 Barlow suggested to Moore that he publish two of her short stories (including the well-known “Shambleau”), apparently without compensation to Moore. On September 10, 1934, Moore wrote to Barlow, “Yes, Wright has all rights to Shambleau. That is, I didn’t reserve any,” and on December 31, 1934, Moore wrote to Barlow, “Now for your idea. I think

What this means.

~~What he meant by that I am uncertain. I made a parallel request~~

~~for years, I don't remember. It was not in my inquiry letter, and would have been made in simply to keep my eye on the coveted file. All through the business I was trying my damndest to prevent it slipping out of my reach!~~

No did it end quite so neatly. accustomed to paper through the nose, I wrote once more and <sup>even</sup> offered him a cash price—~~to no~~ result. The matter faded out after one or two moribund communications, in ~~an~~ <sup>in</sup> a muddled sort of way

it's perfectly swell. Nothing could be nicer than to have a copy of my own stories in that form. Do you think Mr. Wright would let us do it? My fiancé insists that we both have written permission from him first." (source: letters digitized by Brown University).

Ergo, this letter with said permission from Wright. Further, by placing this letter in context with the letters at Brown University we see that Barlow and Moore had worked out details of publishing Moore's stories before Wright wrote this letter.

Now to Barlow's handwritten notes on back of the letter.

Barlow writes, "What he meant by that, I am uncertain," "accustomed to paying through the nose, I wrote once more," "I was trying my darndest to prevent it slipping out of my reach!" etcetera. Our theory is that these notes are a draft letter from Barlow to Moore and the "he" in question is not Wright, but rather publisher W.L. Crawford (1911-1984).

Around the time Barlow would have received this April 25, 1935 letter from Wright, there are five letters from Moore to Barlow at Brown University archives—all dealing with the fact that Crawford, the publisher of *Marvel Tales* at Fantasy Publications, had just offered Moore a percentage of each book sold if she would publish the two stories in question with him. Moore wrote to Barlow:

*It [i.e. publication with Crawford] would, I suppose, mean the end of our non-commercial idea of publishing 'Shambleau' and a few others in book form, but if it really means money, I can't turn it down.*

(March 2, 1935, at Brown University). This quote directly relates to the "Shambleau" publishing project discussed in the letter on offer.

R.H. Barlow shaped H.P. Lovecraft and his estate. This letter—in context with the letters at Brown University—shows Barlow's efforts to publish Moore's works with no compensation to Moore and his reactions once Crawford steps in and offers to pay Moore.

This item is a puzzle piece in the complicated web of Barlow's influence on science fiction.

From the collection of Allen R. Charpentier, member of the Science Fiction League as early as 1935 and attendee of the First World Science Fiction Convention in 1939.

# Catalogues 1938-1955, Catalogued

[Collection of Early Science Fiction Sales Catalogues]

1938-1955

A collection of science fiction order lists, quote postcards, order correspondence and related ephemera. Dates run from September 1938 through May 1955, with the majority dated either shortly prior or shortly after World War II. A total of 59 items (comprising 18 postcard sized items, 21 letter or multiple page items, and 20 envelopes).

All addressed to Allen R. Charpentier, member of the Science Fiction League as early as 1935 and attendee of the First World Science Fiction Convention in 1939. Numerous items personally addressed or custom quoted to Charpentier, who was clearly a good customer.

Includes ephemera from:

Walter J. Daugherty (1916-2007—Chairman of Pacifcon (see Item fo8 of this List).

Julius Unger (1912-1963)— Fanzine publisher; member of the committee of the first Worldcon and prominent Brooklyn based science fiction dealer.

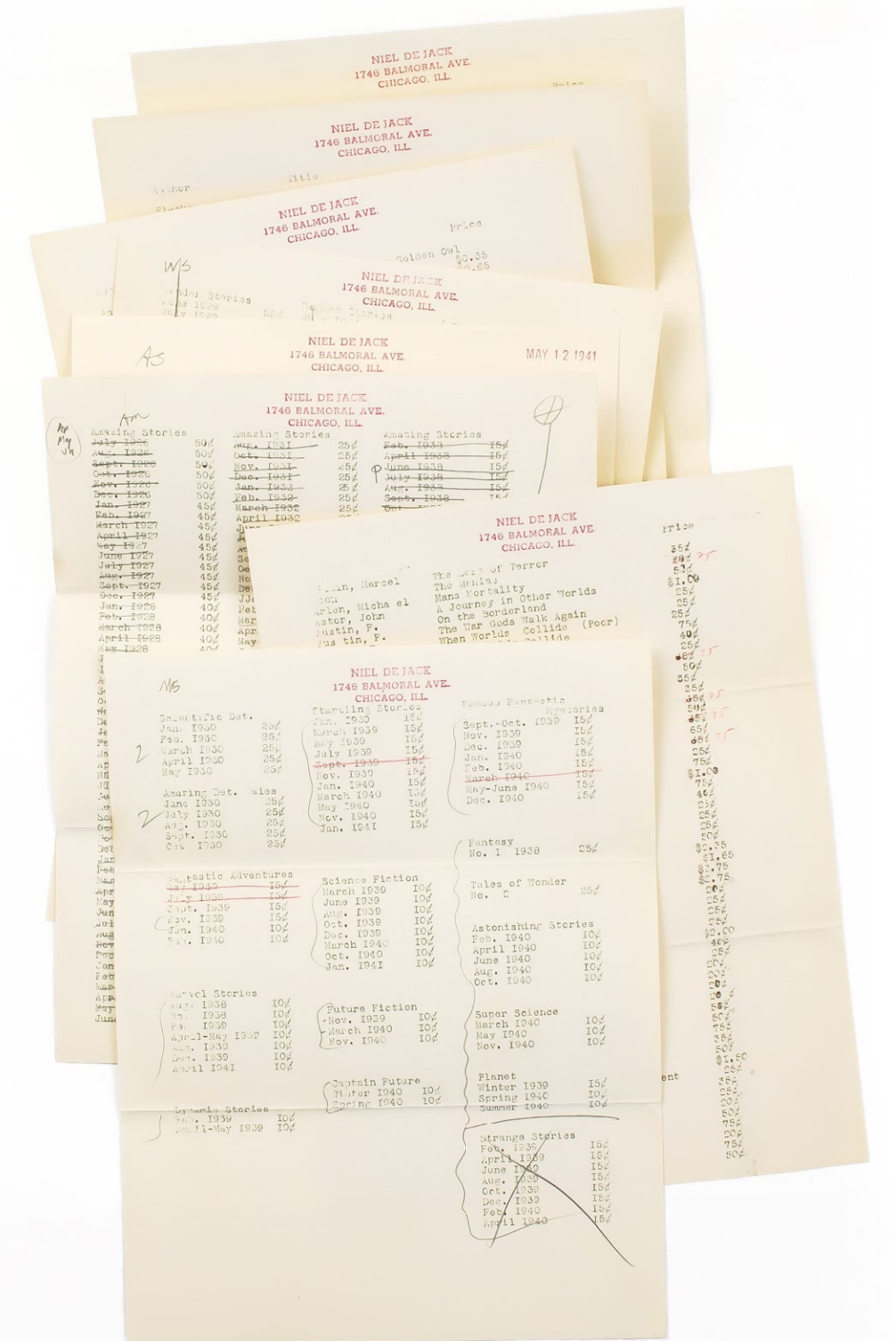
Lloyd Arthur Eshbach (1910-2003)—author and publisher of Fantasy Press, known for publishing Robert A. Heinlein.

Science Fiction Catalogue (Liverpool)—Britain’s first science fiction specialty dealer founded in 1937. This collection includes two of their sale lists from 1939.

Carl Swanson (1902-1974)—one of science fiction’s earliest fans and long-time North Dakota based science fiction dealer. The earliest item in this collection is his September 1938 sale list. Swanson’s own attempt at publishing is Item fo2 of this List.

Niel DeJack (1916-1989)—fan and bookseller from Chicago active during the 1940s.

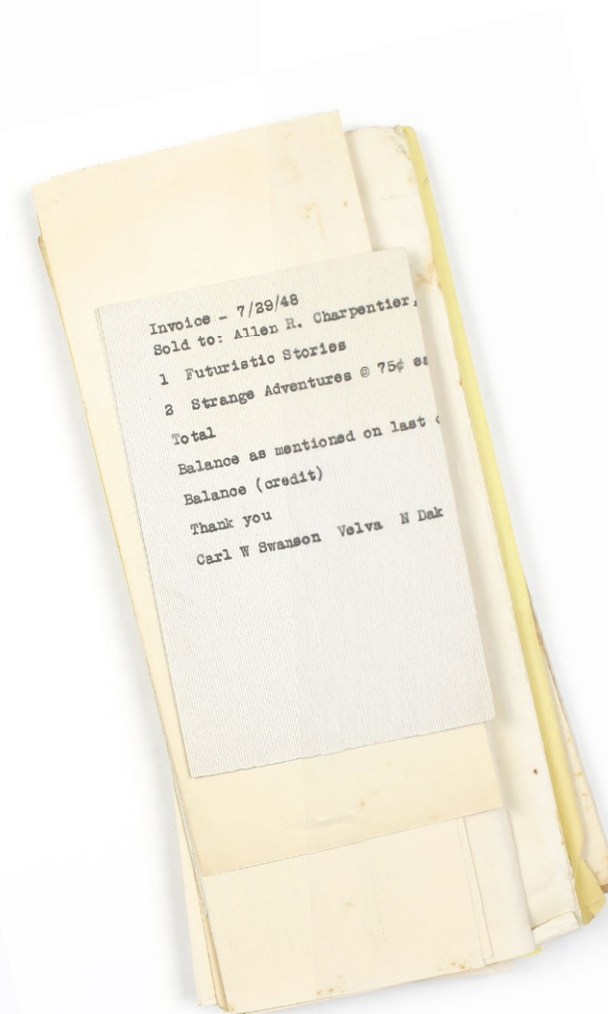
**SOLD**





Erle M. Korshak (who often went by Mel Korshak in his younger years) (1923–2021)—organizer of the second Worldcon in 1940, science fiction dealer, and fan extraordinaire. There are several wonderful interviews of Korshak on YouTube exploring his life-long commitment to science fiction. At the age of 96, Korshak still attended Worldcon 2019! This collection includes an original typed signed letter from Korshak, his sales list, and the envelope in which it came, all dated April 26, 1940. Korshak was a mere 17 years old when he mailed this bookseller list. It is widely reported that Korshak started selling used books in 1947 (or 1946, according to his obituary), this list substantiates that Korshak was already buying and selling science fiction as a teenager.

If only we could travel back in time and buy items such as a March 1924 *Weird Tales* in perfect condition for \$2.00 (J. Unger's list). This collection provides insight into how early science fiction fans bought and sold and is also a part of the history of the rare book marketplace.



Dear Sir:- I got home a few days ago after nearly 3 years in the army, and am back on the job again. I note in yours of 1-27-45 that you wanted science fiction mags of 1941 and later. I haven't had time to take inventory yet, but don't think I have many in stock, however, I am sure I can get all you want if you will send your "want" list. It isn't necessary to list all dates, in fact if you want all issues of all s. f. mags. for 1941 to 1945 inclusive, you won't have to list them at all, but I like to know just what is wanted before I place orders, as I don't care to buy a lot and then find that you don't need them. Prices will run about 20 to 30¢ a copy, prepaid to you. Please list earlier issues wanted, as I may have them in stock. Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain.

Sincerely yours  
Carl W. Swanson,

Dear Mr. Charpentier:- I have just rec'd fine copies of TALES OF WONDER # 4 & 5, which I can send @ \$1.50 ea., also other British mags as follows: New Worlds # 1 - 2 - 3 ea 75¢, Futuristic Stories (contains "Dark Asteroid"), Strange Adventures (1 issue contains "The Green Dimension" and 1 contains "Fugitive On Venus"), ea 75¢, Amazing Stories (1948 not dated or numbered but contains "Wanted: 7 Fearless Engineers" & other stories), 50¢, Fantastic Adventures # 1, 25¢, Fantasy # 1 - 2 - 3 (1938-39) ea \$3, Aug 1947 75¢, Unknown Worlds # Oct 1942 Autumn & Winter 1945 Summer & Winter 1946 Spring Summer Winter 1947 75¢ ea. Also have Canadian "Super-Science" Dec 1942 Apr Aug 1943 Dec 1944 Feb Apr Aug 1945 ea \$1.00, Uncanny Tales - Dec 1941 Jan Feb Mar Apr July Dec 1942 ea \$1.00, I may also have covers for various mags that you have without same and if you will list such items I will check and quote. Sincerely C. W. S.

Dear Mr. Charpentier:- I am sending 3 more items on your last order, today. Invoice in parcel. I have not been able to obtain any New Worlds of Tales of Wonder, as yet, but have rec'd "Outlands" - Winter 1946 - first issue - new - 75¢, and "Ocult Shorts" - 2nd collection - new - 50¢, both British publications. Also have several issues of "Fantasy Book" magazine (pub in Los Angeles), and several of "Avon Fantasy Reader" (pub in New York) in case you may be interested. In letter of June 2nd you mentioned Super-Science (Canadian) and Uncanny Tales (U.S.), and I don't remember what I said about them, but I believe you meant Uncanny Stories as I have April 1941 (vol 1 # 1) of that and have never seen or heard of any other issues. If you care for the Canadian "Uncanny Tales" (an entirely different mag) I will sell all issues now at 75¢ ea., Dec 1941 Jan Feb Mar Apr July Dec 1942

Dear Mr. Charpentier:- Yours of the 1st just rec'd. I now have "Tales Of Wonder" # 12 - 13 - 14 @ \$1.50 each, also "New Worlds" # 3 @ 75¢ which will complete your order of June 2nd and use up the present 75¢ balance. If you want the 3 copies of T of W, please remit \$4.50 and I will send them along with New Worlds # 3. I have not rec'd any issues of Futuristic Stories except duplicates of the one you already bought, and no Strange Adventures except additional copies of "Green Dimension" and "Fugitive on Venus" issues, which I believe are the same as those you got. I will watch for other issues tho, and notify you if I get any of them. Trusting to receive your order for above items, I remain.

Sincerely  
Carl W Swanson

Dear Mr. Charpentier: 9/27/48

I have just rec'd another issue of "Futuristic Stories" invoiced as "# 1" but undated and unnumbered, as far as I can see. This contains "Lords of Zorm" by N. Wesley Firth, and 2 other stories, "Laughter of the Gods" by Earl Ellison, and "The Timeless Dimension" by Rice Ackman. Price is 75¢ and I will hold it until I hear from you, as I am pretty sure you will want it. OK to send amount in stamps, any denomination.

Sincerely  
Carl W Swanson

Velva N Dak

Dear Mr. Charpentier:- Thanks for your order. Am mailing the Tales of Wonder and New Worlds # 1 & 2, leaving balance of \$5.00. I don't know what caused the delay, but my card was mailed 5/11/48 and your order did not arrive until 8/5/48, over 2 1/2 weeks later, and because of this lapse of time, another party got ahead of you on the futuristic Stories and Strange Adventures. I have just written to a party in England who may have duplicates, however, and if they come I will send them on at once, if not will refund balance. It is hard to check the foreign mags against U S issues, as they seem to have later dates on their issues and on checking some Canadian Weird Tales I found that even where an issue was almost the same as a U S issue of earlier date, one or two stories might be different. As for Super-Science, the last U S issue of which I have record was May 1943, and the

Velva N Dak

Carl W Swanson

## UNGER'S SALE!

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Yellow Dancer - M. Sheil.....\$4.00              | 50. Night Life of the Gods...\$ 1.00           |
| 2. Dracula..... 1.50                                | 51. Tales of Terror - Karloff... .50           |
| 3. Aztec Treasure House..... 2.00                   | 52. Tarzan & Loop Man - ERB... 1.50            |
| 4. Thus Far - Gnaith..... 2.50                      | 53. Son of Tarzan - ERB..... 1.00              |
| 5. Bea Man of Ozm - Stackton... 2.00                | 54. Uninvited - MacCardle..... 2.00            |
| 6. Girl in Golden Atom - Cummings 4.00              | 55. Adam Chasers - Bower..... 1.50             |
| 7. Croquet Player - Wells..... 1.00                 | 56. Deluge - Wright..... 1.50                  |
| 8. Last & First Men - Stapledon 5.00                | 57. Tarzan & Golden Lion..... 1.00             |
| 9. Purple Sapphire - Taine..... 3.50                | 58. 5,000 Mi. Underground - Rookwood..... 1.00 |
| 10. Avenging Ray - Small..... 1.25                  | 59. City Beyond Clouds - Rookwood..... 1.00    |
| 11. Elettiothes on Rappole Island - Wells..... 1.50 | 60. Golden Snail - MacChere..... 1.00          |
| 12. Golden Snail - McClure..... 1.00                | 61. Star Chief..... 2.00                       |

### UNUSUAL SCIENTIFCTION ITEMS FOR SALE

1. March 1924 - Weird Tales - perfect condition - \$2.00
2. April 1924 - Weird Tales - perfect condition - \$2.00
3. May-June-July 1924 - Weird Tales - Anniversary issue - \$3.00 (50 stories) perfect condition (very rare)
4. Jan., March, April, July, Aug., Sept. 1925 Weird Tales - 75¢ each
5. Jan - Dec 1926 Weird Tales - 60¢ each
6. Jan - Dec 1927 Weird Tales - 50¢ each
7. Jan - Dec 1928 Weird Tales - 50¢ each
8. Jan - Dec 1929 Weird Tales - 50¢ each
9. Bound volumes - Astounding - plus first four Amazing Quarterlies (5 in all) - professionally bound, perfect condition - \$8.00
10. Complete bound volume Air Wonder - 11 issues - perf. condition - \$6
11. Miracle, Science and Fantasy Stories - Vol. 1, No. 1 - \$1.00
12. Marvel Tales - Original - Vol. 1, No. 1 - \$1.00
13. Unusual Stories - the advance issue and the first issue - both issues for \$1.75
14. First issue of Helios - 50¢
15. A complete set of Astounding - Jan 1930 to Jan 1940 - over 100 copies - excellent condition - \$35.00
16. Complete set of Wonder Quarterlies (15) excellent condition - \$8.00
17. Bound Volume of 1929 Amazing Quarterlies - excellent condition - \$4
18. "The Mirage" - A. Merritt - exc. condition (book) \$1.50
19. Mother - Frank Owen - 1st edition autographed copy in excellent condition - \$3.50
20. Tube - Gawain Edwards - \$1.00
21. Rare copies of Mind Magic with stf and weird stories by Farley, Wellman, Derleth, Allen Glasser, etc. June, August, Sept, Oct, Nov 1931 - \$1.00 each - These issues out of print.
22. Package of old, rare magazines in the early 1900s.
23. The copy of Golden Argosy
24. The copy of Black Cat All for \$1.00
25. The copy of All Story
26. The copy of Popular
27. "Dark Asteroid" and other Stories - Edmond Hamilton - 1st edition (new book) \$1.00
28. Mastered Time - Ray Cummings - exc. condition - \$1.00
29. Other Worlds - John Jacob Astor - an old-time stf - \$1.00

- J. Unger, 6401-24th Ave., Brooklyn 4, N. Y.
- FOR SALE
1. The War in the Air - H. G. Wells \$3.00
  2. The Monster Men - Edgar Rice Burroughs \$2.50
  3. Men Like Gods - H. G. Wells \$2.00
  4. The Vanishing Professor - Fred MacIver \$1.50
  5. Seven Footprints to Satan - A. Merritt \$1.00
  6. The Martian - De Maupier (Harper's Edition) \$10.00
  7. Wandering Jew - Sore (Alison Price) 3 volume set \$2.50
  8. Ark Of the Covenant - Victor MacClure \$2.00
  9. Ark Of the Gods - H. G. Wells \$2.00
  10. Food of the Gods - G. Wells \$1.50
  11. Wanderer Nick - Collette \$1.00
  12. Heated Airways - Burns \$2.50
  13. Last American - Mitchell \$2.50
  14. Last Of Terror - Burroughs \$2.50
  15. Zero To Eighty - Burroughs \$2.50
  16. Ghost Tales & Legends - H. Drummond Gould (First Edition) \$12.50
  17. English Collection of about stories from Amazing 1935-1945 professionally bound \$15.50
  18. collection of about stories from Amazing 1935-1945 \$12.50
  19. Invisible Man - Wells (English Copy) \$1.00
  20. Invisible Man - Wells (English Copy) \$1.00
  21. Dabdale, Alfar and The Rider - Burroughs \$5.00
  22. Dabdale & Dawn, Afterglow, and Beyond the Great Oblivion - Burroughs \$5.00
  23. George Allan England (from F. W. Complete Perfect \$5.00)
  24. Science Fiction Quarterly - 10 Issues Complete Perfect \$5.00
  25. Science Fiction Quarterly - 10 Issues Complete Perfect \$5.00
  26. Science Fiction Quarterly - 10 Issues Complete Perfect \$5.00
  27. Science Fiction Quarterly - 10 Issues Complete Perfect \$5.00
  28. Science Fiction Quarterly - 10 Issues Complete Perfect \$5.00
  29. Science Fiction Quarterly - 10 Issues Complete Perfect \$5.00
  30. Science Fiction Quarterly - 10 Issues Complete Perfect \$5.00
  31. Science Fiction Quarterly - 10 Issues Complete Perfect \$5.00
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  46. Science Fiction Quarterly - 10 Issues Complete Perfect \$5.00
  47. Science Fiction Quarterly - 10 Issues Complete Perfect \$5.00
  48. Science Fiction Quarterly - 10 Issues Complete Perfect \$5.00
  49. Science Fiction Quarterly - 10 Issues Complete Perfect \$5.00
  50. Science Fiction Quarterly - 10 Issues Complete Perfect \$5.00

JULIUS UNGER  
Fantasy Fiction Field  
1702 Dahill Rd.  
Brooklyn, N. Y.

# Sam Moskowitz & the First World Science Fiction Convention

## New Fandom

Moskowitz, Sam—Editor & Publisher

1939–1940

Newark, N.J.:  
Sam Moskowitz  
Issues 5 and 7  
(9 issued in toto)  
279 by 216 mm  
11 by 8 1/2 inches

Letter sized stapled mimeographed zine with silk-screened cover.

Vol.1—No.5 (July 1939): 30 pp.

Vol.2—No.1 (April 1940): 16 pp.

Fair to Good with cover staining to both; cover of issue 7 wrinkled; interior pages generally very good, but some additional staining in issue 5.

Sam Moskowitz (1920–1997) was a fixture in science fiction. A prolific author, editor, and historian. He is best known for organizing the First World Science Fiction Convention (“Worldcon”) in 1939 when he was a mere 19 years old. The First Worldcon was a phenomenal success, with many big names in attendance including: Ray Bradbury (19 years old!), Forrest J. Ackerman, Donald Wollheim, Robert Heinlein, Fred Pohl (20 years old), Isaac Asimov (19 years old!), etcetera. Worldcon continues through this day as a hugely popular international event.

*New Fandom* was Moskowitz’s publication created to sponsor Worldcon. Issue 5 was written a mere 10 days prior to the convention and exudes excitement & hubris for the upcoming convention:

***Your [sic] experiencing an event now, that you will carry away with you, and remember to the very last day of your life. It is not unlikely that the present affair is the greatest science-fiction may ever know. Live it to its fullest. Let not one moment pass in idleness.*** (emphasis added).

Issue 5 contains an article from Moskowitz regarding the future after the convention entitled “Coming Events Cast Their Shadow”. Fitting, because at the convention he barred the politicized “Futurians” from attendance. Those excluded were Donald A. Wollheim, Frederik Pohl, John Michel, Robert A. W. Lowndes and Jack Gillespie, an event known to fans as “The Great Exclusion Act”.

Moskowitz believed that good science fiction derived from actual science. Issue 5 contains an article by German American science writer Willy Ley (1906–1969) on air rocket airplanes. Issue 7 contains an article by T.S. Gardner (1908–1963) in which he argues that the only true science fiction has a realistic and direct relation to science.

In boring life, Moskowitz was a leading authority on the frozen food industry. He was editor, then managing editor, and for 17 years vice president, of the company that published *Quick Frozen Foods*. At work, he was the boss of fellow science fiction author Richard Hodgens (introduced in Item f10 of this List).

These two issues of *Fandom* are exceedingly important records notable for their content pertaining to the First World Science Fiction Convention.

OCLC locates only one holding worldwide under record number 18794411: Texas A&M (which also holds Moskowitz’s archive). University of Iowa also holds a copy. No other copies listed for sale at the time of catalogue issuance. No auction records for these issues.

From the collection of Allen R. Charpentier, member of the Science Fiction League as early as 1935 and attendee of the First World Science Fiction Convention in 1939.

**SOLD**

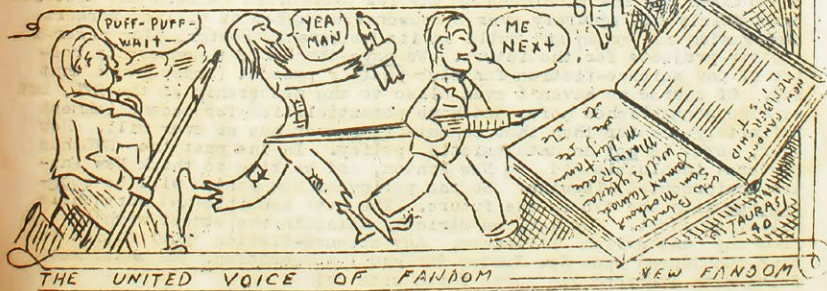
# NEW FANDOM

Vol. 2 ~ (No. 1) ~ APRIL 1940

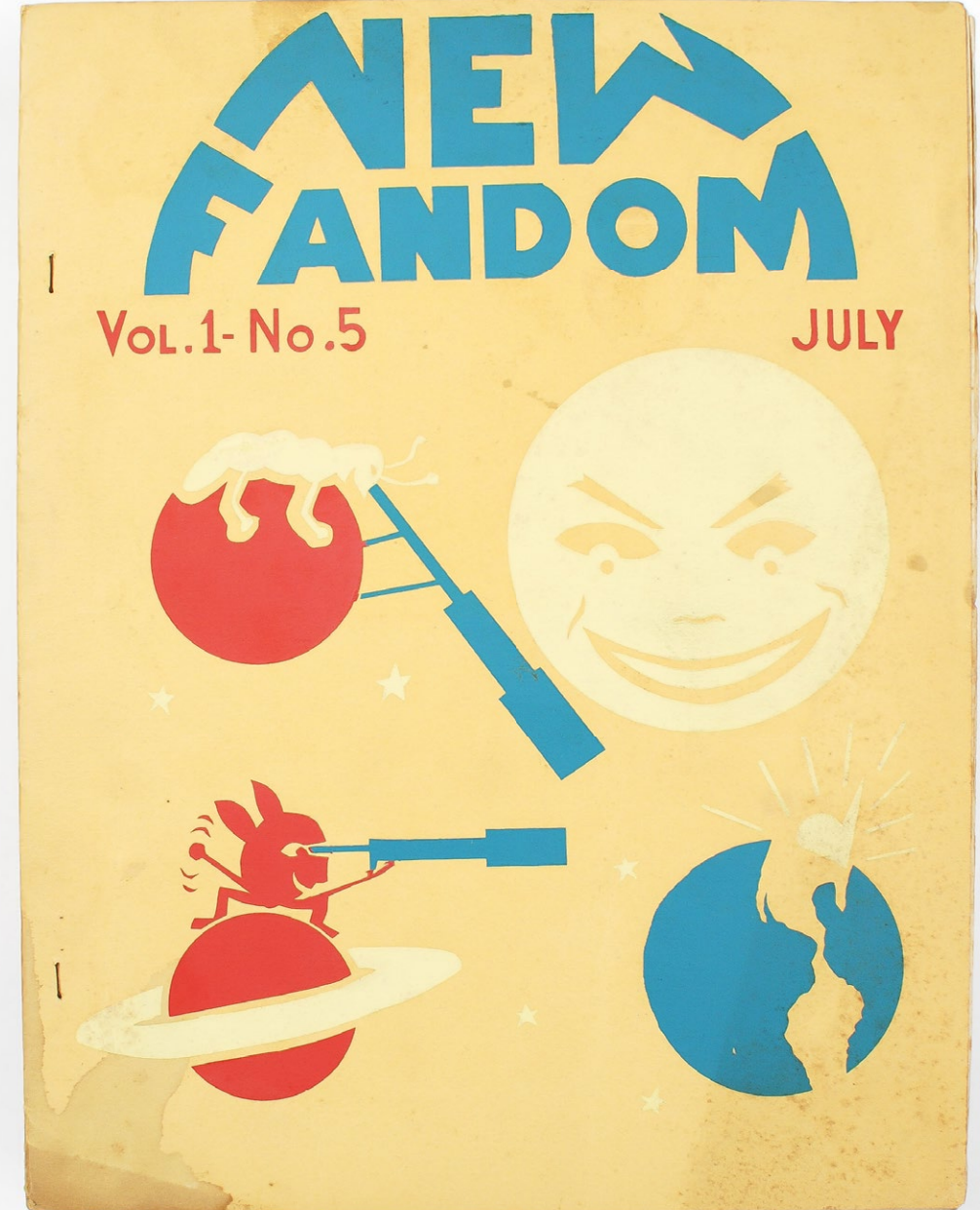
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IN THE GROOVE (Editorial).....2	By Sam Moskowitz.
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READERS VS. FANS.....9	By Charles D. Hornig.
THE MANUSCRIPT BUREAU.....11	A New Fandom Service.
THE REST OF OUR GANG.....12	Our Fellow Fan Hags.
SO THEY SAY.....14	By Members & Readers.
ADVERTISEMENTS.....16	By Our Friends.

"NEW FANDOM" is published every month by NEW FANDOM, the Science Fiction General Organization. This issue mined by Will Sykora, 31-51 41st St. Long Island City, N.Y. Next six issues to be mined by Jim Taurasi, 137-07 32nd Ave, Flushing, N.Y., Chairman of Publications Committee. MEMBERSHIP IN NEW FANDOM is \$1.00 per year, which includes ten issues of "NEW FANDOM", the official organ. Join now and help make the Chicago Convention a huge success!! OFFICIAL ADDRESS is NEW FANDOM, c/o Ray Van Houten, 26 Seeley St, Paterson, N.J. to whom all membership dues should be sent as he is Secretary. PRESIDENT is Sam Moskowitz, 603 So. 11th St, Newark, N.J. who welcomes all suggestions for improving the services rendered by NEW FANDOM. COVER designed by James V. Taurasi, stencilled and screened by Mario Racio, Jr. and Will Sykora.



VOLUME 2  
NUMBER 1  
APR 1940



Interior of Volume 2, Number 1

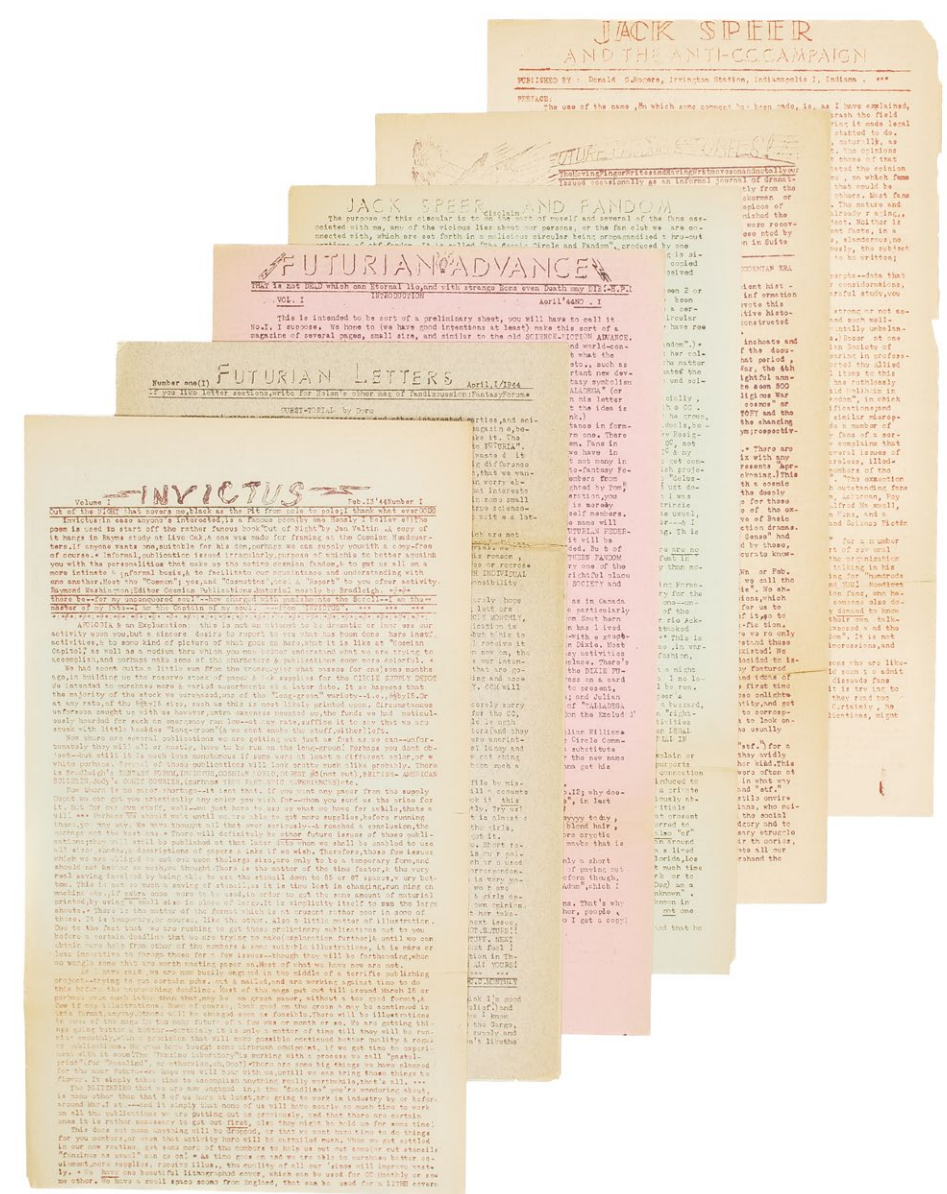
# Claude Degler, the True Believer

## Invictus, Futurian Letters, Futurian Advance, [etcetera]

Degler, Claude

1944

380 by 215mm  
15 by 8½ inches



We return to the curious story of Claude Williamson Degler (1920– likely between 1981 & 1995), one of fandom’s most infamous figures. He became an outcast of the science fiction community because of his extreme beliefs.

It all started in 1941 when Degler read a telegram at the 1941 World Science Fiction Convention—the telegram was from Martians dwelling secretly among Earthlings. Degler was a true believer that UFOs had landed, and was convinced that science fiction fans could achieve a higher consciousness.

According to Degler, fandom was to be united and cosmic consciousness achieved through his all-encompassing organization, the Cosmic Circle. Everywhere he went, Degler designated the fans he met as officers of non-existent organizations, all of which were branches of the Cosmic Circle. In its fullness, the Cosmic Circle claimed 47 regional, state, and local affiliates.

As part of the Cosmic Circle, Degler published numerous fanzines, with letters and correspondence almost all entirely made up. He wrote under at least nine pseudonyms, and his antics led to his exclusion from numerous science fiction venues and organizations.

Degler was responsible for the first publication devoted entirely to flying saucers, *Weird Unsolved Mysteries*, published in the fall of 1947 (under the pseudonym John Chrisman).

Six fanzines, all on the same unusual size paper: 1) *Invictus*. Vol 1, Number 1. February 13, 1944. 2 pp.; 2) *Futurian Letters*. Number 1. April 1, 1944. 9 pp.; 3) *Futurian Advance*. Vol. 1. April 1944. 2 pp.; 4) *Future Fandom Stories*. No date, no issue number. 4 pp.; 5) *Jack Speer and Fandom*. No date, no issue number. 2 pp.; 6) *Jack Speer and the Anti-CC Campaign*. No date, no issue number. 2 pp.

Good. Staples are secure and free of rust, but the pages edgeworn, age-toned, delicate & brittle—several almost split through at folding crease. *Future Fandom Stories* is 4 pages long, one or more pages may be missing from that issue. The remaining issues appear complete.

SOLD

In case you are wondering: yes, Degler suffered from mental illness and was hospitalized numerous times for it. Forrest Ackerman allegedly remarked, “Degler was the only fan around who had papers to prove he was sane.”

Offered for sale here are a set of six of Degler’s publications from ca. 1944. Jack Speer (1920–2008), an early historian of science fiction, wrote one of the first articles exposing Degler’s “antics”. Two of the included Degler publications are in response to Speer, and thus titled *Jack Speer and the Anti-CC Campaign* and *Jack Speer and Fandom*.

In *Futurian Letters* (included in this collection), Degler publishes alleged letters from Don Wollheim, Forrest Ackerman and Bob Tucker in his support (we presume the letters, along with everything else, are fictitious).

Degler remains a mystery. In the early 1980’s he disappeared. There is no known death record nor social security information on him. Perhaps we are all wrong, and Degler found true higher cosmic consciousness. The publications are challenging to track down in OCLC because Degler published them under numerous pseudonyms and each issue has a different title. For many of the issues we could find no record at all. *Futurian Advance* from April 1944 is in the United States only at the University of Maryland. At the time of cataloguing, no other copies for sale.



## Unrecorded Bradbury

The Combo-Zine of the 4th World Sci-Fic Convention July 4, 5, 6, 7, '46. [Cover Title: Pacificon Combozine. Fourth World Science-Fiction Convention]

Ray Bradbury, Forrest Ackerman, Harold Cheney Jr., Jim Daugherty, Milton A. Rothman, Walter Dunkelberger, Dale Hart, D.B. Thompson, E. Everett Evans

Letter sized stapled mimeographed zine; [150 pp.—various paginations]. 22 Fanzines in one with different colored paper to differentiate the zines (*The Atomic Age*, *Atres Artes*, *Black Flame*, etcetera). Numerous illustrations including a Virgil Finlay plate with tissue guard and multiple pages with photographs of fans and authors. A who's who of fandom in the early years.

Only 200 copies produced. They were available at 50 cents each for attendees of the 1946 Fourth World Science Fiction Convention in Los Angeles.

Along with, Pacificon Convention News. June 1946, Number 2. [Los Angeles]: Pacificon, 1946. 280 by 215mm (11 by 8½ inches). Stapled mimeographed zine; 17 pp.

And, a full-page mimeographed letter inviting fans to register for the convention.

And, a 1/2-page convention check list.

Near fine, except for minor blotches and discoloration and minor creases at edge of *Combo-Zine* cover.

**SOLD**

1946

[Los Angeles]:  
Pacificon  
279 by 216 mm  
11 by 8 1/2 inches





FOH

\*\*\*\*\*  
THE MATHEMATICON  
\*\*\*\*\*

By Ray Bradbury.

The time has come, my fan club told me the other day as we met artively in the shadow of a soapbox, for me to quit blowing bubbles in my opium pipe and start my third thesaurus of thwarted theories and just plain stuff.

At first I contemplated the cyster as a fit subject for my thesis but since the Decency League considers that a raw subject I shall not stew about it.

I shall dwell for a time on the stars and Earth. I have before me a copy of A STAR IS BORN by Nova Casa, prominent author of THE LOVE LIFE OF THE CLAM or HOW TO KEEP YOUR TRAP SHUT. Casa says, "Have you a large globe in your library?" Now, does he mean our fishbowl or the electric bulb in our mystic east, or Chandu-lier, I ask you? Of course he couldn't mean that balloon-faced Barsoomian what's been picketing me for 7 days in my library, with a bundle of burning TNT in one hand, singing "Hallelujah, I'm a Bomb!"

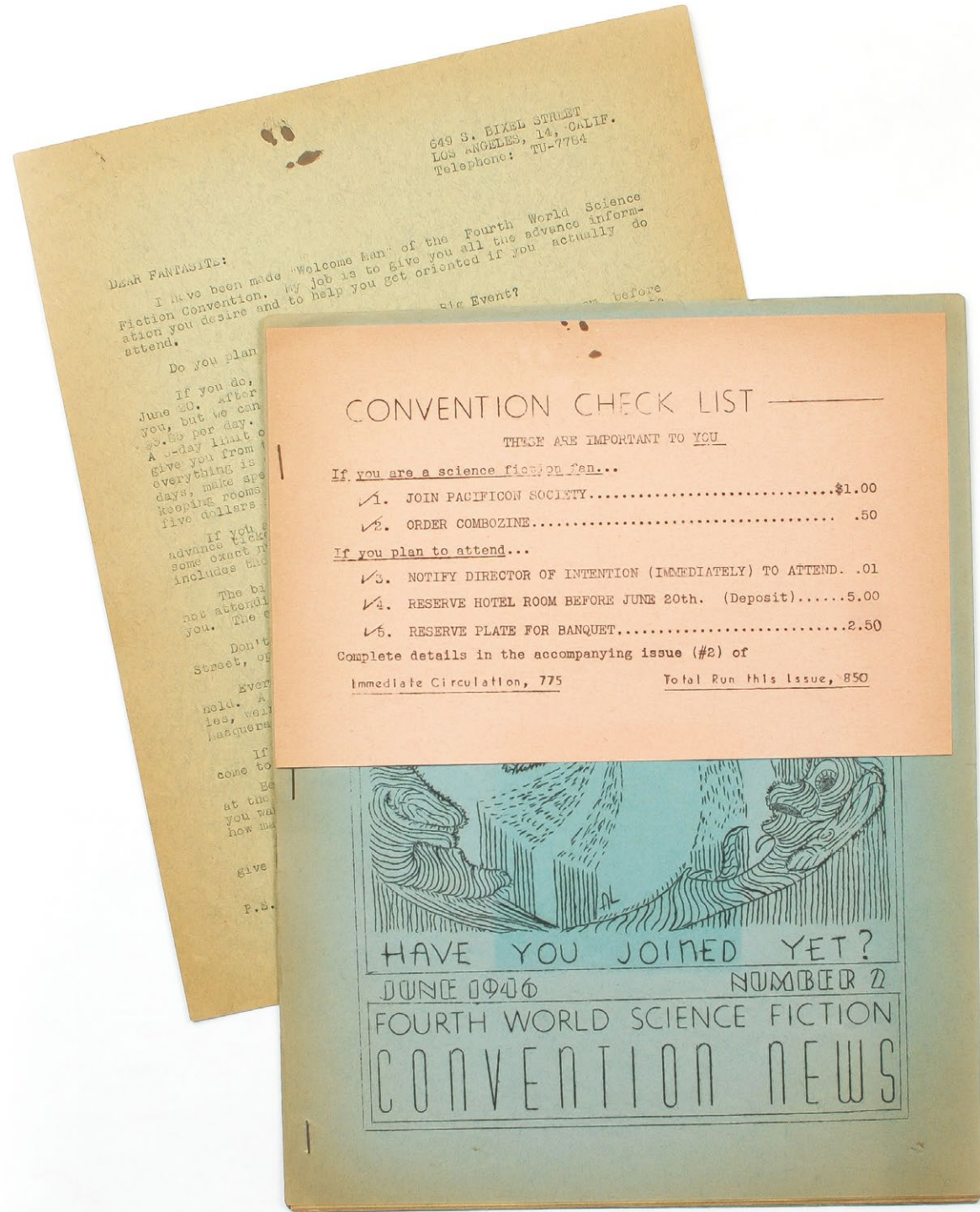
To our amazement Casa explains he means the globe of the Earth we have setting on our table. Now we are asked to imagine we are infinitesimal creatures on the face of that globe. I tried this the other night and succeeded only in getting a dull headache and I sprained my neck trying to balance on the darned thing, not to mention waking the people downstairs.

Look up in the sky---QUICK! If you are in the house you may see a little diaper instead of the little dipper overhead so we shall solve this problem by stepping out onto the balcony---if you happen to have one---other- wise, I am bound to think, it would be rather silly stepping out the window, wouldn't it?

Well, here we are now---outside at last. Do you bring a blowtorch with you to read by? If you haven't a blowtorch bring a candle. But be careful not to breathe too harshly while you read this article or you will blow out your candle. Better don't breathe at all. Of course, when the dawn comes tomorrow you will make rather an oddlooking corpse, lying on your back in the bushes with a candle in one hand and this thesis in the other, and your face all blue; so I think you have held your breath long enough.....exhale!

Well, your candle has fluttered out, so we shall have to read by moonlight. As you see, the moon is out tonight, but a minute! If the moon is out, then it can't be lit---can it? A candle is out then it is not glowing---is it? And yet we say the moon is out when it's in.

Getting back to the Moon---tonight shall view a rare phenomenon: The Moon is being eclipsed.



There are many reasons to own this fine publication: 22 zines in one with great writing from big names such as Forrest Ackerman; the isfdb [Internet Speculative Fiction Database] reports under "Gender of S.F. Authors" that some of the zines were edited by women; the photographs and graphics are fantastic.

However, the primary draw for most fans: *The Combo-Zine* includes an unrecorded full-page article by Ray Bradbury titled "The Mathematician" in which he ruminates on the stars and earth and that "we are infinitesimal creatures on the face of that globe."

"The Mathematician" is not listed in Bradbury's primary bibliography, *The Ray Bradbury Companion*, by William F. Nolan. It is also not listed in Bradbury's extensive isfdb online bibliography.

This particular copy has an additional quirk: "The Mathematician" was printed upside down (the text on the reverse of the leaf is oriented correctly).

Not in Rarebookhub as of the date of this list. Abebooks reported on the "15 Most Expensive Ray Bradbury Books Sold by Abebooks" and listed *The Combo-Zine* as number two, with a sale price of \$3,500. That price made its way into ZineWiki and the science fiction blog, "File 770" run by Mike Glycer. Fans responded to the price with amazement, and we too believe it is "too rich" even with our near fine condition and extra items.

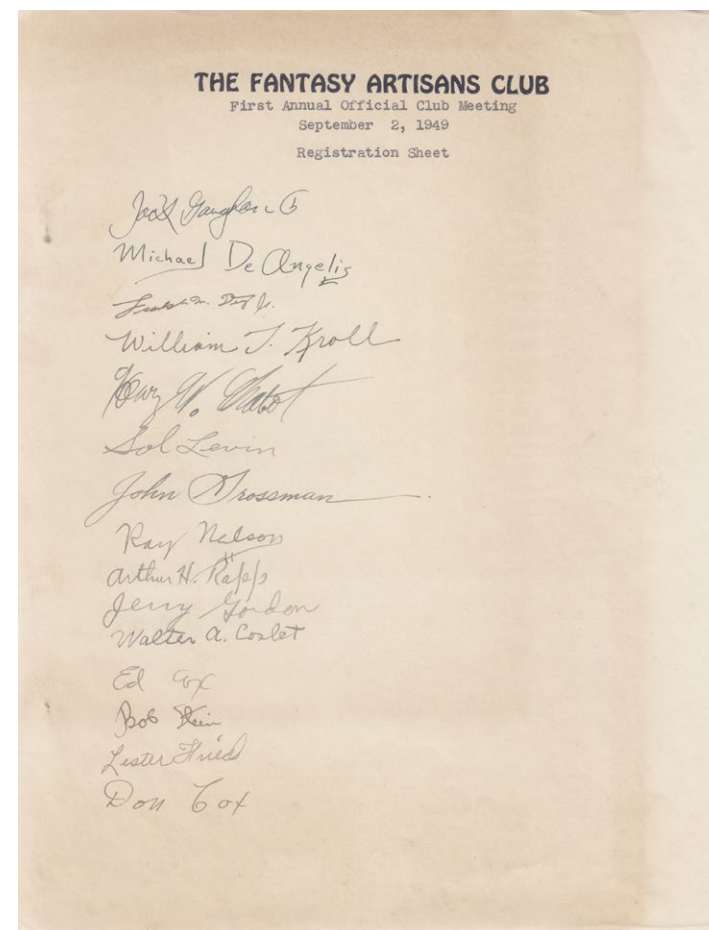
OCLC locates only one copy in the United States under record number 19890214: UCLA. The extra zine, *Pacificon Convention News* is not in OCLC.

From the collection of Allen R. Charpentier, member of the Science Fiction League as early as 1935 and attendee of the First World Science Fiction Convention in 1939.

# Planning the Seventh World Science Fiction Convention

[Frank Dietz's Collection for Worldcon 1949]

1949



On offer is Frank Dietz's personal collection pertaining to organizing, exhibiting at, and attending the Seventh World Science Fiction Convention in Cincinnati, September 3–5, 1949 (i.e. "Cinvention"). Noteworthy attendees included Forrest J. Ackerman, Hannes Bok, Lester del Rey, Vince Hamlin, Sam Moskowitz, Rog Phillips, Milton Rothman, "Doc" Smith, and George O. Smith.

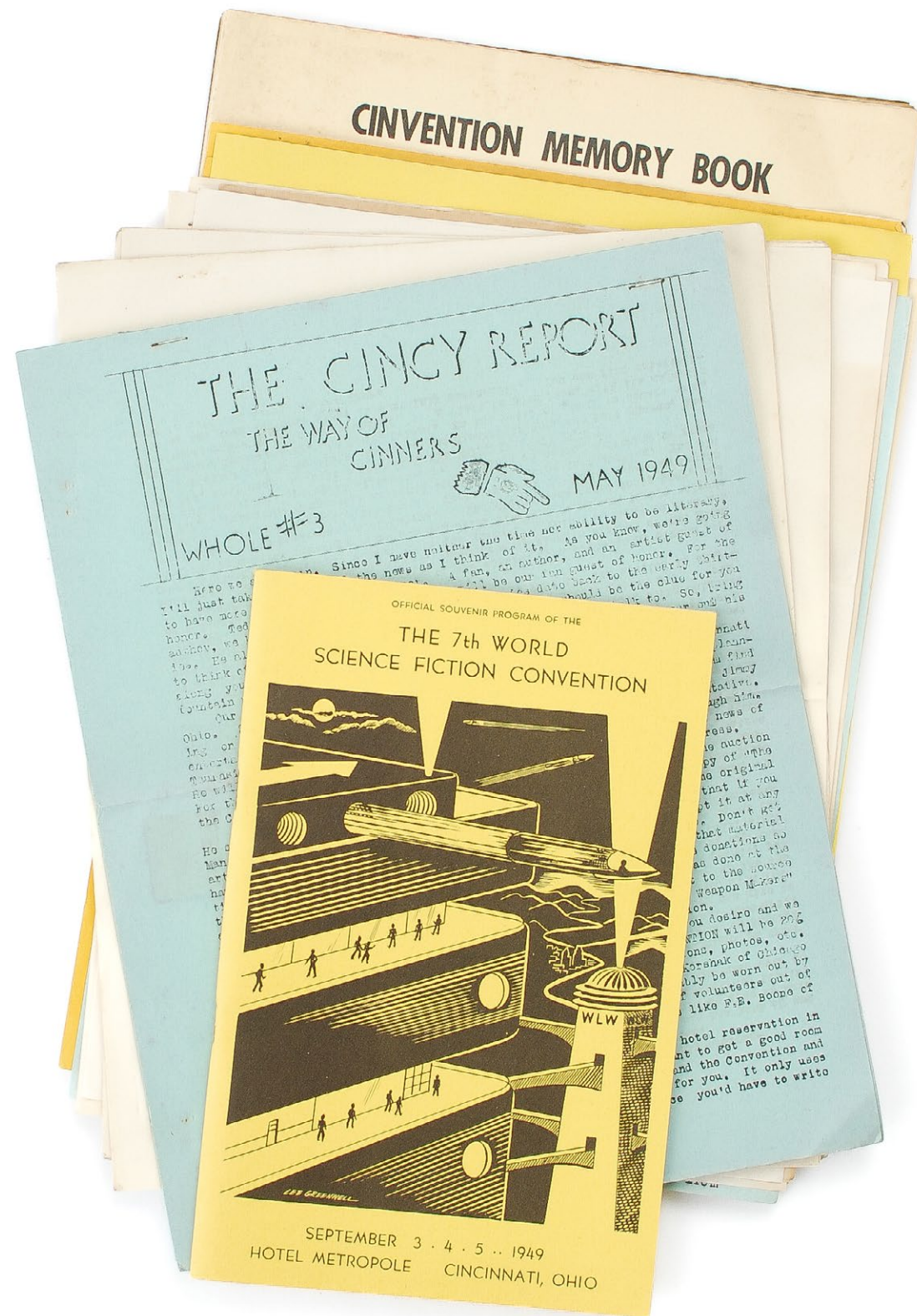
Franklin M. Dietz, Jr. (1928–2013) was a founding member and president of the New York Science Fiction Society (i.e. the Lunarians). He owned the publishing house Luna Publications and published numerous fanzines including *Luna*, *Science*, *Fantasy*, and *Science Fiction*, and *Ground Zero*. He edited (and published through Fantasy Artisans) the daily newsletter for Cinvention (included in this collection). Dietz was also a leading member of the Fantasy Artisans, a club that exchanged information about drawing, stenciling, and publishing techniques. The first club meeting of Fantasy Artisans took place in conjunction with Cinvention, and a highlight of this collection is the original registration sheet for that first club meeting with 15 (!) original signatures of the founding members.

Dietz communicated with Donald Eugene Ford (1921–1965), chairman of Cinvention pertaining to exhibiting at the convention and donating artwork for auction in exchange for a table at the show. The collection includes four letters from Ford to Dietz (two of which are full page hand-written letters and all four are on Cinvention letterhead).

Many of the included documents and zines appear "lost to time" with no records in OCLC. The nicely illustrated 95-page Cinvention Memory Book was printed in only 500 copies and is per OCLC in the United States only at Concordia and BYU (OCLC #84263660).

Items are in overall excellent condition, with toning and minor edgewear. Staplebound items have light to moderate rust forming at staple sites, and some items without staples have slight rust transfer from proximity to staplebound items. Many of the Cinvention Memory Book illustrations were originally glued in, and now the glue has separated (but all illustrations are accounted for).

**SOLD**



**This collection includes:**

- (1) Four original letter sized letters from Don Ford of the Cinvention committee, dated October 1948– May 1949, on Cinvention letterhead. Includes original envelope for the May 3 correspondence. Ongoing discussion of the convention, and an exchange of ‘originals’ for a table;
- (2) Official souvenir program;
- (3) “Why New York in 1950?” flier promoting NY for the next con;
- (4) Flier from the Cinvention Committee prior to the convention, with an early overview of the planning stages;
- (5) Four issues of *The Cincy Report*, dated January–May 1959. Three had been mailed to Dietz and bear his mailing information; one had been mailed to author Arthur H. Rapp (1924–2005) and bears his address instead at back cover. In *Cincy Report* #3, Ford writes: “Franklin M. Dietz has promised us some original artwork which he says is very nice.” (Pertaining to the artwork Dietz donated for auction at the convention—which is the subject of included letters from Ford to Dietz);
- (6) Newspaper excerpts from *The Cincinnati Enquirer* and *The Cincinnati Post*, for Saturday, September 3rd–Monday, September 5th, and from Sunday, September 18th, with articles about the con;
- (7) A *Cinvention Memory Book* (95 pages, letter sized, richly illustrated);
- (8) *Bloomington News Letter*, No. 12, September 1949. Includes speculation on location for the next year’s convention, and various publication announcements;
- (9) *Fan-Scnt*, Vol II—No I. A Special Cinvention Supplement. Discussing the 1950 convention in Portland, Oregon—NorWesCon—with a map on the back;
- (10) Bulletin informing of the death of Wilson Robert Tucker;
- (11) Two copies of *The Cinvention Daily*, Issue Number One, for Friday, September 2, 1949 (edited and published by Dietz);
- (12) Registration Sheet for the first club meeting of the Fantasy Artisans Club. Original signatures on the sheet include Jack Gaughan, Michael De Angelis, Franklin Dietz, Sol Levin, John Grossman, Ray Nelson, Arthur H. Rapp, Jeremy Gordon, Walter A. Coslet, Ed Cox, Bob Stein, Don Cox, and others;
- (13) A staplebound handout by Louis E. Garner, Jr., titled “Selecting World Science Fiction Convention Sites,” proposing a system of selection;
- (14) An open letter from David MacInnes to Doctor Donald A. Channing in defense of George O. Smith, who had apparently been accused of taking false credit for inventing the word “Cinvention.” The letter wanders into various other topics in defense of Smith’s character before clarifying that both Smith and MacInnes credit invention of the word to E. E. Evans.

A one-of-a-kind collection of original letters, numerous original signatures, and a behind the scenes look at organizing the Seventh World Science Fiction Convention of 1949.



SCARY & S-F

LESTER DEL REY

First, I must request all ladies and gentlemen of lady-like feelings to leave, since I've been shocked to find there are people who object to swearing, and, by God, when I extemporize, I demand the right to swear, or even be indelicate. (Puss over exploding flashbulb and mike, or even be indelicate. While speaker wonders what he is going to speak about.) There seems to be a certain bass boom to this thing. Well, it's appropriate to the subject.

It can be base, and some handling gives it quite a boom. Subject: sex in science fiction. It's only part of what I want to discuss, but will do to start.

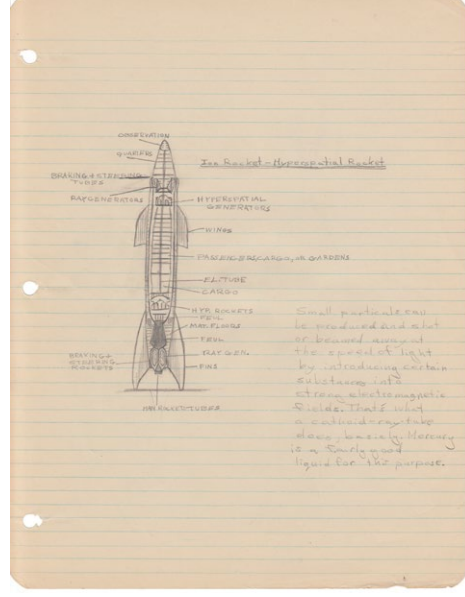
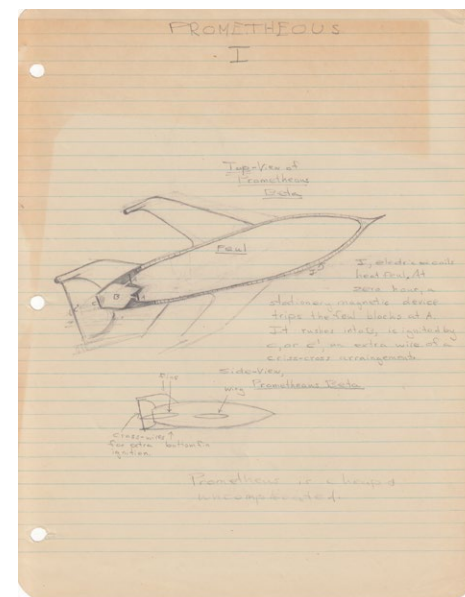
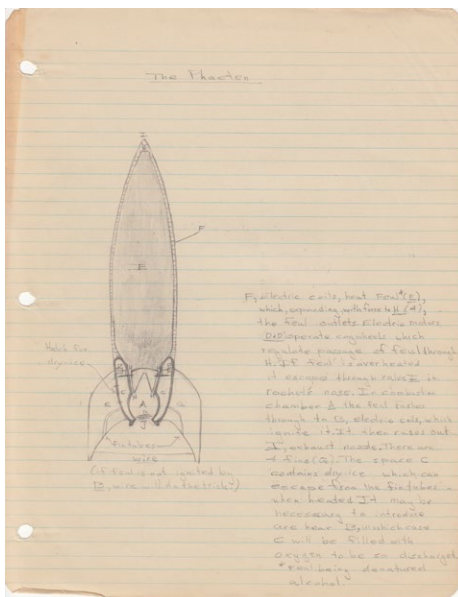
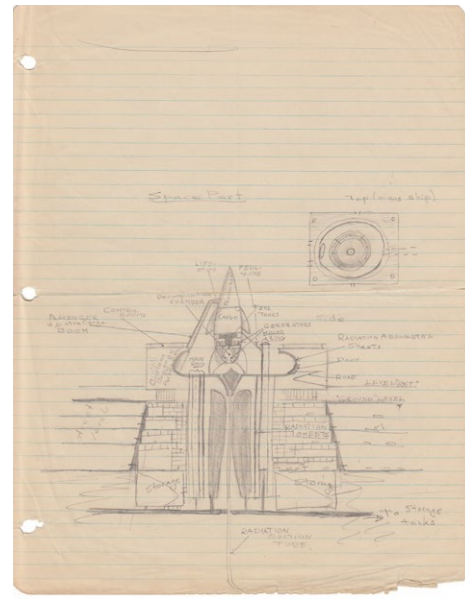
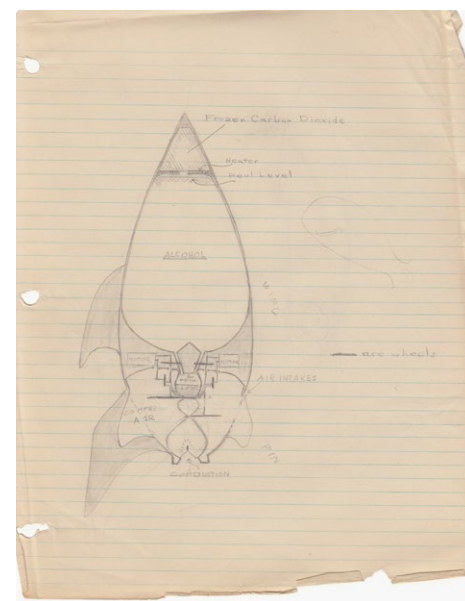
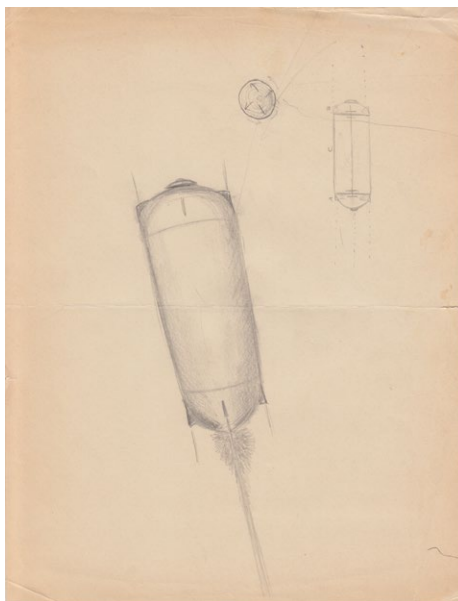
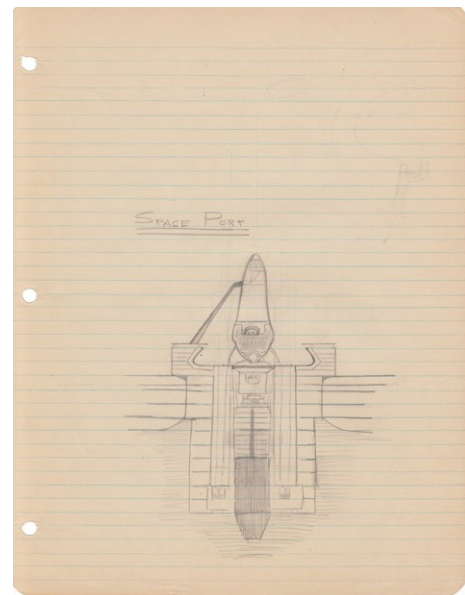
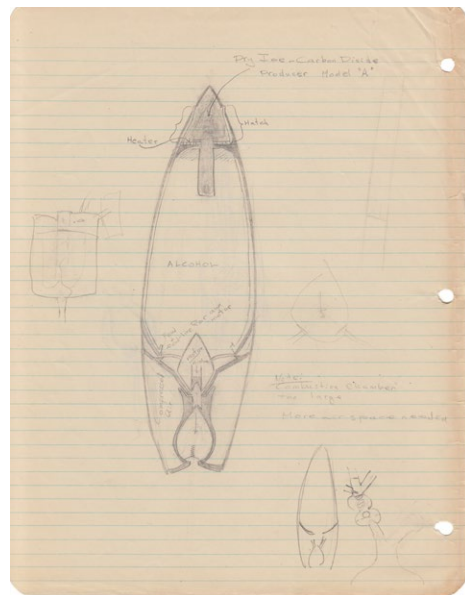
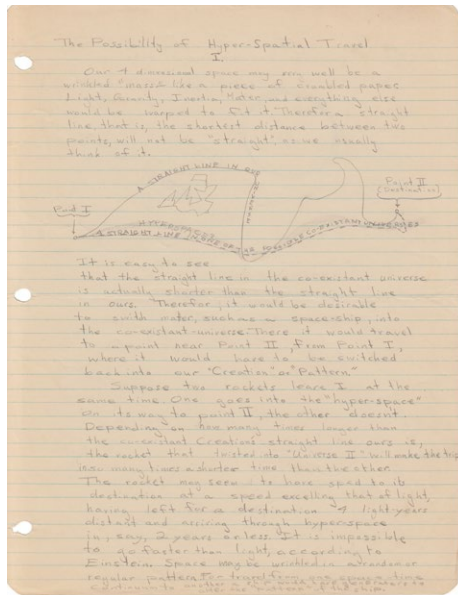
What I want to know is why among all the practitioners of the good old-fashioned American game of sex---I don't think it's un-American yet, though you never know---so few science fiction writers handle sex on an adult level. I do not mean mere sexiness, but the whole concept of integrating male and female sexes.

We've always had certain concepts of sex in science fiction. One example is all too familiar. A guy and a gal start out in a space ship on dimension tube and are captured by some monstrous outland dictator. He just gets down to earth-saving, when the dictator goes over and says, "Boo! Kitchy-kitchy coo," to the gal. Hero drops everything, saves girl, who immediately wanders off into some grasping hands, so hero can save her, etc., etc. Finally, some how incidentally, the hero saves earth, and gal comes into him. Maybe he now says, "Kitchy coo," to her, but it's a cinch he doesn't quite know what it means.

This isn't seen quite as straight as that too much today, so maybe the writers have grown up to be as old as their readers. That be the joke. When science fiction started, a lot of writers were younger than I was when I began reading it. I believe some were as old as fourteen, or high-school were younger then, too. And it's a perfectly normal attitude to feel that a gal is somebody to whom you occasionally say, "Kitchy-kitchy coo," and who is so helpless she has to be rescued from something.

At least, so editors feel, judging by most juvenile books. Any one here of high-school age has probably figured out pretty much what it's all about. But even in most adult fiction, the stupid and helpless girl is frequently only something to give the emasculated hero a job of saving. Roller derby on television may change some ideas about the helplessness of women, but that's still to come.

Lately, we've come up with a considerably more healthy step which might be called the George Smith formula. There's something you take out in a spaceship so that you can get married to earth, you have to get married.



Richard Milton Hodgens (1936 - fl. 2004)

In the science fiction world many know of Sam Moskowitz (1920-1997), an influential science fiction author and historian. In boring life, Moskowitz was editor of the food business trade publication *Quick Frozen Foods*. And in that capacity, he was the supervisor of editor Richard Hodgens. Hodgens lived in Moskowitz's shadow. While Moskowitz founded the Eastern Science Fiction Association ("ESFA"), Hodgens was Vice-Director and on the membership committee. Moskowitz published dozens of books and articles. Over the course of Hodgens's life he merely published one book and four science fiction short stories. Yet, for many years Hodgens leveraged his working relationship with Moskowitz to communicate prolifically with other science fiction authors.

Hodgens received letters from many of the greats: Bradbury, Asimov, Pohl, etcetera. And in many instances, they revealed to him thoughts and feelings that they may not have written to a mere "stranger". For example, Bradbury wrote to Hodgens about the "fear of antagonizing the South American market with a criticism of the white-brown racial relations problem there." (Item f29 of this List). Neil R. Jones confided to Hodgens the true story of how he coined the word "astronaut", and Jones sent Hodgens a reworked story of his that was never published (Item f35 of this List). Asimov in turn confided in Hodgens a primary reason why he sees robots as beneficent machines (Item f35 of this List)!

Hodgens's interest to collectors today arises mostly out of the secrets revealed to him by others. Those secrets are now available for purchase in the following seven items in this List: f10, f11, f20, f29, f32, f35, & f36.

[Illustrations from Item f32]

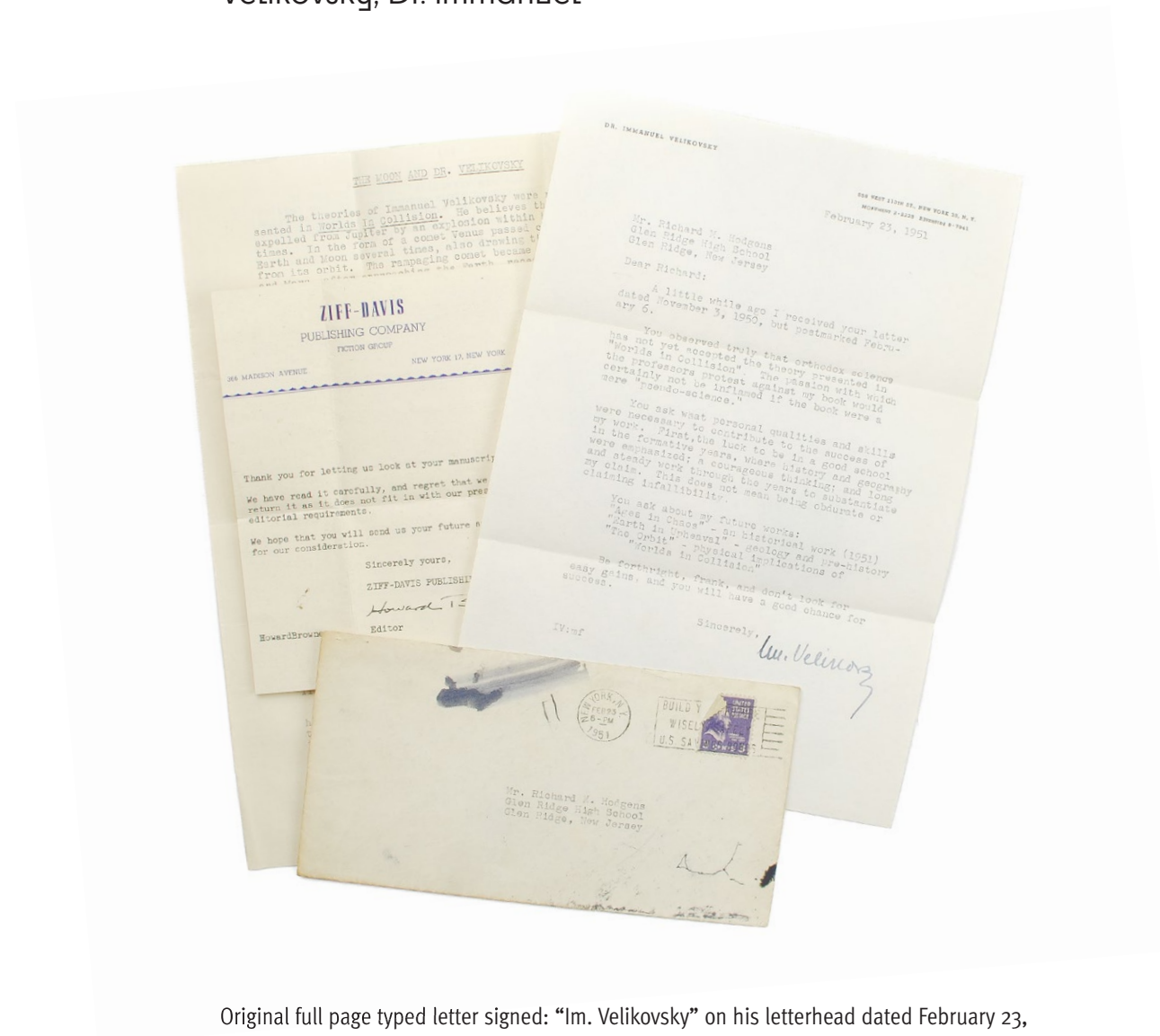
# Velikovsky Being Endearing

[Typed letter signed “Im. Velikovsky”]

Velikovsky, Dr. Immanuel

1951

265 by 185mm  
10½ by 7¼ inches



Original full page typed letter signed: “Im. Velikovsky” on his letterhead dated February 23, 1951 and addressed to Richard M. Hodgens (introduced in Item f10 of this List). Together with the envelope. Also, a two-page typed book review of *Worlds in Collision* by Hodgens along with a rejection notice and the envelope in which it came.

Very good plus.

\$650

Immanuel Velikovsky (1895–1979) was a Russian, Israeli, and American psychiatrist. He played a role in the founding of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. After examining legends of the ancient Jews and other eastern Mediterranean peoples, Velikovsky concluded that some tales described actual occurrences and were not mere myths or allegories. These findings he presented in his controversial 1950 bestseller *Worlds in Collision*.

At the age of 15, future science fiction writer Richard Hodgens wrote to Velikovsky and Velikovsky sent this February 23, 1951, letter in response, encouraging young Hodgens to “be forthright, frank, and don’t look for easy gains, and you will have a good chance at success.”

Velikovsky briefly addresses the un-orthodox nature of *Worlds in Collision*:

*You observed truly that orthodox science has not yet accepted the theory presented in ‘Worlds in Collision’. The passion with which the professors protest against my book would certainly not be inflamed if the book were a mere ‘pseudo-science.’*

Velikovsky discusses attributes for a young writer’s success and lists three additional projects he is working on. It is endearing that Velikovsky would take the time to respond to a high school student—the included return envelope is addressed to “Mr. Richard M. Hodgens” at “Glen Ridge High School”.

Perhaps because of this encouragement from Velikovsky, Hodgens in July 1951 proceeded to write a book review of *Worlds in Collision* and submit it to Ziff-Davis Publishing. It was promptly rejected. That book review and rejection note are included here.

Original signed letters from Velikovsky are scarce.



# A Record of Science Fiction Publishing Success

## [Hodgens's Collection of Publishing Correspondence]

Hodgens, Richard M.

1953

This is science fiction author Richard Hodgens's (introduced in Item f10 of this List) collection of publishing correspondence from roughly 1953 to 1973. Rejection letters are a dime a dozen, and there are a few notable ones in this collection—for example, Frederick Pohl's handwritten note from 1963 "Close—but not quite right. Got anything shorter?" The letters here concentrate on Hodgens's publishing success for four science fiction short stories and one book.

Hodgens's first publication was "The Claws in Clausmas" published in *Universe* in 1955. Regarding this first publication we have a typed letter signed by editor Bea Mahaffey (1928–1987):

*If my records are correct, we owe you both a very sincere apology, and a check. Your story appeared in the January issue of Universe; and, in clearing out my last year's records, it seems that you were neither notified of our accepting the story, nor paid for it.*

His second publication was "For Glory and the Empire", which William L. Crawford (1911–1984) published in 1955. This collection includes four typed letters signed by Crawford written to Hodgens spanning 1953 to 1969 (along with one envelope from Crawford). Crawford signed the first letter with his pseudonym "Garret Ford". On December 16, 1953, Crawford wrote, "There's a possibility that we might have a spot for 'For Glory and the Empire' in one of our future issues."

Then on December 27, 1954:

*Your story...had been scheduled for the seventh issue. We had even gone so far as to have it illustrated...anyway we were forced to hold it over until the eighth issue—in which it will definitely appear.*

By 1969, Crawford turns testy:

*For some inexplicable reason you seem to have a desire to degrade 'For Glory and the Empire'—or whatever the title was...it needed more revision than I was able to give it on the linotype machine. Does that surprise you?*

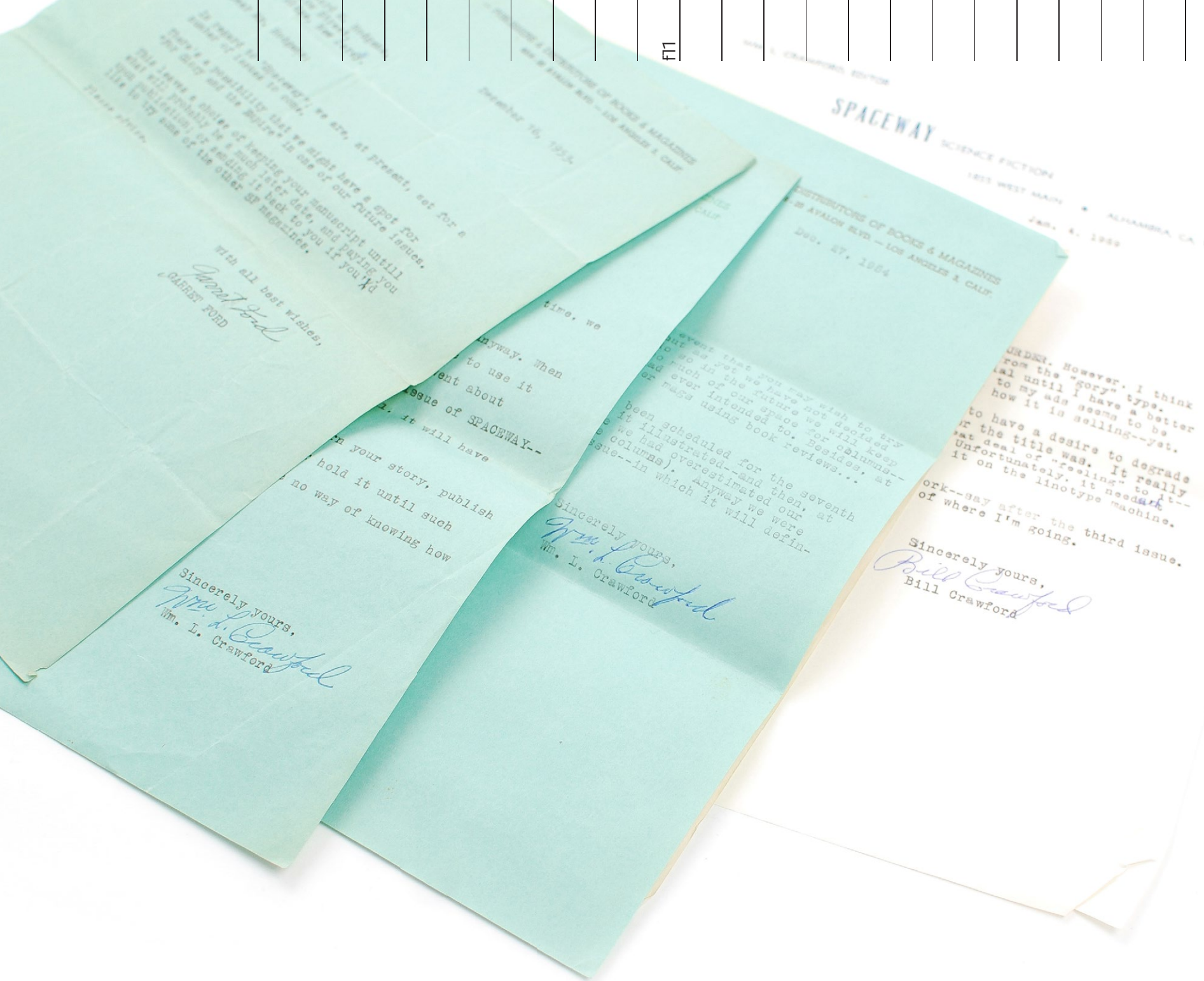
In a carbon copy of a letter from Hodgens to Crawford, we can see how Hodgens attempts to leverage his Moskowitz connection (Moskowitz was Hodgens's boss in the boring world), as the first sentence of the letter is: "I was pleased to hear from Sam Moskowitz that Spaceway Science Fiction would reappear."

Publication number three was *Down with Dr. Strangelove and other Political Science Fictions* published by Tom Reamy (1935–1977) in 1967. In an undated letter Reamy writes: "I'm sorry for the long delay in the publication of your article. It will be in No. 5." There are three letters from Reamy and one carbon copy of a letter to him. There is a lovely undated rejection letter in which co-editor Alex Eisenstein (born 1945) includes a hand drawn illustration of two fairy-like creatures and Reamy writes: "There now, that's a very professional-like rejection, isn't it?"

Hodgens's last science fiction short story was "One by One" published by Robert A. W. Lowndes (1916-1998) in 1968. Included are four letters from Lowndes to Hodgens and four carbon copies of the letters by Hodgens to Lowndes (Lowndes had a habit of writing his response on the very letter that he received). In March 1968, Lowndes writes: "'One by One' was received, has been read with pleasure, and is to be used in a forthcoming issue of Magazine of Horror."

In response to this acceptance, Hodgens creates artwork for his story—and the collection includes several revisions of the pencil illustration that Hodgens submitted for publication. Lowndes, however, was not so pleased with the drawing. Writing in April 1968:

*Actually, your drawings arrived about two weeks after I had closed the issue containing your story, so they couldn't be used even if we used new artwork (we do not) or if they seemed suitable (sorry, they don't).*



After his initial publishing success with Lowndes, Hodgens tries two more times—and each time is rejected by Lowndes with successively shorter missives.

To publish his book *Orlando Furioso*, Hodgens enlisted his friend and (more famous than he) author Lin Carter (1930–1988). On Carter’s fantastic letterhead Carter writes to Hodgens on January 11, 1970 “I will shortly submit your piece to Mrs. B [that is, Betty Ballantine of Ballantine Books]” and ends his letter with “but just wait till we get the Richard Hodgens’s Orlando into print!” Carter was successful and within three months Ballantine Books and Hodgens entered into a publishing contract. Two letters of Ballantine Books to Hodgens pertaining to the publishing contract and payment are part of the collection.

Perhaps the greatest science fiction editor of all times was John W. Campbell (1910–1971), and no collection of science fiction publishing correspondence would be complete without him—and yes, Hodgens had three original typed signed rejection letters from Campbell that are included. Along with the previously mentioned handwritten note by Frederick Pohl, and at least a dozen additional rejection letters from a wide range of science fiction publications (Robert P. Mills of *Fantasy and Science Fiction*, *Other Worlds Science Stories*, Edward L. Ferman of *Fantasy and Science Fiction*, etcetera). Somehow Hodgens managed to engage Ben Bova the editor of *Analog* in a discussion about Hitler quotes (January 9, 1973, letter). Hodgens also widened his scope, for example by sending letters to *Playboy* or theatrical producer David Merrick and director Stanley Kubrik—although in both of the latter instances the responses are merely signed by their respective assistants.

In all the collection comprises approximately 100 pages of letters and correspondence between Hodgens, his publishers and prospective publishers.

Lastly, Hodgens was a member of the Science Fiction Writers of America and as Secretary-Treasurer Anne McCaffrey wrote him in an included letter: “Now, g’wan and write, man, write!”

Since many science fiction editors were also great fans and writers of their own, this collection is a cornucopia of original signed letters from a who’s who of science fiction editing.

**SOLD**

mystic universe

Ray Palmer - Amherst, Wisconsin

2716 Vine St.  
Cincinnati 19, Ohio  
January 19, 1955

UNIVERSE  
MAGAZINE  
2716 VINE ST.  
CINCINNATI 19, OHIO

Mr. Richard Hodgens  
74 Willow Street  
Glen Ridge, New Jersey

Richard Hodgens  
74 Willow Street  
Glen Ridge, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Hodgens:

I'm writing in regard to the story THE CLAWS IN CLAUSMAS, submitted to us by you and John Kirwan. If my records are correct, we owe you both a very sincere apology, and a check. Your story appeared in the January issue of UNIVERSE; and, in clearing out my last year's records, it seems that you were neither notified of our accepting the story, nor paid for it. I assume you haven't seen this issue of the magazine, or I surely would have heard from you.

I want to apologize for this oversight (which is certainly a mild term) and let you know that I'm sending you a copy of the magazine and notifying Mr. Palmer that you have a check coming to you.

Sincerely,  
Bea Mahaffey  
Editor.



OTHER WORLDS  
Science Stories

1144 ASHLAND AVE.  
EVANSTON,  
ILLINOIS

Hicksville, N. Y.  
April 9 1959

SONY F

LIN CARTER • 100-15 195th ST. • HOLLIS, QUEENS, N.Y. 11423

11 January 1970

Hi, Richard:

Your revised extract from ~~of~~ OP is just what the doc ordered. Fine stuff. I will take it for GOLDEN CITIES, FAR ... and would have acknowledged much earlier but busy holidays and a book that needed finishing intervened.

I will shortly submit your piece to Mrs. B and suggest that we issue a contract for a complete English version of the OP.

Not knowin' how much time you will require, I am tentatively scheduling the book for the middle of 1971 -- that gives you a full year, which should be plenty of time. but if you need more, I can reschedule.

I am mostly interested in getting a good, readable, crisp, magical, entertaining book out of you ~~time~~ -- so don't feel hurried. More time can be found if you need more. Do a good job.


I will need some personal data on you for my intro to the extract. You were born where and when, where are you studying, what have you written, etc.

on the book of OP trans, by the way -- you will own the thing and the copyright will be in your name. I will see that your contract is fair, no "fine print," etc. But I suggest you have an agent or your lawyer look it over, just for your own protection.

particular thanks for the Irish poems. The one trans by Meyer is fine and I hope to get it for GOLDEN CITIES, FAR. If so, I will credit you with the suggestion. Got any other ideas?

RE Ossian, in order to find something readable I shamelessly edited, trimmed, cut, and partly rewrote the selection used in DRAGONS, ELVES. Did the same with mandeville. Don't know whether the version of "Ka" IS Longer in my book or what: de Camp sent me his original carbon, so maybe. Yes, probably I am being more original in KHYMYRIUM than I think, but a wisp of auctorial modesty does no harm. matter of Britain may be big right now and matter of France forgotten, but just wait till we get the Richard Hodgens ORLANDO into print!

happy magic




# Pogo Comics & Rocket Fuel Analysis

IT Summer 1953. Vol 1. No. 4.

Walt Kelly, Gordon Woodcock, Walter W. Lee, Jr. et al

Letter sized stapled zine; 44 pp., including covers. Front cover black construction paper with airbrushed paste down planet and label create a unique visual design. Illustrations throughout (including two Pogo illustrations). A variety of duplicating methods were used, encompassing mimeograph, dittoed, airbrush and lithograph.

Very good; fold marks in the center; a few folded edges; mimeograph quality low on certain pages; cover label loose. Staples removed.

Publisher and editor Walter W. Lee, Jr. (1931–2014) was best known for compiling the *Reference Guide to Fantastic Films*, a three-volume work published 1972–1974. It was the first major compilation of film scholarship for science fiction, fantasy, and horror films. Lee was a college student when he produced IT, and his love for film is clearly present in these pages with articles devoted to movie reviews and the United Productions of America (a major animation studio).

## The first technical article by Gordon Woodcock?

Contributor Gordon Woodcock (1933–2020) was a Boeing Apollo and NASA space station engineer, president of the L5 society, and chairman of the National Space Society executive committee. He published approximately 100 technical books and articles on space stations, platforms and mission engineering. The earliest article we could find by Woodcock was published in 1964. However, in this issue of IT he published a five-page technical article comparing types of rocket fuel (liquid oxygen vs. nitric acid vs. hydramine vs. ammonia vs. lithium, etc.). In 1953, Woodcock was a student at Oregon State and fraternity brother of editor Robert Chambers (1933–2008). Woodcock also authored a fiction piece for this issue entitled “The Hero”.

This zine includes two articles on Pogo (Satire in Pogo, 5 pages long; Pogo in Book Format, 4 pages long) and a letter to the editors from Pogo creator Walt Kelly (1913–1973) thanking them for their efforts promoting Pogo and offering them an original strip.

The technical articles juxtaposition well with the Pogo comic theme for a light and serious look at the future.

Only one copy worldwide in OCLC at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts (apparently miscataloguing the place of publication as Beverly Hills). Record number: 801243612.

**SOLD**

1953

Coos Bay, OR:  
Walter W. Lee Jr. and  
Robert Chambers  
279 by 216 mm  
11 by 8 1/2 inches



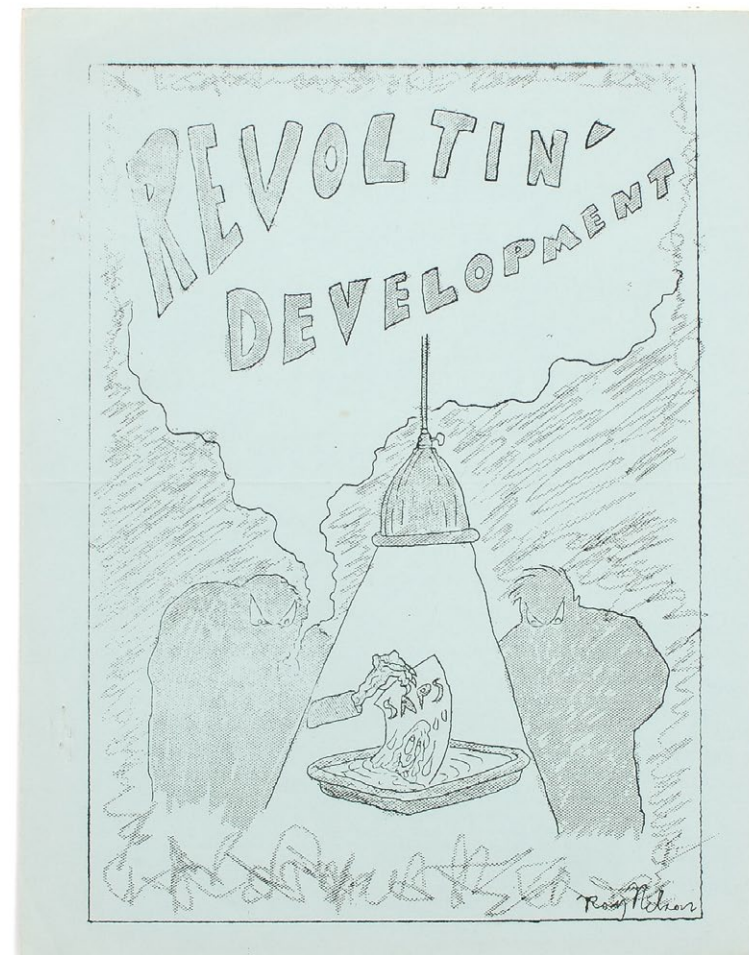
# First Zine of SFTPROBEMOTCOSFP Inventor

## Revoltin' Development

Alger, Martin E.

[1953]

Mackinaw City, Michigan:  
Martin E. Alger  
279 by 216 mm  
11 by 8 1/2 inches



Martin E. Alger (1919–1976) coined the term “Bug-Eyed Monster” (or BEM) in 1939 in a letter to the editor. BEM quickly spread among fans, and it was the first “fanspeak” to make its way into a mundane dictionary when Funk & Wagnalls included it, defined as: “various abhorrent monsters, such as are found in science-fiction.”

Alger was proud of this accomplishment, writing in this issue:

*My sold (sic) claim to fame in fandom is that I created that indispensable ingredient of stf, the BEM! And formed the badly needed SFTPROBEMOTCOSFP.*

The unwieldy acronym stands for the “Society For Prevention of Bug-Eyed Monsters on the Covers of Science Fiction Publications.”

Other than reminiscing on his BEM claim to fame, Alger devotes this first of his zines on imaginary interviews with imaginary geniuses.

OCLC locates only one copy worldwide under record number 19056226: Bowling Green State.

Stapled mimeographed zine; [6 pp.]. First issue (7 issued in toto).

On the first page: “This is the first and foremost SAPSZine of Martin E. Alger.” Illustrated.

Very good; staples removed.

**SOLD**

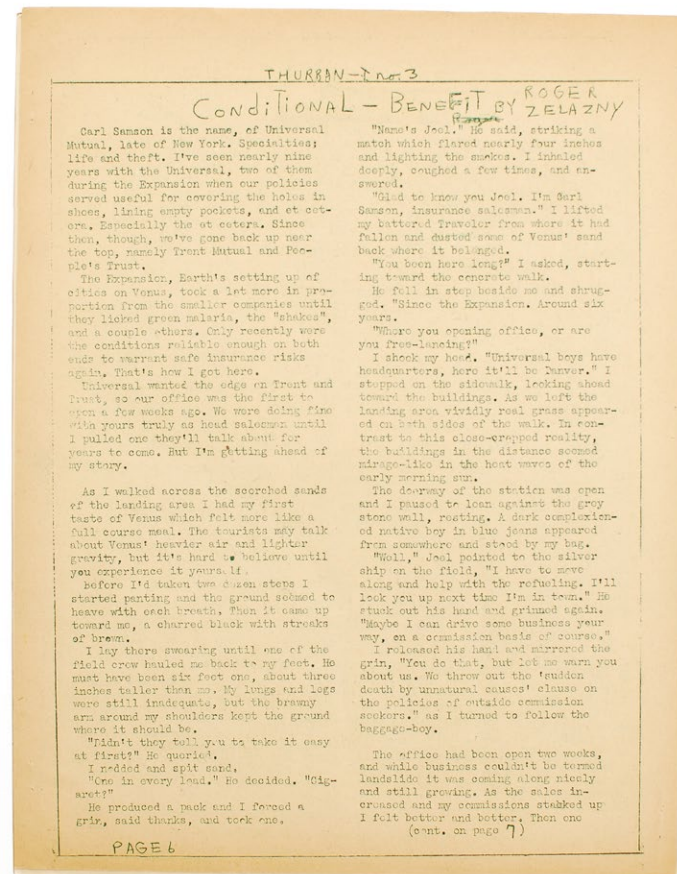
# Zelazny's Debut

## Thurban I

Roger Zelazny & Warren Dennis (co-editors)

1953

Rockford, Ill.:  
Warren Dennis  
279 by 216 mm  
11 by 8 1/2 inches



Issues 1, 2 & 3 (complete set). Letter sized stapled mimeographed zine. Issues 1 & 2 with offset printed covers.

First Issue (June 1953): 18 pp. including covers (misnumbered). 500 copies.  
Second Issue (July 1953): 26 pp. including covers. 200 copies.

Third Issue (August 1953): 32 pp. including covers. 200 copies, but only 150 circulated.  
Very good with minor paper loss not affecting text; staples removed.

**SOLD**

### Zelazny's First

Issue three contains co-editor Roger Zelazny's (1937–1995) debut in print at a mere 16-year-old. This was Zelazny's sole appearance in fandom before he achieved professional prominence in the 1960's. Zelazny won the Nebula Award three times (out of 14 nominations) and the Hugo Award six times (out of 14 nominations). In 1966 his novel *...And Call Me Conrad* tied with *Dune* for the Hugo.

Zelazny's contribution "Conditional Benefit" is three pages and tells the story of a chain-smoking insurance salesman on Venus who lands an enormous commission on the sale of life insurance to a Venetian tribe. Interesting and well-written, it was intended to be serialized with a conclusion to follow, yet *Thurban I* ceased publication with Issue 3.

### Bhob & Boob

There are dual contributions (on the same page of Issue 1) of Bob Stewart of San Francisco and Bobby Stewart (1937–2014) of Kirbyville, Texas. Texas Stewart later changed his name to Bhob Stewart due to confusion with "a fan" with the same name—*Thurban I* may have precipitated the change! Bhob went on to a successful career in publishing and was a regular contributor to *Heavy Metal* magazine.

Stewart of San Francisco published a fanzine named *Boo* and therefore went by Boob Stewart. Confusion still reigns between Bhob and Boob.

Also of interest: Issue 1 contains a poem by Agatha Grey Southern titled "A Space Song". Women authors are, of course, far and few in early fanzines. We were not able to find out anything about her except that she published several science fiction poems in the 1950s.

Exceedingly rare, especially in a complete set. OCLC locates only three copies worldwide (with the University of Texas only holding Issue 1 with a note: "Defective sample copy". UC Riverside and Syracuse with apparently complete sets (the Syracuse set was a gift of Roger Zelazny)). Although not in OCLC, Harvard appears to hold Issue 1.

All three issues addressed to Dale R. Smith who published the fanzine *Frontier*. Smith contributed a three-page story to Issue 2. Smith also contributed to *Science Fantasy* and *Original Science Fiction Stories*. He was the author of the 1956 book, *Space Travel: A Bibliography of English-Language Titles*.



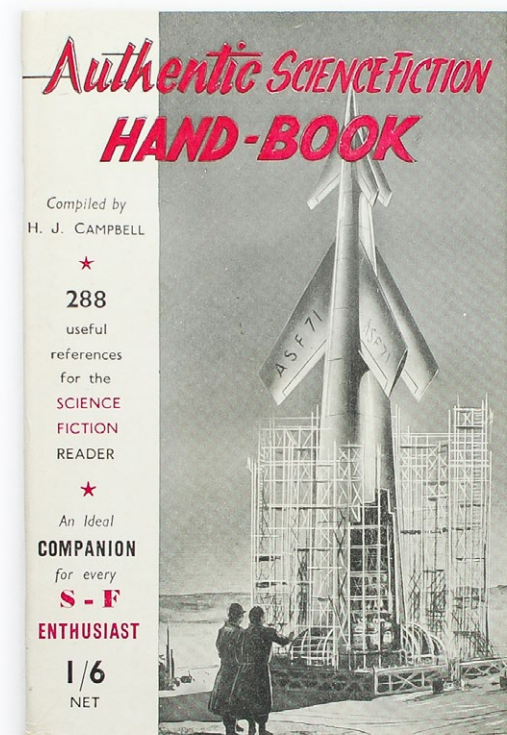
# Dictionary for Science Fiction Accuracy

Authentic Science Fiction Hand-Book 2B8 useful references for the science fiction reader. An ideal companion for every S-F enthusiast

Campbell, H.J. (editor)

1954

London:  
Hamilton  
180 by 125mm  
7 by 5 inches



Illustrated original brochure; 31 (+1 advertisement) pp. Originally published as a series in monthly installments to Campbell's magazine Authentic Science Fiction. Almost near fine; paper evenly tanned and light creasing to cover.

**SOLD**

A dictionary of science fiction terms containing “strictly scientific definitions” intended to allow readers to check the accuracy of science fiction stories. Being 1954, there is no definition for “computer”. There is also no definition for “astronaut”—see Item f35 of this List pertaining to the creation of that word; and of course, “bug eyed monster” a.k.a. “BEM” (see Item f13 of this List) is not part of this serious publication.

Definitions include: Alpha rays; Angstrom unit; Betelgeuse; Cepheid variables; Dielectric and 283 further scientific concepts.

As an example, Cybernetics is defined:

*The study of communication and control mechanism in machines and living things. The science of the relationships between the central control, the peripheral effectors and the communication channels between.*

Herbert James Campbell (1925–1983) was a noted chemical researcher (a Fellow of the Chemical Society) and editor of Authentic Science Fiction from 1952–1956. This dictionary squarely places the emphasis on “scientification” and not “fiction”. Remember, this is serious business. It’s “science fiction” and not “sci-fi”!

For a more modern take on the serious science fiction dictionary, see [www.sfdictionary.com](http://www.sfdictionary.com).



# Scarce San Francisco Fanzine

## Rhea Magazine

Menicucci, Gilbert and Malz, Fred (editors)

1954

San Francisco:  
Gilbert Menicucci and  
Fred Malz  
279 by 216 mm  
11 by 8 1/2 inches

A well-produced San Francisco fanzine (and thus, not a “crud-zine”).  
From issue #1:

*Our method of reproduction (multilith) is definitely a quality one. We are able to use a solid black; blacker, I understand, than photo-offset. Best of all we are able to reproduce photographs.*

For a fanzine, it's very nicely illustrated. Includes contributions from well-known writers: Calvin T. Beck (1929–1989) who edited and published *Castle of Frankenstein*; Mari Wolf (born 1927), a science fiction writer credited with the first use of the word “droid” for a robot; Robert Block (1917–1994), a protege of H. P. Lovecraft, and the cover to issue #2 is by Ralph Rayburn Phillips (1896–1974), artist for *Fantasy Advertiser* and various H.P. Lovecraft publications. Also includes a letter from Redd Boggs (1921–1996) in issue #2.

An exceedingly scarce publication. Only one holding in OCLC at UCLA under record #19056128. At the time of cataloguing, no other copies for sale. Not listed in Mike Ashley's two relevant reference books. Also, amazingly, no record of this publication or its editor in [www.isfdb.org](http://www.isfdb.org).

Issues 1 & 2 [likely all published]. Letter sized.  
Vol. 1. No. 1. July 1954; 20 pp. including covers.  
Vol 2. No. 1. Fall 1954; 20 pp. including covers.  
Very good plus with staples removed.

**SOLD**



# Hugo Nominated Fanzine

## Psychotic [1st Series]

Geis, Richard E.

1954-1955

Portland, Oregon:

Richard E. Geis

The premier award for science fiction writing is the Hugo. Richard E. Geis (1927-2013) was nominated a phenomenal 30 times and awarded 13 Hugos. An amazing feat. His fanzines were issued with high acclaim and *Psychotic* was nominated for the Hugo. Geis made his living writing pornographic novels, of which he wrote over 100 with raunchy titles such as *Sex Kitten* or *Campus Lust*; his true passion (no pun intended) was science fiction fandom.

*Psychotic* is one of Geis's early zines and his publishing track record is a bibliographic headache. We offer here a collection of the 1st run of *Psychotic* which he published from July 1953 to July 1955. Thereafter it was renamed *Science Fiction Review* for one issue. Geis then continued publishing *Psychotic* in 1967, and most OCLC and other references to *Psychotic* are from this latter 1967 incarnation. In the United States OCLC locates four holdings of the 1st run of *Psychotic*: Bowling Green, Concordia, Ransom Center & CSU Northridge—however, we could not locate the 1st run (1953-1955) publication in Northridge's online catalogue. At the time of cataloguing, no other copies for sale.

Especially striking are the zine's editorials. True to the "psychotic" name, Geis enters into conversations and arguments between himself and various alter ego personalities that are a joy to read.

5 issues:

Issue 11, May 1954. [26] pp. including covers. Letter sized, mimeographed.

Issue 17, November-December 1954, [32] pp. including covers. Quarto, lithographed.

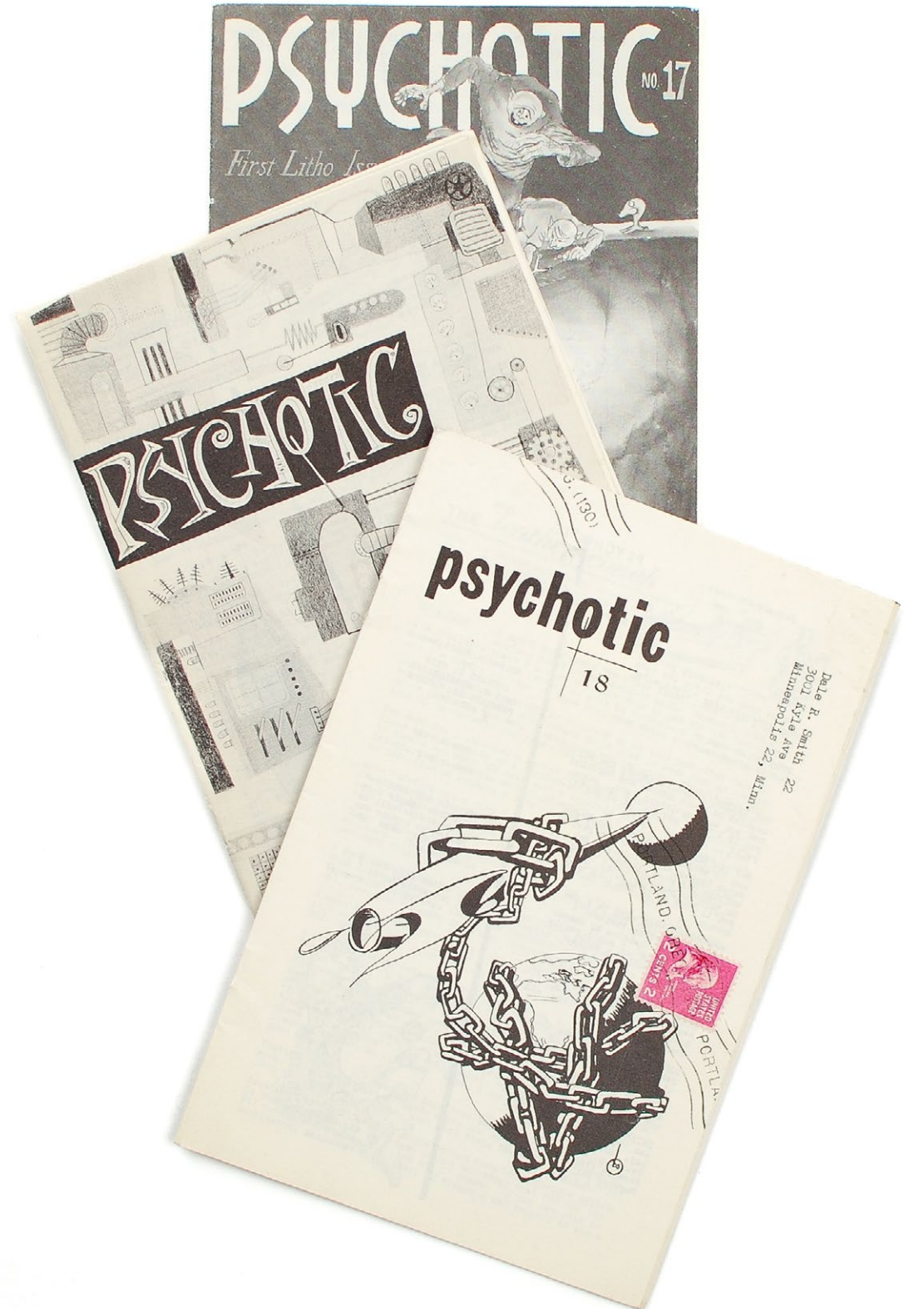
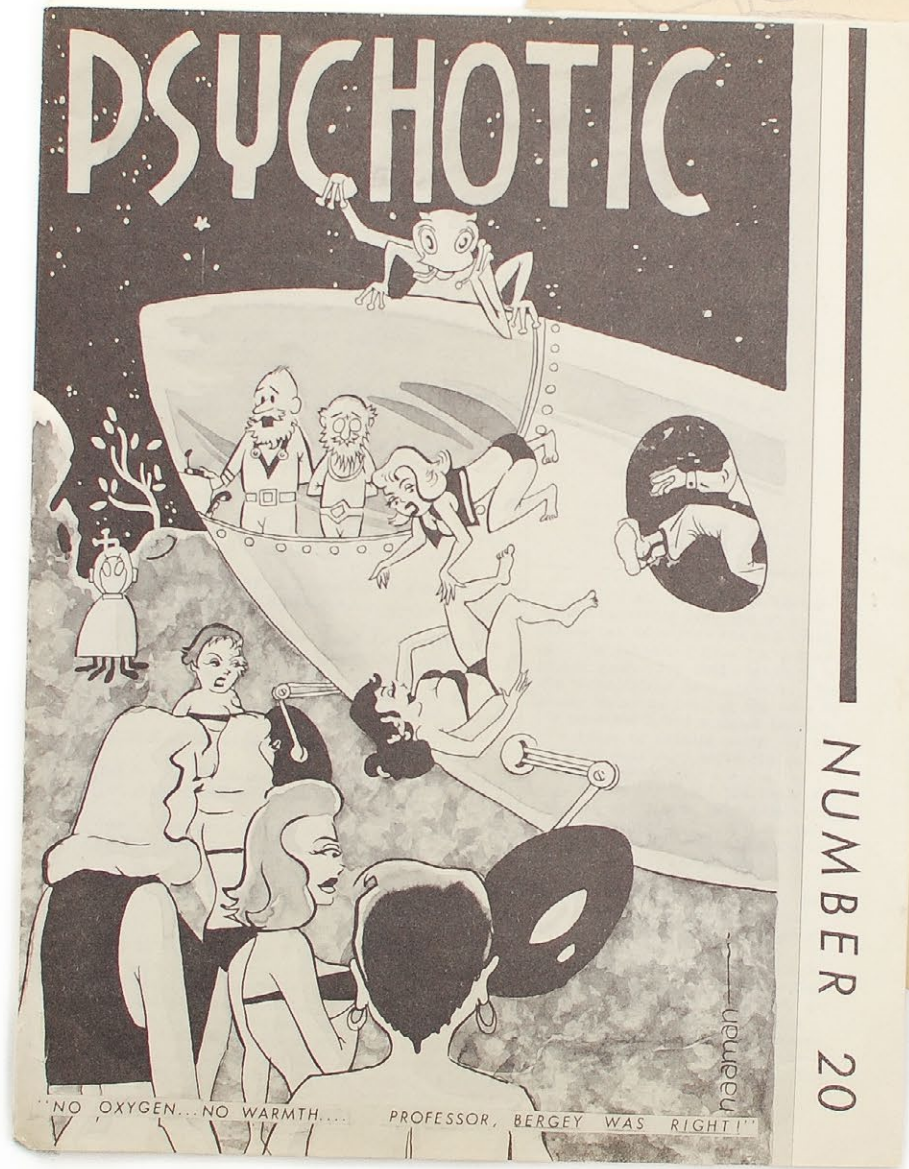
Issue 18, January-February 1955, [32] pp. including covers. Quarto, lithographed.

Issue 19, March-April 1955, [32] pp. including covers. Quarto, lithographed.

Issue 20, May-June-July 1955, [40] pp. including covers. Letter sized, lithographed. Nicely illustrated throughout, especially the lithographed issues.

Issue 11 merely good with browning paper, fading text and edge paper loss (no text loss); remaining issues very good. Staples removed from all. All issues addressed to Dale R. Smith who published the fanzine *Frontier*.

**SOLD**



# Unrecorded Bowart

Typo

[Bowart, Walter—publisher]

[1954 or 1955]

Enid, Oklahoma:

[Walter Bowart]

279 by 216 mm

11 by 8 1/2 inches



Walter Bowart (1939–2007) was a leader in the counterculture movement of the 1960's and the founder and editor of the first underground newspaper in NYC, the *East Village Other*. He is also known for his book *Operation Mind Control*. Bowart published *Typo* when he was 15 or 16 years old. Curiously, there never was a *Typo* #1, rather the first publication was *The Complete works of...Gog*, which then continued with *Typo* #2 & #3. It is not known if more issues were produced.

The content is juvenile, with numerous illustrations of aliens chasing naked women and the zine is almost unrecorded. OCLC locates only one copy worldwide (#837524774), and that is of issue #2 at Murdoch in Australia. However, since issue #2 fails to identify Bowart as publisher (merely his home address in Enid, Oklahoma is provided), this OCLC entry does not link the zine back to Bowart. At the time of cataloguing, no other copies for sale. Not listed in Mike Ashley's two relevant reference books. Also, amazingly, no record of this publication in [www.isfdb.org](http://www.isfdb.org)

Issue #3 includes a one-page article by later Hugo winning author Ron Ellik (1938–1968) entitled "The Great Wall of China"—which is unrecorded and may be Ellik's first published work (he would have been 16 or 17 years old). Further issue #3 includes a full-page letter (critical of the publication) by Marion Zimmer Bradley (1930–1999), best known for her novel *The Mists of Avalon* the *Darkover* series.

Two issues, both letter sized fanzines.

Typo #2 March. [20] pp. including covers.

Typo #3 July. [32] pp. including covers.

Very good with slight rust markings from staples and small tears; issues previously folded for mailing; staples removed. All issues addressed to Dale R. Smith who published the fanzine *Frontier*.

**SOLD**

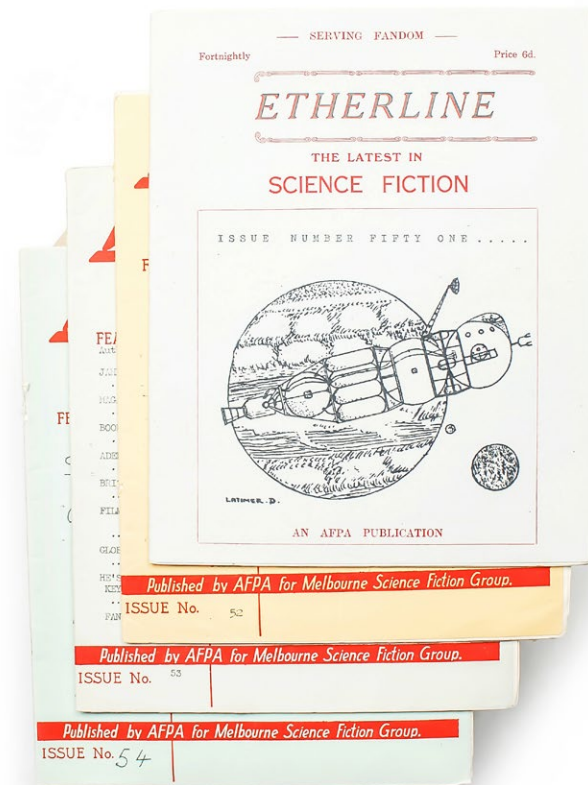
## Scarce Australian Fanzine

*Etherline*. The Latest in Science Fiction. An AFPA Publication.

Crozier, Ian J. (editor)

1955-1956

Victoria, Australia:  
Amateur Fantasy  
Publications of Australia  
210 by 170mm  
8¼ by 6¾ inches



Mimeographed zine. Page count ranging from [24-28] pp. including covers.

The publication ran for 101 issues from 1953-1959. On offer here are 17 issues from 1955-1956: Issues #51-67.

Good to very good; staples removed. All addressed to Dale R. Smith who published the fanzine *Frontier*.

**SOLD**

Fanzine mostly arranged and edited by Ian J. Crozier and produced by Mervyn Binns. *Etherline* began as a newszine of Amateur Fantasy Publications of Australia, incorporating news from the Melbourne Science Fiction Group, which was to become the Melbourne Science Fiction Club (MSFC). MSFC is the second oldest continuously active science fiction club in the world (after Los Angeles). *Etherline* both reported on Australian science fiction news and republished works from American authors. Issue #56 includes an interesting report on a party in Brisbane attended by Arthur C. Clarke.

Unusual almost square format with fun amateur cover illustrations. The zine is scarce, with hardly any copies offered for sale. In the United States, per OCLC, there are only holdings at UC Riverside, Syracuse, & Emory—and all of them incomplete. UC Riverside holds issues 56, 82, 89-93; Syracuse only holds issue 86; Emory holds 79, 89, 91-92.



# Hodgens's Unpublished Short Stories

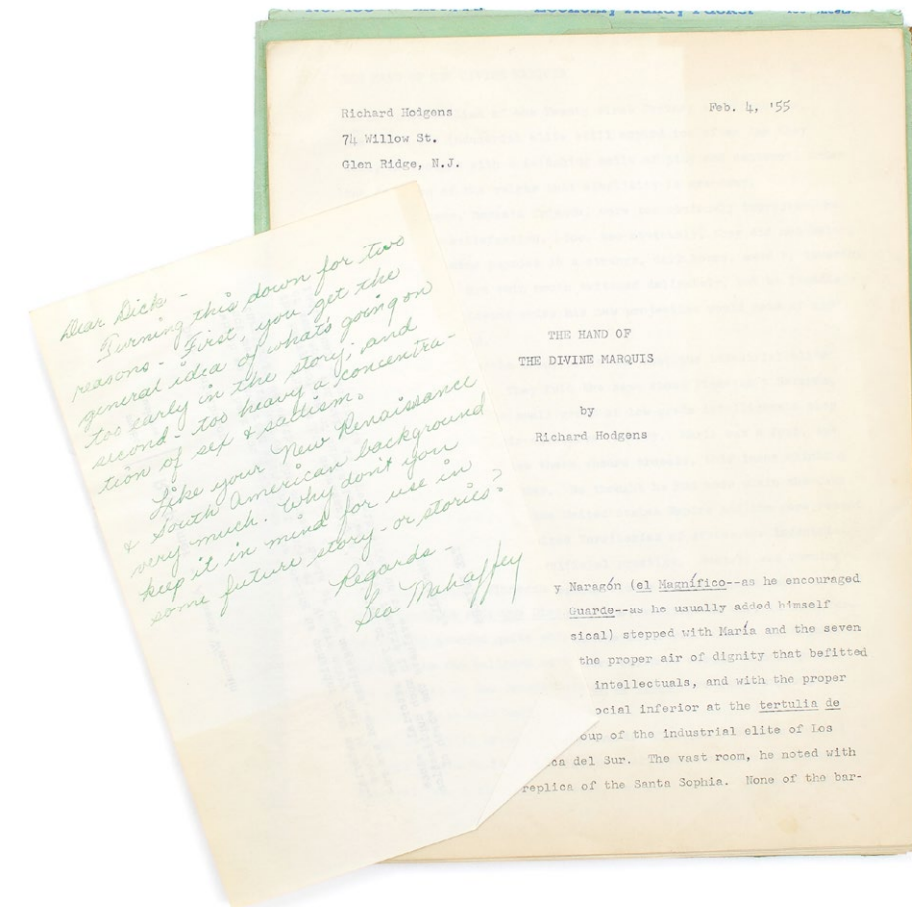
## [Four Short Story Manuscripts]

Hodgens, Richard M.

A collection of four unpublished short story manuscripts written on a typewriter by science fiction author Richard Hodgens (Introduced in Item f10 of this List) along with seven pages of original accompanying artwork by Hodgens, and his *Quick Frozen Foods* business card and memo letterhead from *Quick Frozen Foods*. Also includes a handful of rejection notices for the stories, including one hand-written rejection by Other Worlds editor Bea Mahaffey (1928–1987). Mahaffey was a committed science fiction fan and well-respected editor. She was also one of very few women in the field.

The four science fiction short story manuscripts comprise:

- 1) *The Hand of the Divine Marquis*. February 4, 1955; 14 pages. In a dystopian future the United States lost WWII. We are world weary and seek refuge in a virtual world. The story pertains to a virtual party where guests project famous people onto their bodies. The world may be hell but is not devoid of entertainment. Ms. Mahaffey in her hand-written note comments: “[T]oo heavy a concentration of sex and sadism. Like your New Renaissance and South American background very much.”
- 2) *Time-Dam*. No date; 5 pages. A professor invents a machine to dam the streams of time resulting in the participants stuck in an ever-repeating loop. Hodgens attempted to publish this work in the erotic-magazine *Gallery* (we recommend that you NOT Google it) but was rejected.
- 3) *Bright Phase*. [October 1966]; 2,198 words and 8 pages. From the perspective of an apparent alien blob. How it moves and how it decides to attack other beings.
- 4) *Overmurder*. No date; 1,700 words and 7 pages. The overmen live in pods and watch over humans and control their thoughts. A man murders an overman; was it free will?



Although Hodgens had some success with at least four published science fiction short stories and one book, these manuscripts never saw the light of day. Buy your own science fiction slush pile.

**SOLD**



Dear *Mr. Hodgson*:

Thank you for submitting the enclosed material. At this time, however, it does not fulfill our editorial needs.

Please don't hesitate to submit other material in the future if you feel that it would interest the readers of GALLERY magazine.

Again, thank you for your interest in GALLERY.

Yours very truly,  
*Pierce*  
 Don L. Pierce, Jr.  
 Editor

# GALLERY

NINE-THIRTY-SIX NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611, (312) MI 9-9000

Our stellaria did not have screen-domes. The stars were projected from huge machines that crouched under the center of the dome like giant robots in the dark--buzzing, glittering, weight-lifting and welding maces.

1700 words  
 seven pages

2,198 words  
 eight pages

ader-Rasp, "I propose  
 ous minutes in the hope  
 younger than he, in fact,  
 ght come in person;  
 st, dark, L.A. Stellarium.  
 edge of the dome.  
 s; but if Baader-Rasp's  
 of him, the reporters  
 beyond him in the



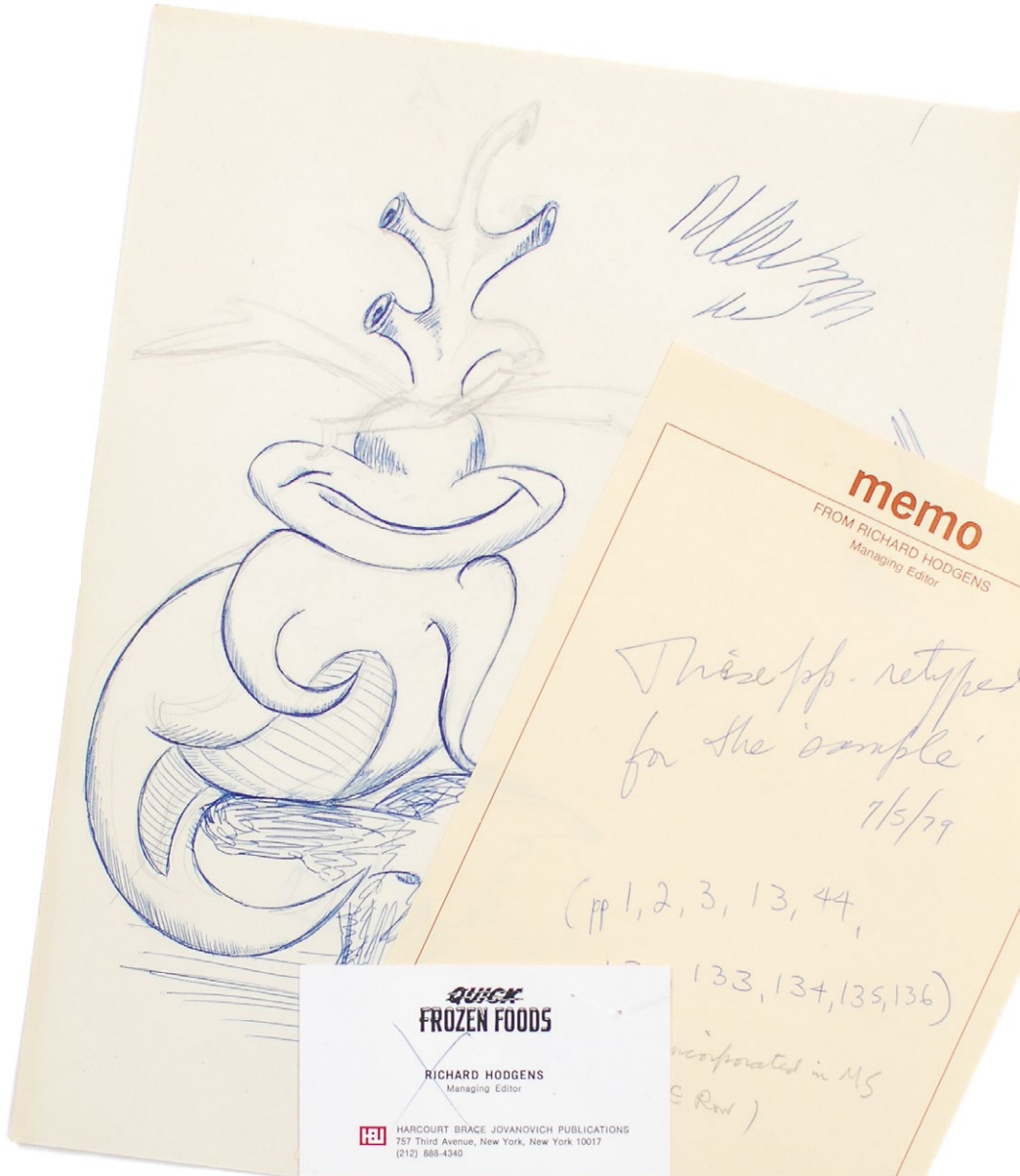




colours  
see  
see  
see



distance center eye - rim  
apical  
claw & center eye  
(apical) - rim  
apical - rim  
apical - rim



Richard Hodgkins  
11/5/79

**memo**  
FROM RICHARD HODGENS  
Managing Editor

These pp. retyped  
for the 'sample'  
7/5/79

(pp 1, 2, 3, 13, 44,  
133, 134, 135, 136)  
incorporated in MS  
(see Rev)

**QUICK FROZEN FOODS**  
RICHARD HODGENS  
Managing Editor  
HARCOURT BRACE JOVANOVICH PUBLICATIONS  
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(212) 688-4340

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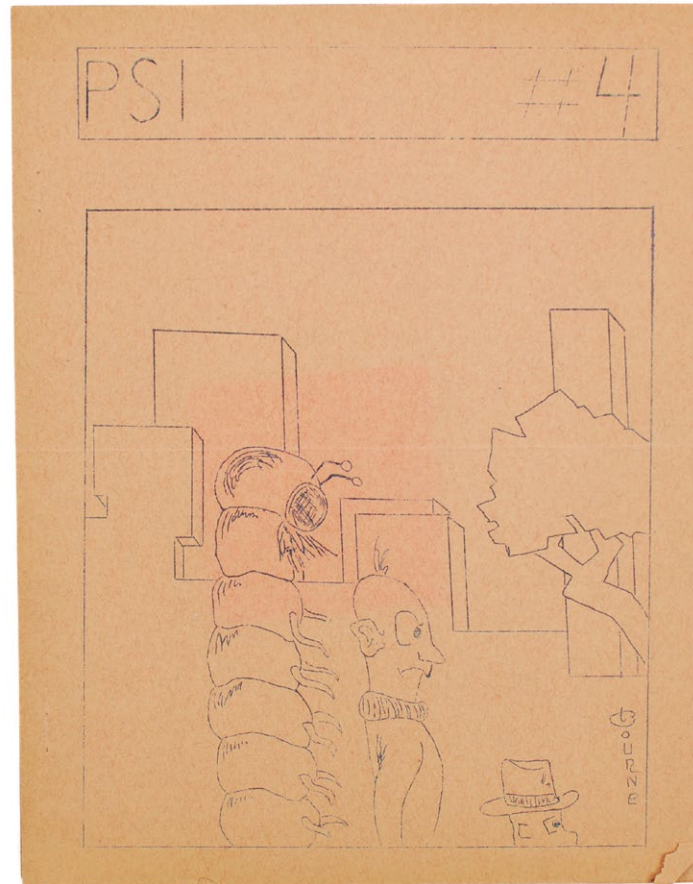
# Son, throw away that “fan junk”

PSI #4

Amlin, Lyle (publisher)

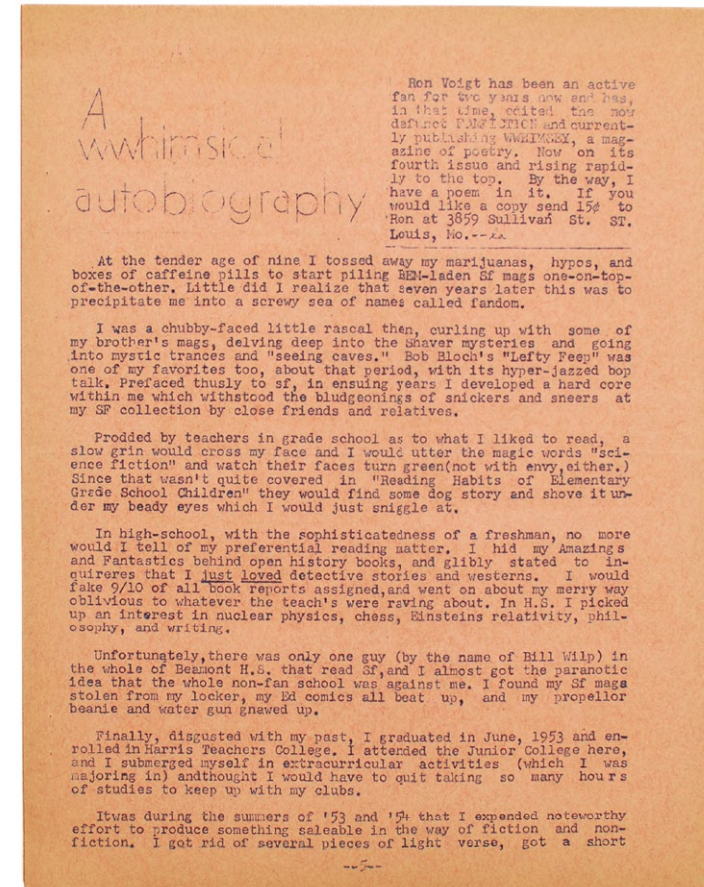
[1955]

[Hemet, California]:  
Lyle Amlin  
279 by 216 mm  
11 by 8 1/2 inches



Letter sized mimeographed fanzine; [14] pp.  
Very good, with minor edge loss due to brittle paper; previously folded; staples removed.

**SOLD**



Produced by Lyle Amlin, at the time a high school junior from Hemet, California. We enjoyed reading Amlin’s editorial in which he explained that this may be the last issue because his father forced him to throw out all his “fan junk” and then threatened to destroy his mimeograph machine. This issue includes a full-page review of a midwestern convention by Juanita Coulson (born 1933), one of the first women to be nominated for science fiction’s prestigious Hugo (in 1958) and awarded a Hugo for best fanzine in 1965.

It is hard to find any record of *PSI*. Although *PSI* is listed in fancylopedia.org, it incorrectly states that Amlin produced a British publication. Not listed in Mike Ashley’s two relevant reference books. Also, no record of this publication or its editor in www.isfdb.org. At the time of cataloging, no other copies for sale. We were not able to locate any OCLC records, however Skynet (a.k.a. Google) identified a record of *PSI* issue #1 at Harvard.

It is apparently a mere coincidence that little Hemet, California is the home of both *PSI* and the Church of Scientology’s 520-acre compound.

# Madle, we demand a sequel!

Transuranic. The Journal of the  
Carolina Science Fiction Society

Madle, Robert A. (editor)

1955-1956

Charlotte, N.C.:  
Carolina Science Fiction  
Society



Robert A. Madle (born 1920) may be the oldest science fiction fan of them all. We found a record of his 101st birthday party in 2021! He's been a fan since the 1930's and attended the very first World Science Fiction Convention. We were amazed to read on colleague ABAA bookseller John W. Knott, Jr.'s website that he worked for Madle while in high school.

Madle produced *Transuranic* for the Carolina Science Fiction Society that he founded in 1953. According to Charlotte Magazine, the society had at its height 15 members and so we expect distribution of *Transuranic* to be quite modest. One of the included issues states that "approximately 100 copies" were mailed—although perhaps it was less. Madle published a story "The Werewolf Howls" in Vol. II, No. 1. Then in Vol II, No. 3. he writes: "Thousands of letters have poured in, demanding a sequel"—and so he published in that issue "The Return of the Werewolf". We were not able to find any other record of these stories by Madle.

It's almost impossible to find any record of this publication. Not listed in Mike Ashley's two relevant reference books. Robert Madle, of course, is listed with dozens of entrees in [isfdb.org](http://isfdb.org)—but this publication is nowhere to be found. At the time of cataloguing, no other copies for sale. We were not able to locate any OCLC records.

- Five issues.
- No issue number, December 16, 1955. [3] pp. including front cover. Legal sized; blueprint process.
- Vol. II, No. 1, January 14, 1956. [3] pp. including front cover. Legal sized; blueprint process.
- Vol. II, No. 2, January 28, 1956. 9 pp. including front cover. Letter sized; blueprint process.
- Vol. II, No. 3, February 25, 1956. 33 pp. including front cover. Letter sized; blueprint process.
- Vol. II, No. 4, June 25, 1957. [2] pp (single sheet, double sided). Legal sized; xerox-like process (text is degrading).

Good to very good, the blueprint (?) process is prone to fading over time (top 1/2 of the 1st page of the December 16th issue is heavily sun faded, other issues with light to medium fading); legal sized issues with fold marks; all staples except for 2 removed; all addressed to *Frontier*, the fanzine created by Dale R. Smith.

**SOLD**

# First Edition Buck Nelson

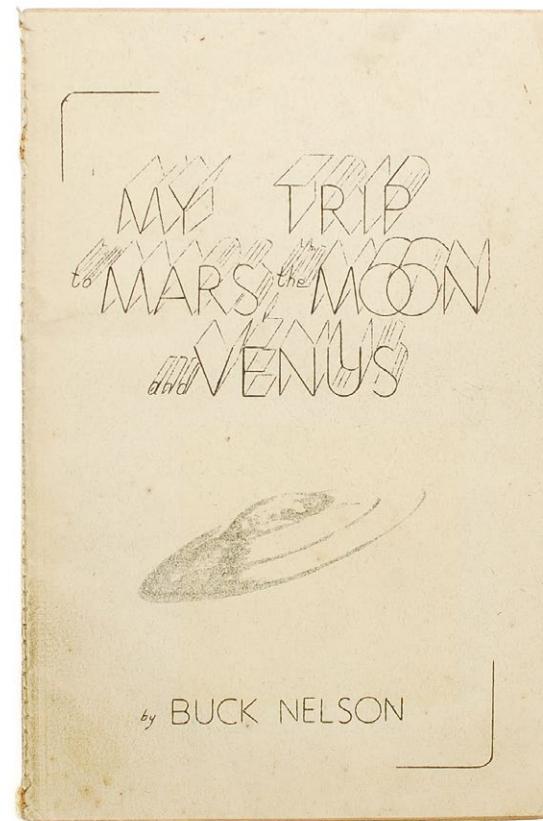
## My Trip to the Mars, the Moon, and Venus

Nelson, Buck

1956

[Grand Rapids, Mich.?]:  
UFOrum, Grand Rapid Flying  
Saucer Club

216 by 140mm  
8½ by 5½ inches



Illustrated paper wrappers with stitched binding; x, 33 pp. First edition. With eight illustrations of Venus, spaceships, etcetera.

Exterior good, interior very good; cover lightly soiled with minor edge and spine damage; interior evenly browned; old water stain to back cover and last three pages.

**SOLD**

Buck Nelson (1895–1982) was an American farmer who claimed to have had numerous encounters with UFOs, wrote this booklet describing his experiences, and became a celebrity because of it. Numerous editions of this booklet were produced. By 1966 it was in its 7th printing, and it was published yet again in 2018. A German edition appeared in 1964 and a Polish (underground?) edition was produced in 1983. This is the exceedingly scarce first edition from 1956.

Nelson saw three flying saucers over his farmhouse. The people of Venus visited with him and took Nelson on trips to Mars (canal viewing, of course), the moon (both the light and the dark side) and Venus. We were intrigued by this description on page 12:

*[O]n Venus, Bucky managed to show me, what I call a 'book machine'. When a book was put into it, it would read the page, play any music or show any pictures it contained. It was about the size of a television set.*

One must say, that is fascinating technology those Venus-dwellers have.

OCLC locates 5 holdings of this edition worldwide under #6048493 (San Diego, UCSB, Grand Rapids, Mid-Continent, & Springfield Greene). At the time of cataloguing, no other copies for sale. No auction records in Rarebookhub.

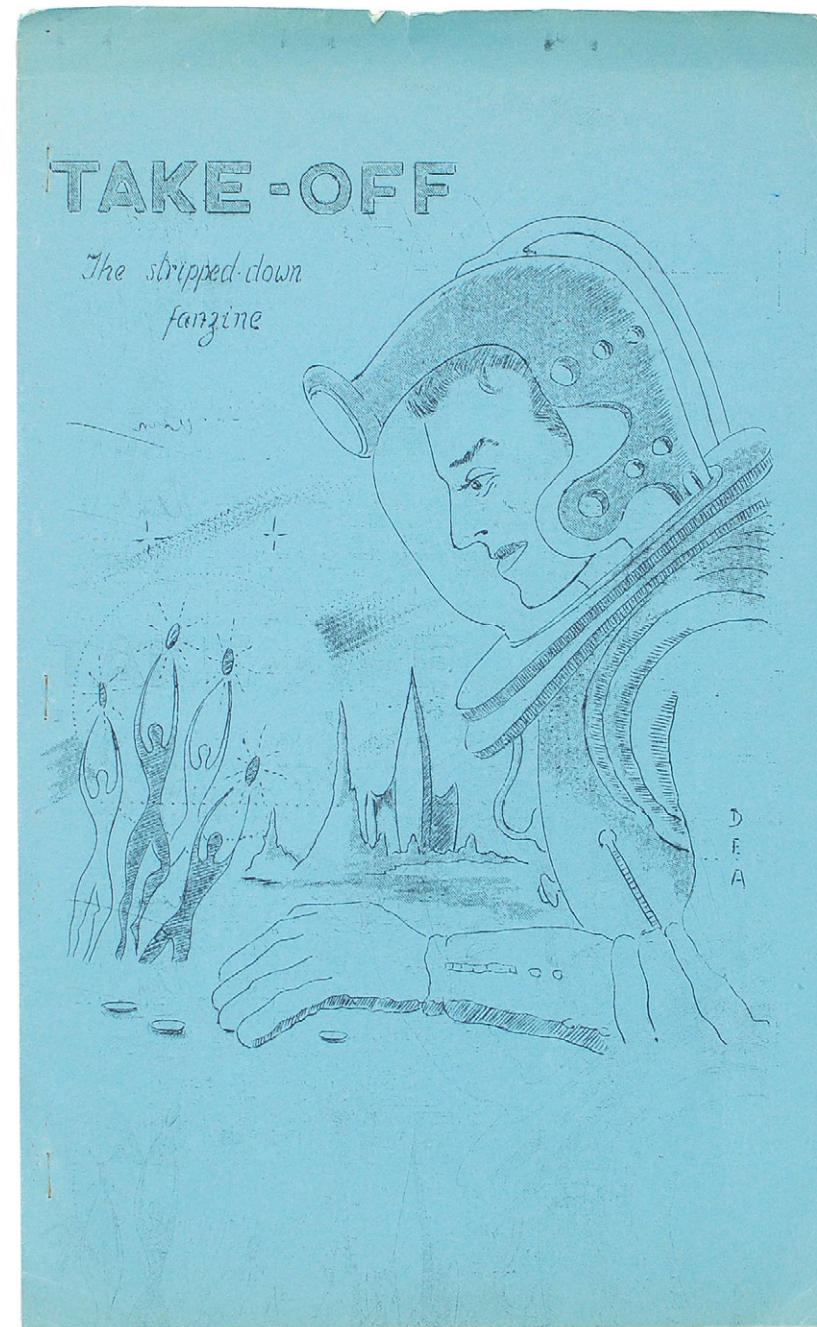
# Zine of International Fandom

## Take-Off

Dodd, Alan

[1956?]

Herts, England:  
Alan Dodd  
335 by 210mm  
13¼ by 8¼ inches



Alan Dodd (1934–2001) was so reclusive that many fans didn't believe he existed. He wrote frequently about conventions, but perhaps never visited one. In this issue, writing about an upcoming con:

*As for me? No—I shan't be there despite the fact that I live a mere 26 odd miles from the Con hotel...I'd need the nerve at least of Lars Helander before I'd even attempt it and I fear I just couldn't summon up enough of it to see me through such a situation.*

His reluctance to be seen in person led Ron Bennett (1933–2006) to play a prank on him announcing that Dodd was Bennett's invented alter ego. Dodd was not pleased.

In this publication *Take-Off*, Dodd reviews a smorgasbord of other zines (50 in all—one gets the feeling that Dodd didn't do anything other than subscribe and read other zines). What's interesting about the write-ups is Dodd's international scope. Beyond the USA and UK, he reviews two fanzines in Sweden, one in Belgium, one in Germany and several from Australia. Thereby Dodd created a quasi-reference work of international science fiction fandom.

We're stumped. *Take-Off* is another impossible-to-locate zine. No OCLC records. Not listed in Mike Ashley's two relevant reference books. At the time of cataloguing, no other copies for sale.

Mimeographed stapled fanzine of an unusual, elongated size with cardboard covers; 13 pp. No published date, no issue number. Nicely illustrated front and back covers.

Very good, except the top inch of the zine is curling, paper browned throughout; staples removed.

**SOLD**

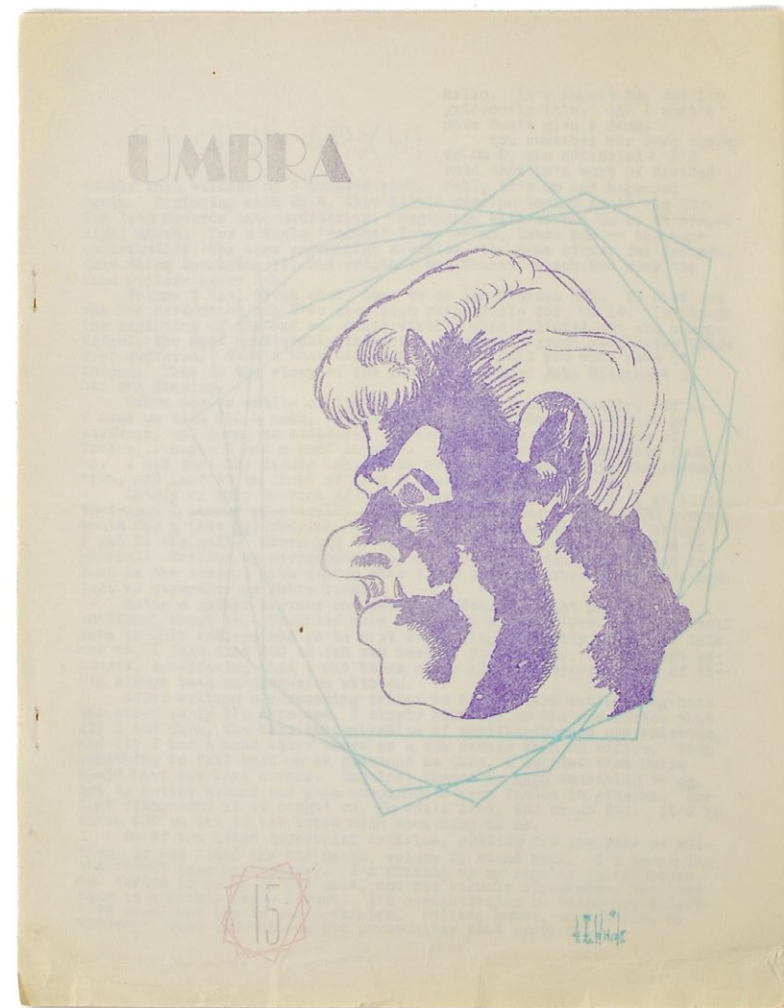
# Not written by Heinlein, Clarke & Bradbury

**Umbra**

Hitchcock, John—editor

1956

Baltimore, MD:  
John Hitchcock  
279 by 216 mm  
11 by 8 1/2 inches



In this issue, Jan Jansen, a fan out of Belgium, provides a five-page report on fandom in Antwerp and his adventures at a science fiction convention in England.

Larry Stark (born 1932) wrote a three-page story “Son of Univac”—a writing of his that is not listed in his [isfdb.org](http://isfdb.org) list of publications or elsewhere. Stark describes the story as collaboration between Heinlein and Clarke; ohh, and it was written by Bradbury and others—all of which is an attempt at pulling our collective leg. Stark edited eight fanzines and wrote a handful of science fiction stories during the 1950’s. Later in life he became a theater critic in Boston. In 2016 a self-published book on Stark’s science fiction works was released entitled *The Historic 1950s Fanzine Writing of Larry Stark*.

Per OCLC, Umbra is found in the US only at UC Riverside (#19454896).

Side stapled letter sized mimeographed zine.

Issue #15. [28] pp.

Very good although some text fading; very minor tear to cover; staples removed; previously folded.

**SOLD**

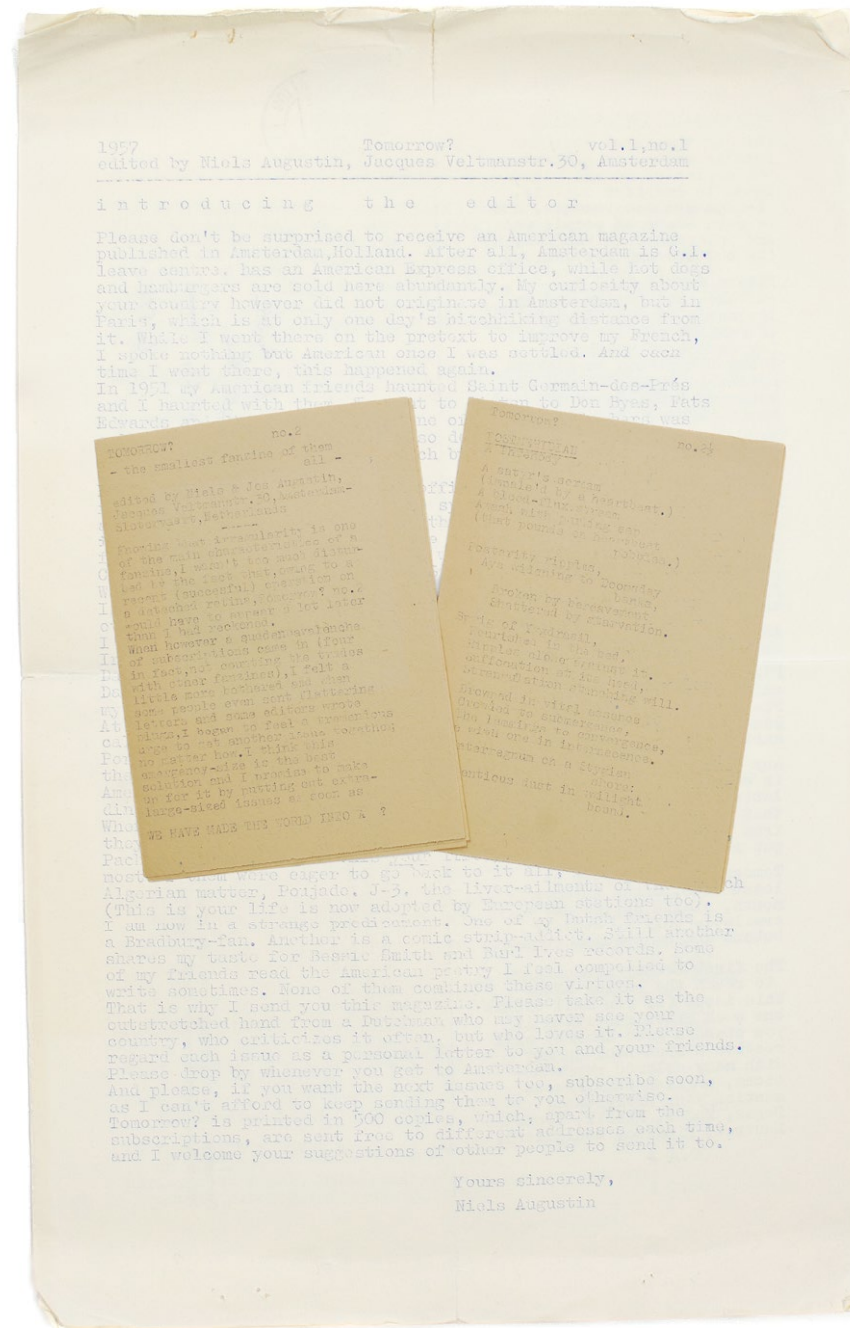
# First English Fanzine from Holland

Tomorrow—the smallest fanzine of them all

Augustin, Niels

1957

Amsterdam:  
Niels Augustin



Mr. Augustin informs us in the first issue:

*This is the first American fanzine edited in Holland. 500 copies of it are distributed to American artists, sf-fans and mad readers, and to some European people who are interested in the USA, its culture and its comics.*

We suspect that the print run for issue two was substantially less, as Augustin tells us that he received “a sudden avalanche of subscriptions came in.” He then proceeds to clarify that four—just four—subscriptions arrived.

We have no way of verifying whether this was the first science fiction zine in English produced in Holland, so we’ll take Augustin’s word for it.

In issue 2, Augustin cut out an image from *Mad Magazine* and for extra credit asks his audience to identify the *Mad* issue (clever!). His additional gimmick of producing issues 2 & 2 1/2 in what is truly the smallest fanzine we’ve ever seen helps round this out as perhaps the strangest zine in this entire list.

Perhaps no surprise, this zine is hard to track down. No bibliographical data, no OCLC, no copies for sale. A phantom lost to time, except once again Skynet (a.k.a. Google) leads us to Harvard which holds the same issues we have on offer here.

Three issues (all issued?). Blueprint (?) process.

Vol. 1., No. 1. [8] pp. including covers. Originally folded twice and stapled. 335 by 210mm (13 by 8 1/4 inches). Addressed to Dale R. Smith who published the fanzine *Frontier*.

No. 2. [8] pp. including covers. 145 by 110mm (5 3/4 by 4 1/4 inches).

No. 2 1/2. [8] pp. including covers. 145 by 110mm (5 3/4 by 4 1/4 inches).

Vol. 1, good with some edge tears. The remaining issues very good, except text on all fading.

**SOLD**

# President of the NFFF

## "Quoth the Walrus"

Holland, Ralph M.

The National Fantasy Fan Federation (N3F or NFFF and members termed "Neffers") is one of the world's oldest science fiction fan organizations founded in April 1941 and remains active today. Notable Neffers include Forrest Ackerman, Sam Moskowitz, Donald Wollheim, Ray Bradbury and many others. Ralph M. Holland, editor and publisher of *Quoth the Walrus*, was the president of NFFF from 1958–1962 (dates that coincide with the dates of this zine). He was also the editor of the *National Fantasy Fan*, the official NFFF publication.

1957–1958

Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio:

Ralph M. Holland

279 by 216 mm

11 by 8 1/2 inches

On offer here is his personal free zine. As he describes it in the publication:

*Written and published...for free distribution to certain of my fannish friends...It is slanted mainly toward the NFFF point of view because most of the readers are Neffers. Sample copies go out to all new members as my contribution to the work of the Welcommittee...Being a personal news-letter sort of thing, the Walrus does not solicit or use contributions. Such as it is, it is 100% all Holland.*

Different from most other zines, this one is written entirely by one person, and each issue reads like a long letter to friends reporting on the inner workings of fandom.

Scarce. Per OCLC worldwide only at Monash in Australia (#920529665); Harvard also holds issues 1–2 & 5–7.

Letter sized zine originally stapled in the top left corner.

Five issues:

#2. No date. [4] pp.

#3. May 1957. [6] pp.

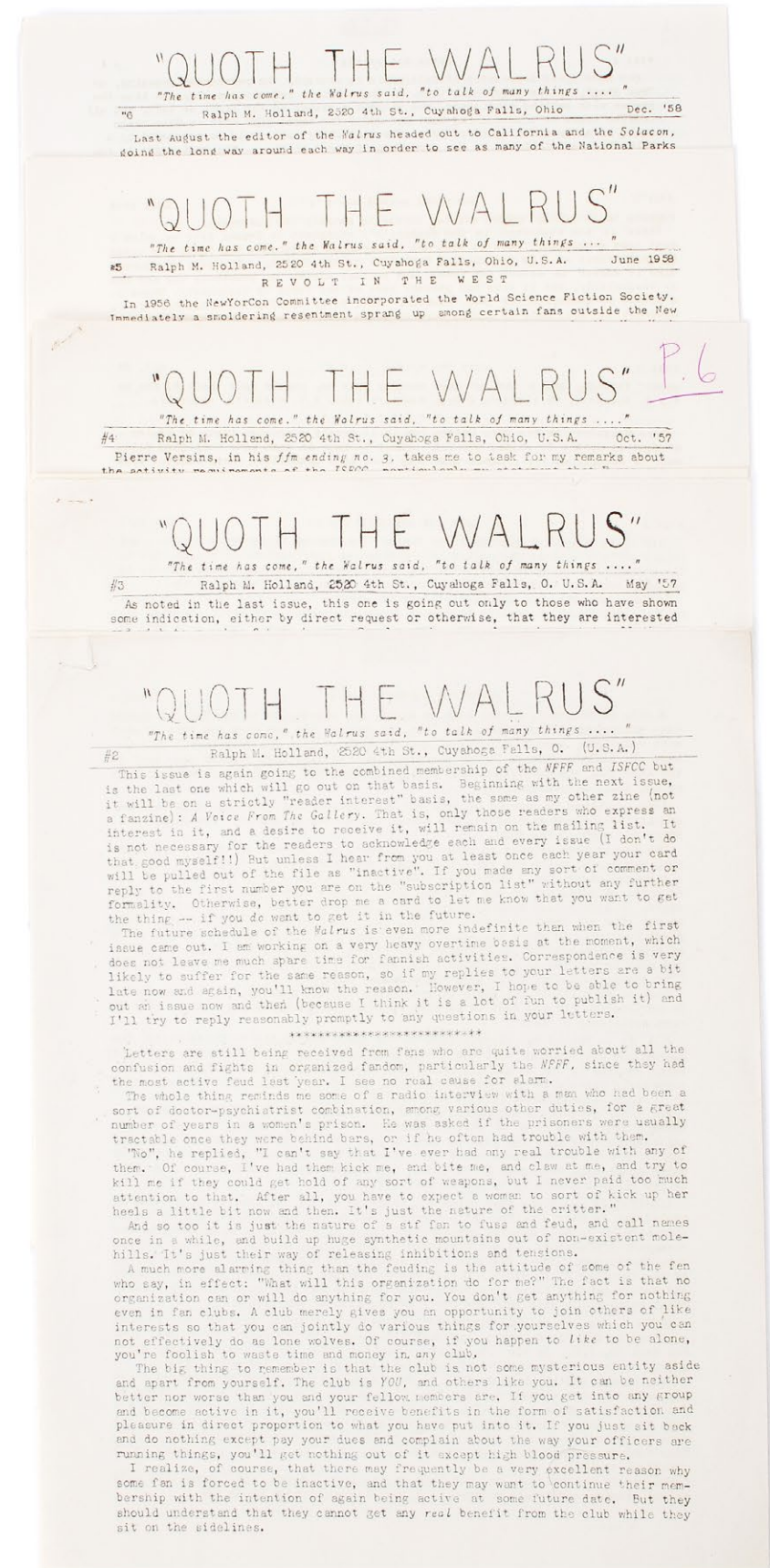
#4. October 1957. [6] pp.

#5. June 1958. [7] pp.

#6. December 1958. [6] pp.

Very good plus; issues originally folded, and staples removed. Issue #2 with small tear near staple hole.

**SOLD**





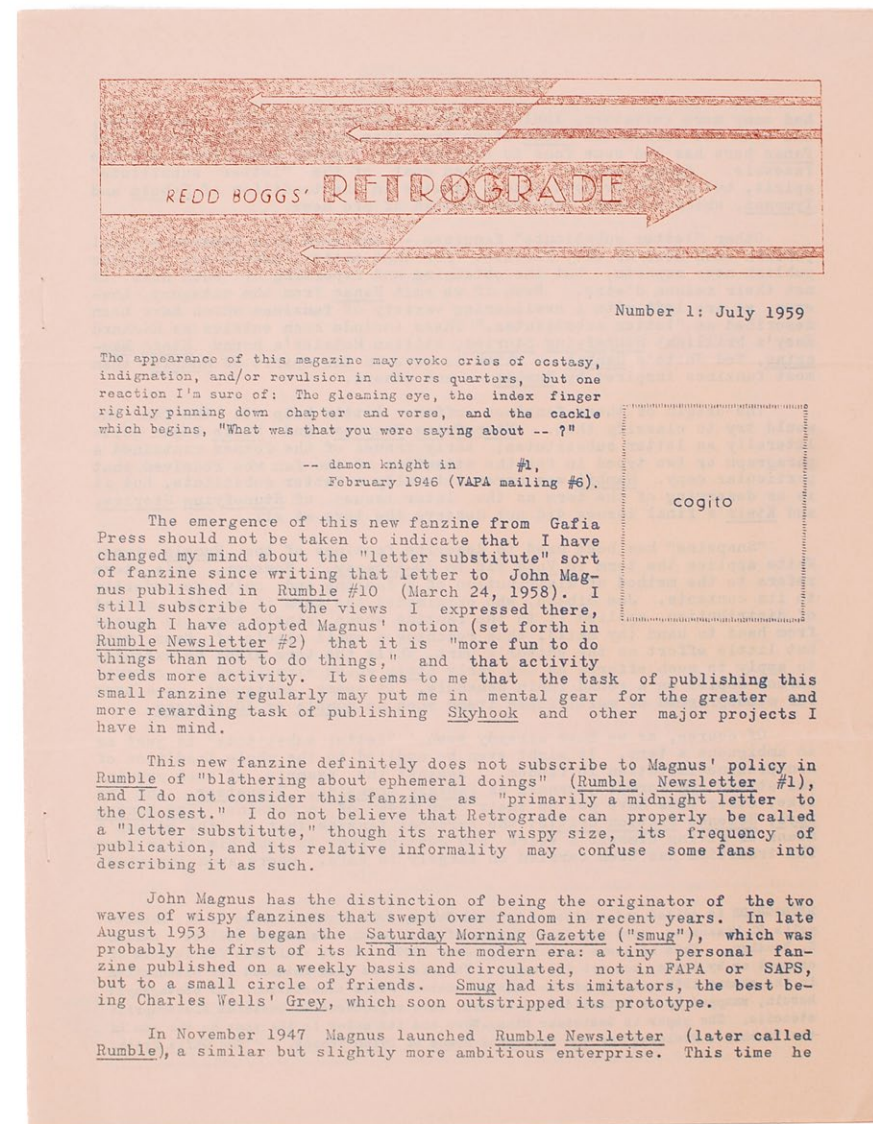
# Another Hugo Nominated Fanzine

## Redd Boggs's Retrograde

Boggs, Redd (editor); Bradley, Marion Zimmer (associate editor)

1959

Minneapolis:  
Redd Boggs  
July 1959



Dean Walter “Redd” Boggs (1921–1996) was a prolific science fiction fanzine writer and editor mostly based in Los Angeles. He was nominated four times for the prestigious Hugo award—and this fanzine (after it was renamed to *Discord*) was nominated for the Hugo in 1961. Associate editor Marion Bradley Zimmer (1930–1999) became a well-known author known for her novel *The Mists of Avalon* and the *Darkover* series.

On offer is the very first issue of *Retrograde* (which by issue #7 was renamed *Discord*) and then ran for a total 17 issues. This issue includes an extensive three-page letter from Jim Harmon (1933–2010), a science fiction author with more than 50 published short stories under his belt.

Hard to find, with no other copies listed for sale at the time of cataloguing. OCLC only locates *Retrograde* at Univ. of Georgia under #19056251.

Side stapled letter sized mimeographed zine.

Issue #1. 10 pp.

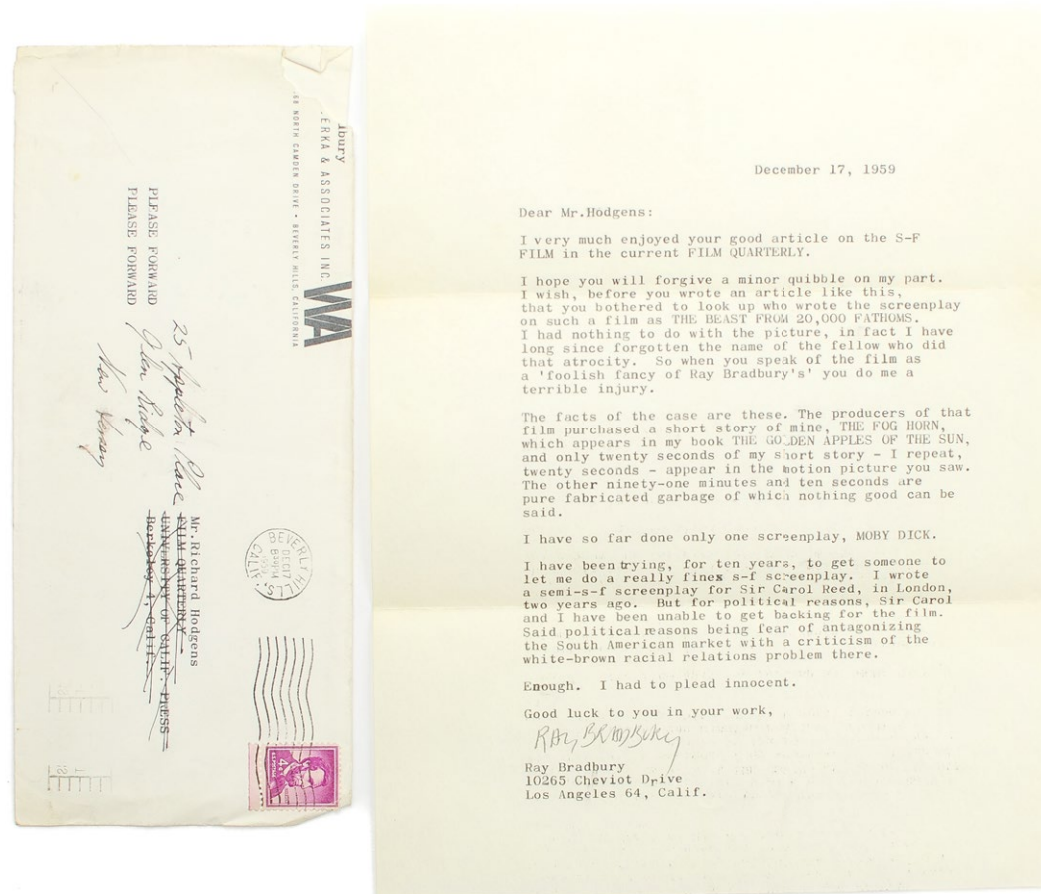
Very good plus—text remarkably crisp for a mimeograph; previously folded and stapled; staples removed.

**SOLD**

# Bradbury on Race Relations

[Typed letter signed “Ray Bradbury”]

Bradbury, Ray



December 17, 1959. Letter sized.

Together with the original envelope, initially addressed to Film Quarterly that in turn forwarded the envelope to Richard Hodgkins.

\$650

Ray Bradbury writes to science fiction author Richard Hodgkins (introduced in Item f10 of this List) to correct statements of Hodgkins in a published article of his:

*[W]hen you speak of the film [i.e. The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms] as a “foolish fancy of Ray Bradbury’s” you do me a terrible injury.*

Bradbury corrects the record as follows:

*The producers of that film purchased a short story of mine, “The Fog Horn”...and only twenty seconds of my short story—I repeat, twenty seconds—appear...The other ninety-one minutes and ten seconds are pure fabricated garbage of which nothing good can be said.*

The conclusion in the letter is especially interesting:

*Sir Carol and I have been unable to get backing for the film. Said political reasons being fear of antagonizing the South American market with a criticism of the white-brown racial relations problem there. Enough. I had to plead innocent.*

(Emphasis added for us to take a moment and go “huh...”)

This is an unusual letter from Bradbury. First, of course, it is notable for its content pertaining to “racial relations”. Second, the letter is from 1959 while most Bradbury autographs on the market are from the 1970’s and 1980’s. And lastly, Bradbury did not write this letter in response to a fan’s request—rather, Bradbury wrote directly to the publisher (presumably because he did not have Hodgkins’s address) to correct information that he read in a magazine.

1959

279 by 216 mm  
11 by 8 1/2 inches

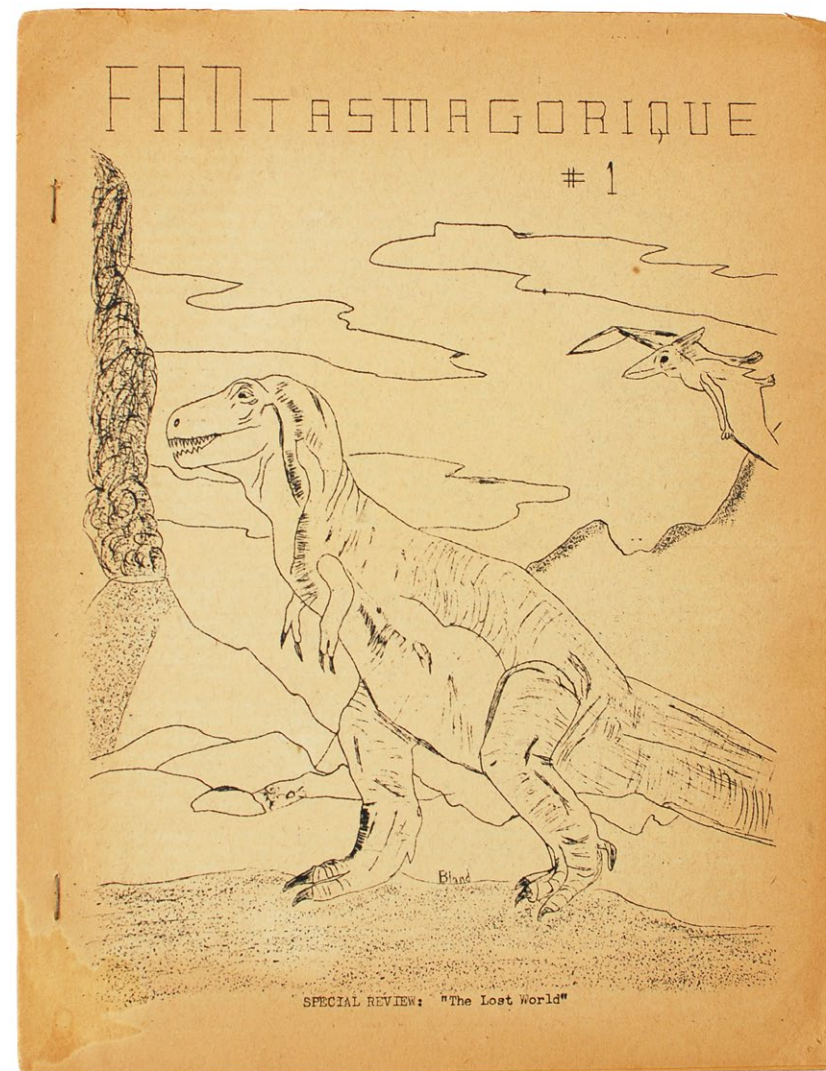
# “dulled to a stupor”

FANtasmagorique

Neilsen, Scott (editor)

1961

Webster Groves, Missouri:  
Scottissue Publications



The first and only issue (?), *FANTasmagorique* was an honorable mention for the 1962 Hugo in the Best Amateur Magazine category. With contributions by Lenny Kaye, who was born 1946 and thus a mere 15 years old at the time. Kaye is a musician best known as a member of the Patti Smith Group. David H. Keller (1880–1966), prolific author and early scholar of H.P. Lovecraft; and Marion Zimmer Bradley (1930–1999), author best known for her novel *The Mists of Avalon* and the *Darkover* series.

Keller’s entry is the most interesting, as he writes about the loss of interest in science over time:

*[Gernsback] predicts an electronic calculator capable of writing any kind of story. All a man will have to do is press a button and out will come a tale of science fiction...These will be given to the public via the radio. The man or woman can simply sit and listen, or dulled to a stupor, simply sit.*

Perhaps we are all “dulled to a stupor”!

This copy was mailed to Terry Carr (1937–1987), a Hugo winning (twice) science fiction author. Carr’s papers are the UC Riverside.

This zine presents another mystery: no copies found in OCLC; no other copies for sale.

Side stapled letter sized mimeographed zine. Vol. 1., No. 1. [20] pp. including covers. With nice amateur illustrations of space travelers and dinosaurs.

Heavily toned, lightly edgeworn with small tears, small water stain on bottom left of cover. Staplebound; staples have pulled free of the last page, loose but present; the remainder of the binding is sound. Address correction in pen, and light pencil doodle, to rear cover/last page; text otherwise clean.

**SOLD**

# Clark & Pohl on the Future of Transport

[Typed letters signed by Clarke & Pohl]

Clarke, Arthur C. and Pohl, Frederick

Two typed letters, one signed “Arthur C. Clarke”, the other “Frederick Pohl”, both addressed to Walter Crowley and pertaining to the future of transportation.

Addressee Walter Crowley (1947–2007) was a journalist, a well-known Seattle television news commentator, and the founding president of History Ink, a prominent nonprofit historical organization in Washington state and the publisher of HistoryLink.org.

On the addressor side, first up is Frederick Pohl (1919–2013), who likely needs no introduction as one of the original Futurians and science fiction editor bar none. On a typed letter signed “Frederick Pohl” dated May 27, 1963, Pohl wrote to Crowley:

*I am sure Arthur Clarke would be interested in your comments on his Hovercraft, and I think the best way for you to write him is in care of his agent.*

A few months later, a letter followed from Arthur C. Clarke (1917–2008), and we aren’t going to insult your intelligence by explaining who he was. On a typed letter signed “Arthur C. Clarke” dated August 23, 1963, Clarke wrote to Crowley:

*I don’t believe that a very large hoverliner would float when it broke up. There has certainly been no tendency to fill large spaces in ocean liners with foam for flotation. The waste of space certainly can’t be afforded. I think you might be interested in my recent collection of essays, Profiles of the Future, in which I devote a chapter to GEM’s. I also note your interest in the octopus—I have a story about squids coming up in PLAYBOY shortly. I think a giant squid may be quite a bright character, but it’s going to be a very hard to study it.*

We had no idea what a “GEM” was and looked up Clarke’s book *Profiles of the Future*. There, in Chapter 3 entitled “The Future of Transport”, he discusses the future of Ground Effect Machines (i.e. GEM). GEMs are like a hovercraft and combine elements of a ship and a plane. In his book, Clarke discusses the possibility of high-speed intercontinental travel and transportation of goods through various means.

Letters from Clarke are rare because from 1956 until his death he lived in Ceylon (now known as Sri Lanka), and not many fans found a way to communicate with him. Clarke letters on serious science fiction topics are, of course, even more scarce.

Included bonus item: A single page fax from novelist Tom Robbins (born 1932) to Walt Crowley dated August 29, 1995, in which he deprecates himself as a “worthless swine-tongued know-it-all”.

Thank you to colleague Jeffrey Long, ABAA for information on Walter Crowley.

TLS Arthur C. Clarke. 245 by 200mm (9 ½ by 7 ¾ inches). August 23, 1963. On a preprinted airmail form from Ceylon, folded twice and addressed to Crowley. Fragile and merely good.

TLS Frederick Pohl. 215 by 140mm (8 ½ by 5 ½ inches). May 27, 1963. On Galaxy notepad letterhead, folded once. Good, with three small stains and small ink blots (including one blocking out part of the word “Dear”).

**SOLD**

ARTHUR C. CLARKE  
47/5, Gregory's Road,  
Colombo 7, Ceylon.

23rd August, 1963.

Mr. Walter C. Crowley,  
9710 45th Avenue, N.E.,  
Seattle 15,  
Washington, U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Crowley,

Thank you for your very interesting letter, which arrived today having been forwarded by sea-mail to Ceylon.

I am leaving in the next few days for Europe and the U.S. and so can only reply briefly.

I am glad you've enjoyed my books and I'm sure that your analysis of large GEM's is quite sound. I must confess I've never been into the matter in any detail.

Incidentally, the dolphin book has been published in hard covers under the title Dolphin Island.

However, I don't believe that a very large hoverliner would float when it broke up. There has certainly been no tendency to fill large spaces in ocean liners with foam for flotation. The waste of space certainly can't be afforded.

I think you might be interested in my recent collection of essays, Profiles of the Future, in which I devote a chapter to GEM's. I also note your interest in the octopus - I have a story about squids coming up in PLAYBOY shortly. I think a giant squid may be quite a bright character, but it's going to be very hard to study it.

Thanking you for your interest, and wishing you the best of luck in your numerous activities,

Sincerely yours,

*Arthur C. Clarke*

Arthur C. Clarke

AC/PdeS

BY AIR MAIL

PAR AVION  
ලවන් ලිපි  
விமானக் கடிதம்  
Aerogramme



Mr. Walter C. Crowley,  
9710 45th Avenue, N.E.,  
Seattle 15,  
Washington,  
U.S.A.

முதலில் இங்கே மடிக்கவும். First fold here.  
இரண்டாவது மடிப்பதற்கு இங்கே மடிக்கவும். Second fold here.

දෙවනුව මෙතැනින් නමුත්ත මිහිපු ලිපිලි මෙපිටුපසින්. Second fold here.  
යවන්නාගේ නම සහ ලිපිනය  
அனுப்புவதற்கு முன்பும் விவரம்  
Sender's name and address

ARTHUR C. CLARKE  
47/5, Gregory's Road,  
Colombo 7, Ceylon.

ලවන් ලිපිමක කිසිවක් බහා නොතිබිය යුතුය. එසේ නොවනහොත් එට වැඩිපුර අයකරනු හෝ සාමාන්‍ය තැපෑලක් ලෙසට යැවිය යුතුය.  
இந்த விமானக் கடிதத்தினுள் வெறு ஏதாவது வைத்தனுப்பப்படுமானால் மேலதிக கட்டணம் அறவிடப்படும் அல்லது சாதாரண தபால் மூலம் அனுப்பப்படும்.

An Aerogramme should not contain any enclosure; if it does it will be surcharged or sent by ordinary mail.

Galaxy

May 27, 1963

Walter Crowley

Dear Mr. Crowley,

Thanks very much for your letter - I'll try to take it to heart!

I am sure Arthur Clarke would be interested in your comments on his Hovercraft, and I think the best way for you to write him is in care of his agent, Scott Meredith Inc. 580 Fifth Avenue, New York 36, New York. Actually, Clarke lives on the Island of Ceylon - but he will be in the United States this summer - part of the time anyhow, so that you should be able to reach him there.

Sincerely,

*Frederik Pohl*  
Frederik Pohl

FREDERIK POHL, Editor • 421 Hudson St., New York 14, N. Y.  
IF Worlds of Science Fiction • Magabooks • Worlds of Tomorrow

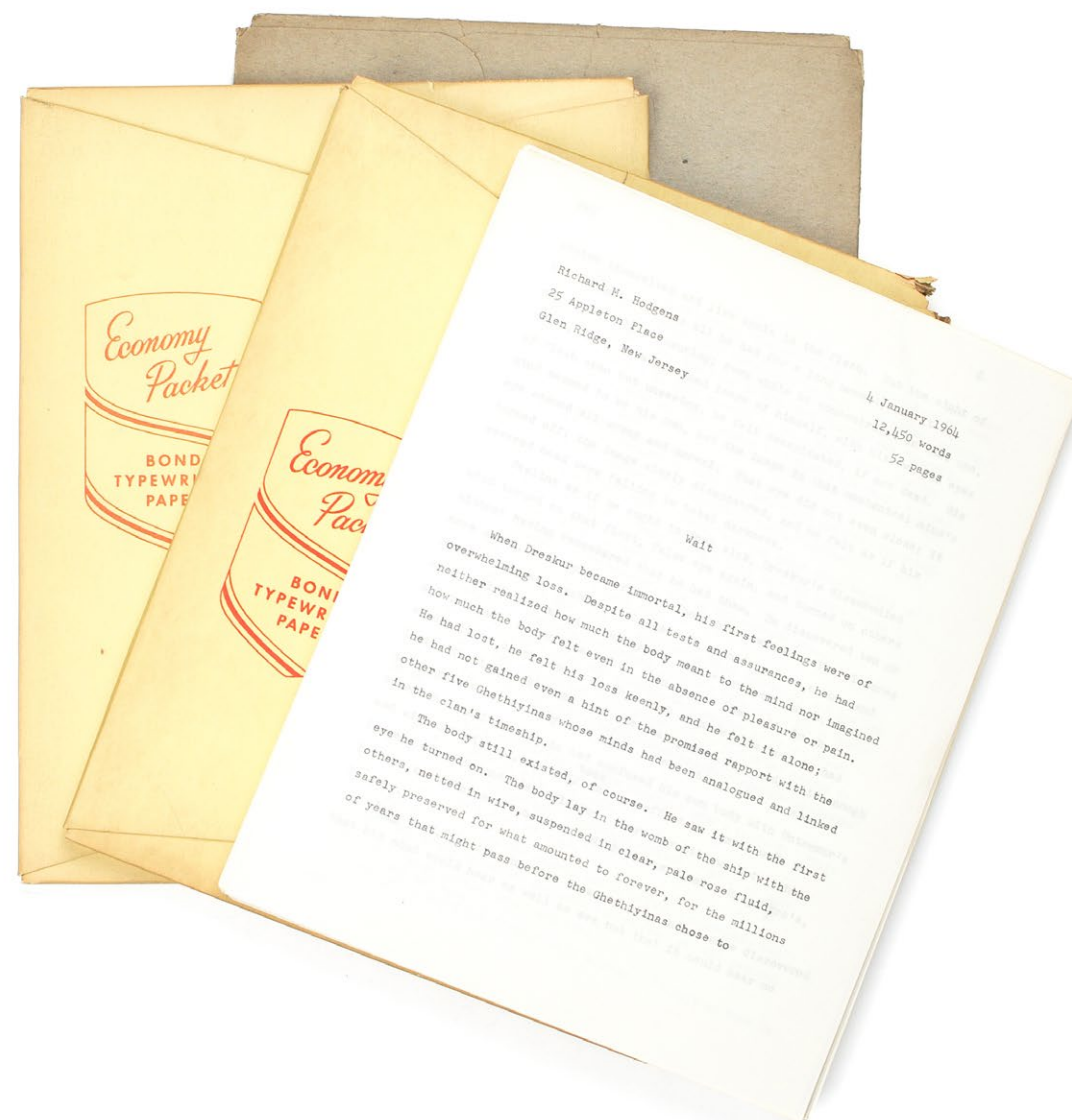
Front and Reverse of Same Item

# Hodgens's Unpublished Novellas

[Two Novella Manuscripts]

Hodgens, Richard M.

1963-1964



Two unpublished novella manuscripts written on a typewriter by science fiction author Richard Hodgens (introduced in Item f10 of this List) along with 18 pages of original accompanying artwork by Hodgens, his memo letterhead from *Quick Frozen Foods*, and hand-written notes on the Possibility of Hyper-Spatial Travel.

The two science fiction novella manuscripts are:

1) *Awakenings*. September 20, 1963 [and a revised version January 10, 1964]; 16,000 words and 66 pages.

There is a mass hibernation of humans, put asleep for a future voyage on a spaceship. Two are awakened and learn that so much time has passed that their ancestors are physically and genetically altered. Society has regressed and there is no progress. It's a clever story of misplaced hope. Those that are awake put faith in those asleep to solve technical issues (through the passage of time). Those asleep put faith in those awake to complete the spaceship and free them.

2) *Wait*. January 4, 1964; 12,450 words and 52 pages.

Doomed to live forever, the decapitated five individuals can control how long they sleep. They pass through hundreds and then thousands and billions of years in the future. In the end, they struggle with their immortality against a future of nothing.

These manuscripts never made it past an editor's sharp pen. Now that they too have been "asleep" for well over 50 years, we at mark funke, bookseller look forward to giving them a new life.

**SOLD**

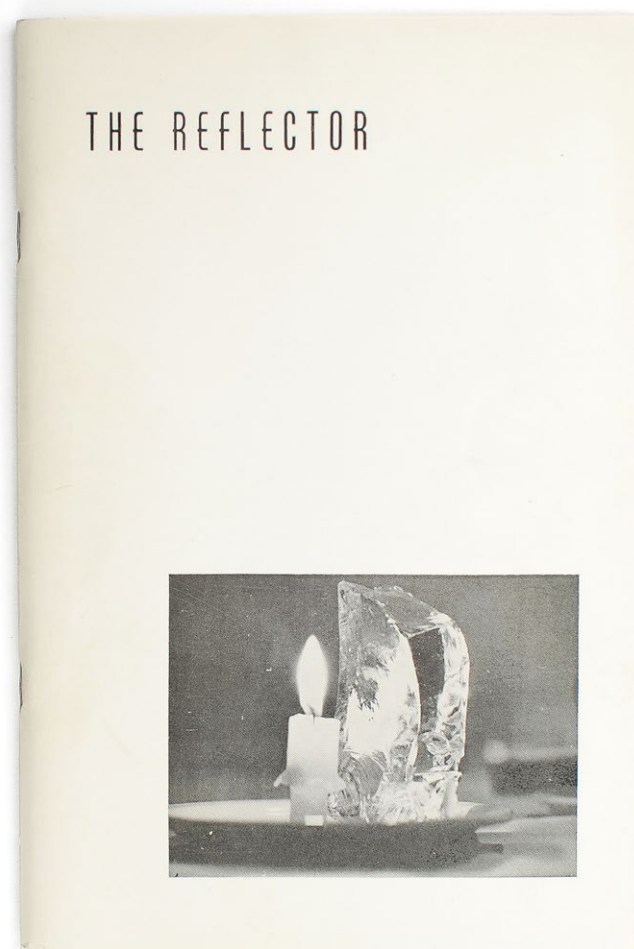
# Dean Koontz College Publication

## The Reflector. Literary Magazine

Koontz, Dean (et. al.)

1966-1967

Shippensburg, Pennsylvania:  
Shippensburg State College  
Winter 1966-1967  
225 by 150mm  
8¾ by 6 inches



The tagline on Dean Koontz's own website reads: "International Bestselling Master of Suspense". Koontz (born 1945), whose novels in chameleon fashion incorporate horror, fantasy and science fiction, has written over 105 books with over 450 million copies sold. Amazing.

Some of Koontz's earliest writings were published while he attended the small Shippensburg State College. During his senior year at Shippensburg Koontz won a fiction competition sponsored by *Atlantic Monthly* and thereafter success followed.

A number of articles and novels were ostensibly written by Koontz during the 1960's and 70's, many of which were erotic. Koontz disputes authorship of these. No such question or controversy surrounds this publication.

This is Shippensburg's student literary magazine and in the Winter 1966-67 issue Dean Koontz wrote four pieces: 1) "The Milkman Cometh" (which was the "Editor's Choice Short Story"), 2) "A Coney Island of the Mind", 3) "A Different Christmas", and 4) "Basic Training".

At the time of cataloguing, no other copies for sale. OCLC initially locates four holdings of *The Reflector* (#28692265), however after further research it appears that only the Shippensburg Library holds this particular issue. Please forgive our snarkiness as we quote the words of a deceased famous California bookseller: "Find another!"

Saddle stitched original illustrated paper wrappers; [4], 52 pp.

In excellent condition—very good plus with very light sun discoloration to pages.

**\$650**

WINTER, 1966-67

*Editors' Choice: Short Story***The Milkman Cometh**

. . . DEAN R. KOONTZ

The window of my attic faced southeast. My mother had curtained it, but that had small effect. I always woke with the first light . . . There would be the stillness of dawn, the rather forced quiet like people standing about a coffin. Night was dying. Then, as it was laid to rest and day came brilliantly to life, the birds began singing far away in the woods, and the trees rustled with the passage of the wind.

I had the feeling, on those warm summer mornings, that I was the only person in the world and that my life was to be spent in viewing the wonders of the earth, the crystal and golden and diamond wonders of an entire planet. But promptly at 6:00, that illusion was shattered by the rattle of an old Ford truck and the groan of arthritic axles praying to whatever strange god machines worship. The groaning and creaking signaled the coming of Mr. Mahoney.

Occurring, as it did every morning of the summer, the passage of Mr. Mahoney took on almost religious significance to my thirteen-year-old mind. He was the prophet, passing by just as I knew he would, coming with the dawn, venturing on some unknown pilgrimage. He would come and pass through the town while everyone slept, and his journey would be unnoticed by all save myself.

I rolled out of bed and hunched over to avoid cracking my head on the low beams of the ceiling. The window had a wide inside ledge where I often sat, and was so fastened that glass and all swung outward on hinges, like shutters. At 6:03, when Mr. Mahoney drew up in front of the house, I would swing it outward and give a soft bob-o-link call.

"Is it safe to talk," Mr. Mahoney always asked, having braked his car at the curb, and sitting on the fender.

"It is."

"What should I tell you of?" he would ask.

Depending on the kind of morning it was, my answer would be different. On a dreary morning, I might say "witches." But it was a fine morning.

"Magicians," I said.

"I am goin' to see one now," he would say. "Have ya heard of Frambis?"

"No."

"I am surprised to hear that. Well, Frambis is in charge of all the magicians in this state. He drew up the fust charter that forced the gov'ment to grant his people their liberty. A fine man, he is. A fine wizard, should I say."

"Why are you going to see Frambis?"

We make our meek adjustments,  
Contented with such random consolations  
As the wind deposits  
In slithered and too ample pockets.

For we can still love the world, who find  
A famished kitten on the stoop, and know  
Recesses for it from the fury of the street,  
Or warm torn elbow coverts.

We will sidestep, and to the final smirk  
Dally the doom of that inevitable thumb  
That slowly chafes its puckered index toward us,  
Facing the dull squint with what innocence  
And what surprise!

And yet these fine collapses are not lies  
More than the pirouettes of any pliant cane;  
Our obsequies are, in a way, no enterprise.  
We can evade you, and all else but the heart:  
What blame to us if the heart lives on.

The game enforces smirks; but we have seen  
The moon in lonely alleys make  
A grail of laughter of an empty ash can,  
And through all sound of gaiety and quest  
Have heard a kitten in the wilderness.

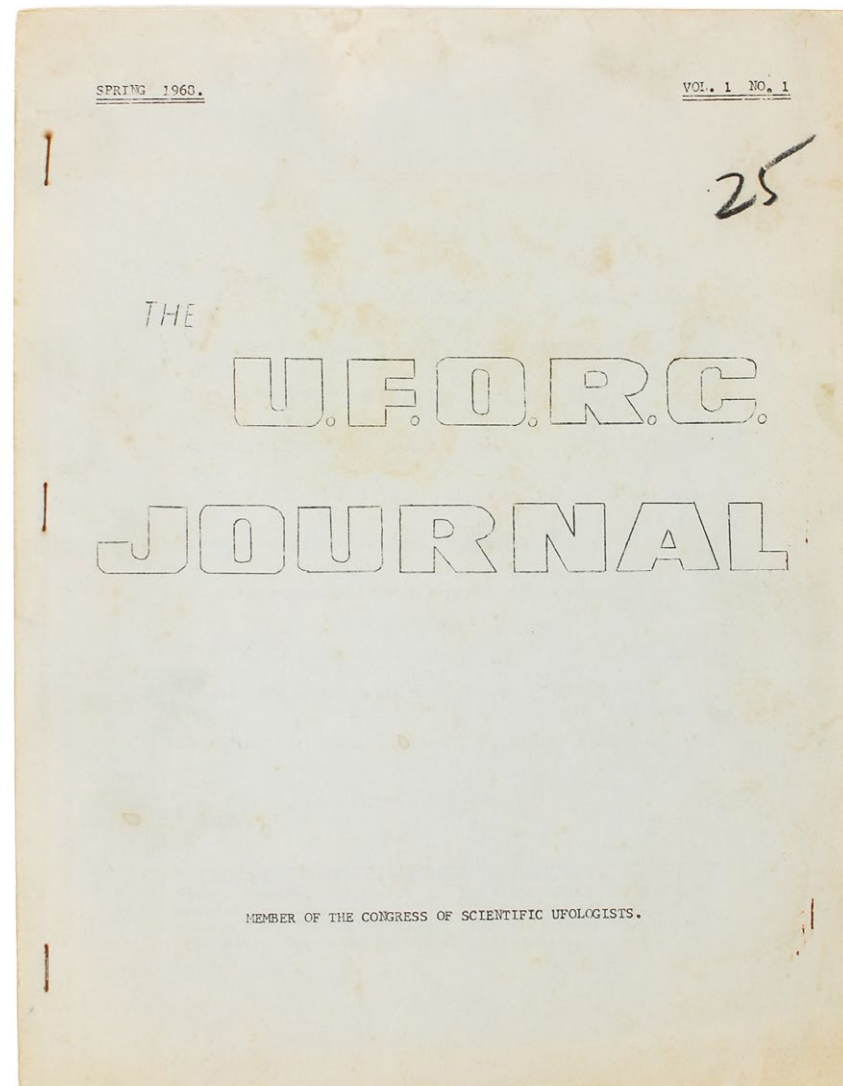
"Chaplinesque" by  
Hart Crane



# UFO Archives, the Beginning

The U.F.O.R.C. Journal. Member of the Congress of Scientific  
Ufologists

Dyke, Roderick B. (editor)



1968

Seattle:  
The Independent Press  
Spring 1968.  
Vol. 1., No. 1.

Roderick B. Dyke (born 1952?) amassed what may be the largest private collection of UFO data. He owned the Archives for UFO Research (AUFOR) that in 2008 transferred to the Archives for the Unexplained (AFU) in Sweden.

The publication on offer here morphed into the *UFO Newsclipping Service* that ran from 1970–2007 and collectively comprises the largest compilation of UFO sightings in the world. The *U.F.O.R.C. Journal* is what started it all, and this is Vol. 1. No 1. from Spring 1968 when Dyke was either 16 or 17 years old.

This issue includes an extensive report from Felix Zigel at the Moscow Aviation Institute; a reprinted obituary of Yuri Gagarin, the first man in space who had recently died, UFO sightings in Bulgaria, and of course dozens of reports of UFO sightings from around the United States.

Rare. No record in OCLC (although, the later *UFO Newsclipping Service* is at two institutions, none appear to have issues from 1968—and thus none hold the issue with the prior name *U.F.O.R.C. Journal*). At the time of cataloguing, no other copies for sale. We downloaded the list of 13,018 indexed holdings at the Archives for the Unexplained and they hold a copy of *U.F.O.R.C.* from 1970, but not this Vol. 1, No. 1 from 1968.

Side stapled letter sized mimeographed zine; 40 pp.

Very good, light rusting to staples, cover lightly soiled ("25" in grease pen to cover). Interior text overall crisp.

**SOLD**

# Unpublished Neil R. Jones

[An amazing collection about and by Neil R. Jones]

Jones, Neil R.

The collection includes 10 original letters from Neil R. Jones (1909–1988), an unpublished work by Jones, and original letters from science fiction's great authors and editors (Asimov, Pohl, Wollheim, Lowndes, etcetera) all expressing their gratitude for Jones's contributions to the field.

Jones is credited for the first use of the word “astronaut” in fiction in 1930. He pioneered cyborg and robotic characters and was the first science fiction writer to fit his stories into a “future history”, that is—his work fits into a cohesive story of the future: The story of Professor Jameson and the Zoromes. Professor Jameson preserved his body after death and launched it into space where 40,000,000 years later it was found by the Zoromes who downloaded his consciousness into a machine known as a Zorome.

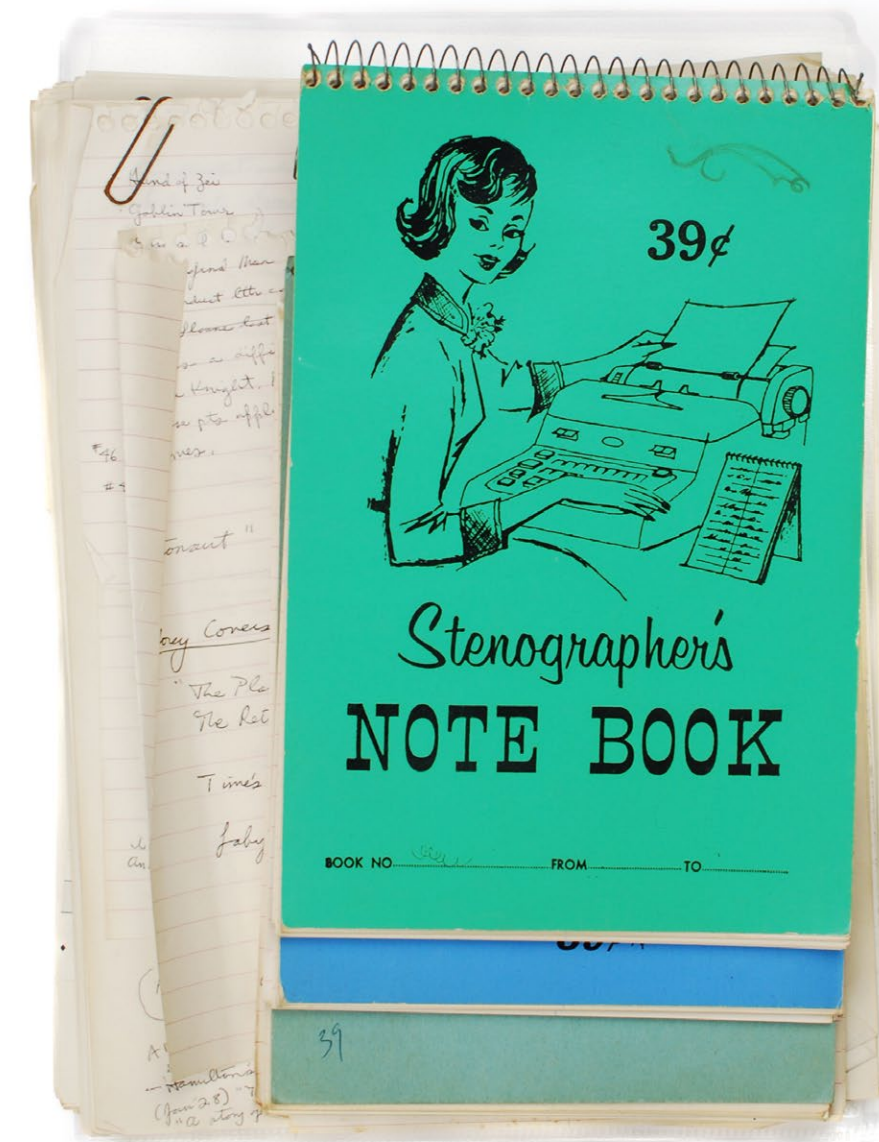
Author Richard Hodgens (introduced in Item f10 of this List) wrote a bibliography and summary of the Professor Jameson series. To that end, he wrote copious letters to other science fiction authors and editors and engaged in extensive written dialogue with Jones. This collection is Hodgens's “file” for that bibliography.

Let's review highlights of the collection:

## First Use of the Word Astronaut

Completely unknown outside of this List, Jones did not invent the word astronaut. In a letter dated January 28, 1969, Jones wrote:

*In my first published story... which actually came on the newsstands late in November, 1929, to my knowledge the word 'astronaut' was first used. At least, the 1935 Unabridged Edition of Webster's Dictionary did not carry it at that late date. I believe that Hugo Gernsback interjected the word into the story on publication, as it was not a word that I used or knew about.*



### Unpublished Works

Jones provided Hodgens with an 88-line poem “Canto of Introduction” (written on a typewriter by Jones), which explains the history of the Professor Jameson series. That poem was only otherwise printed in a fanzine *The Gorgon* in February 1950 with a circulation of a mere 550 issues. That is, it is virtually unheard of.

Jones also provided Hodgens with a substantially re-written three page version of his comprehensive history of the future (written on a typewriter by Jones). In a letter dated March 25, 1969, Jones wrote:

*Enclosed is a newly revised issue of “The Legend of Interplanetary”...I had to get it up to date by writing out data on the first space vehicle to reach the moon. That appears to be out of date in a few months. The story was called “Moment of Glory”, and never accepted or published. I had to bring back the development of space flying a hundred years or more to an earlier date.*

“Legend of Interplanetary” was published in 1948 in *Fanscient*. We compared that version to the manuscript in this collection and found substantial changes both around the exploration of the moon and the article’s last several paragraphs. One of the dangers of writing a history of the future is that the future might change on you, thus requiring revisions to your history. This 1969 updated version of “Legend of Interplanetary” is unrecorded, unpublished, and does not exist outside of this List.

### Asimov on Jones

The collection includes one original typed letter and one postcard, both by Isaac Asimov to Hodgens. Carbon copies of the Hodgens’s letters to Asimov, along with Hodgens’s diary entries pertaining to the letters are also included.

On January 15, 1969, Asimov wrote:

*In the early and mid-thirties when Professor Jameson and his Zoromes were at their height, I was an avid fan and I am certain that these stories contributed significantly to my own conception of robots as beneficent, rather than maleficent, beings.*

(Emphasis added. Let us take a moment and reflect on how fantastic this statement is coming from the man who authored *I, Robot* and established the Three Laws of Robotics).

In Jones’s world, Zoromes were given “Zoronames” comprised of letters and numbers. On January 20, 1969, Asimov writes:

*Thank you for... the Zoroname. Since ‘Au’ is gold and 79 is its atomic number, 1AU79 might mean ‘the best of the golden ones.’ Was it unconscious, or did you mean it? In either case, I am flattered.*

*Isaac Asimov, 1AU79*

And perhaps even more endearing than this note, is that the postcard was addressed to: “Mr. Richard M. Hodgens, 14RMH32”. Clearly, to be addressed by Asimov with a “Zoroname” was a great honor.

### Wollheim on Jones

On January 16, 1969, Donald A. Wollheim writes to Hodgens:

*[Jones’ stories] are old-fashioned these days, but they did and do have something that keeps on catching the imagination: the idea of being able to traipse around the universe in an immortal and tireless body and see and experience everything! Planet after planet...What fun it would be to spend eternity visiting them all—and having adventures too, not just sightseeing!*

### Pohl on Jones

In a January 22, 1969, letter Frederick Pohl writes to Hodgens:

*The first time I ever appeared in a prozine, more than 30 years ago, it was in the same issue as a Neil R. Jones Professor Jameson. I was honored to be in his company. Thinking back on it thirty years later, I still think it was an honor.*

Pohl goes on to discuss how Jones both impacted science fiction and science, specifically the science of cryogenics:

*What most people don’t know is that Bob Ettinger [the inventor of cryogenics] too, thirty-odd years ago, was a young sf fan. Where did he get the idea of freezing, then reviving and repairing, the dead? Why, where else then from the Jameson Satellite?*

### Lowndes on Jones

Robert A. W. Lowndes then on January 24, 1969, wrote to Hodgens:

*This is one of the very few ‘immortality’ series in science fiction where indefinite existence is not regarded as a curse...The entire excitement, then, is contemplative.*

**Galaxy**  
Publishing Corporation

22 January 1969

Dear Mr. Hodgens:

The first time I ever appeared in a prozine, more than 30 years ago, it was in the same issue as a Neil R. Jones Professor Jameson. I was honored to be in his company. Thinking back on it thirty years later, I still think it was an honor.

21MM392 and the other Zoromes were among the brightest inventions of science fiction. Jones was no belles-lettrist; his style was accurate rather than evocative. But the vistas he opened for me were more beautiful than Xanadu. As a teenage (and even sub-teen) fan, I thought he was grand. As an editor in the early '40s, I was delighted to be able to print some of his stories. Even now, I'm pleased to see him in print again, and I'm sure he's thrilling thousands of new readers as much as he did my own generation, a third of a century ago.

Nor is Jones's influence confined just to science fiction. A few years ago, in WORLDS OF TOMORROW, I published an excerpt from a privately printed book called THE PROSPECT OF IMMORTALITY. The whole book has since been published (by Doubleday); at least a dozen other books, and hazzen knows how many periodical articles, have been written on the subject; and hardly anyone who reads at all, in this country and indeed in most others, has by now failed to hear about Robert C. W. Ettinger's radical, and potentially earthshaking, proposal to provide essentially eternal life for everyone, by freezing.

What most people don't know is that Bob Ettinger too, thirty-odd years ago, was a young sf fan. Where did he get the idea of freezing, then reviving and repairing, the dead? Why, where else but from THE JAMESON SATELLITE?

Ettinger's plan has not yet been demonstrated, but there are those who think it is very likely to work, and some of them are people who should know. And if it does . . . if some of us are still here, in the flesh, 500 years or so from now . . . maybe the world may owe a deeper debt to Neil R. Jones than even his catalogue of stories would indicate.

Cordially,  
*R. Pohl*

P.S. Above is, of course, for you to publish as you see fit.

Editor Frederik Pohl 421 Hudson Street New York, New York 10014

**HEALTH KNOWLEDGE, INC.**

119 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10003  
ORegon 3-6060

January 24, 1969

Mr. R. M. Hodgens  
25 Appleton Place  
Glen Ridge, New Jersey  
07028

Friend Hodgens:

My apologies for the delay in getting to your letter of the 9th. January usually finds my way behind, due to louse-ups in December, and it's hardly ever that I can lift my nose from the grindstone before the end of the month, when I've finally caught up with pressing details.

I haven't actually read the Ace editions of the Professor Jameson stories, so cannot comment upon the previously unpublished ones; but I did re-read the entire AMAZING STORIES series a few years back, so my memory should be reasonably adequate.

Within their limitations, these stories still produce the effect of "wonder" in me, and part of their excellence, actually, is due to part of the limitations. The only emotions that the Zoromes feel are curiosity and a reasonable interest in continued existence. This is one of the very few "immortality" series in science fiction where indefinite existence is not regarded as a curse or where intelligent beings out of human or other flesh-and-bone type bodies are not depicted as utterly cold (and therefore cruel, merciless) beings. The entire excitement, then, is contemplative, although there is a bit of action here and there, as the Zoromes can be destroyed or damaged to the point where they must lie helpless perhaps for eons. They are not destructive nor do they show any interest in ego-aggrandizement at anyone else's expense. And they find the universe an endless source of variety and interest and wonder. So despite the fact that there is, indeed, a touch of the naive and juvenile in this series, on the whole there is also a child-like (not childish) wisdom and appeal which I still can respond to.

I didn't think that anyone actually would read "The Blind Spot" on that kind of recommendation, but I'm glad you did, and still stand by my reasons for recommending it! I'm not entirely sure that "The Spot of Life" is worse -- unless you want to consider mediocrity still worse than sheer overwhelming awfulness.

But I don't at all hope that someone else will take up the Zorome series! Rather that we have the entire series available, by the original author. Either a better or a poorer writer than Neil R. Jones would spoil it entirely, and there's surely enough of a series there as it is.

as ever, sincerely

*Robert A. W. Lowndes*  
Robert A. W. Lowndes



**ACE PUBLISHING CORPORATION**  
1120 AVE. OF THE AMERICAS, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10036 • 867-5050

Jan. 16, 1969

Dear Mr. Hodgens:

Thanks for your letter about the Zoromes and their history--and I'll be most interested in your forthcoming f an biblio and account of the yarns.

They've been delights to me ever since I first read the first one in Amazing--when it originally appeared. And the continuance of them over the years proved a rather pleasing thing. They are old-fashioned these days, but they did and do have something that keeps on catching the imagination: the idea of being able to traipse around the universe in an immortal and tireless body and see and experience everything! Planet after planet--we think we know now that there are indeed millions and millions of them--and the possibilities therefore are just about infinite. What fun it would be to spend eternity visiting them all --and having adventures too, not just sightseeing!

That's what made these works go on and on--setting a record for longevity in s-f series. The books seem to have done nicely for us--we got no complaints from readers and many favorable comments. The pressure of competition and the need to keep up with modern writers made five seem the practical maximum for publishing. Maybe there could be a sixth someday, but not now. We shall see what sales over the next years will do to our stocks of the books and the need for reprinting considerations.

Cordially yours,  
*Donald A. Wollheim*  
Donald A. Wollheim

There is a lot to discover in the detailed and extensive correspondence between Jones and Hodgens (the collection includes 10 original letters from Jones, but also appears to include all the carbon copies of letters that Hodgens sent to Jones). For example, Jones lists several unpublished stories, describes two different versions of his first story featuring Jameson, and discusses his decision to not kill off the professor. Also included is a list of titles changed by editors, including Jones's title and the published titles.



Front and Reverse of Same Item

**In all, the collection comprises:**

- 1) 10 original typed signed letters from Jones to Hodgens on Jones's nicely illustrated letterhead (some are multi-page) along with 8 original envelopes (with Zorome illustrations);
- 2) The unpublished version of Jones's story "The Legend of Interplanetary", 3 pages;
- 3) The poem "Canto of Introduction by Jones", 2 pages (88 lines);
- 4) 11 original letters from various editors and authors to Hodgens pertaining to Jones. In addition to those from Asimov, Wollheim, Pohl, and Lowndes listed above, there are letters from Alden H. Norton, Bob Mardle, Sol Cohen, Robert Hoskins, Robert Peterson, and Jack Cordes. In each instance, together with their envelope;
- 5) 70 (!) pages of carbon copy letters by Hodgens to large number of editors and authors pertaining to Jones (including, what appears to be a complete set of Hodgens's side of the correspondence with Jones, Asimov, Wollheim, Pohl, Lowndes, etcetera);
- 6) Hodgens attempted to print his Jones article in *Trumpet: The Magazines of Science Fiction and Fantasy*. Included is a 2-page hand-written letter from editor Ken Keller explaining that it would not be published in issue #13, but rather #14. Unfortunately, *Trumpet* ceased publication with issue #12 and Hodgens's articles on Jones were never published;
- 7) The collection includes all of Hodgens's work product pertaining to Jones. He wrote a 24-page article entitled "An Informal Introduction to the Zoromes". The collection includes at least 4 different drafts of the article. Hodgens also wrote a 10 page "A directory of Zoromes", a draft of which is included;
- 8) *First Fandom Magazine*, Issue 16—in which a letter of Hodgens's is printed requesting input from "authorities" on Professor Jameson and the Zoromes. This particular issue was mailed to Hodgens;
- 9) Lastly, Hodgens kept a daily journal with hundreds of pages of entries from August 1968 through mid-1969 in which he details his efforts on this project. These diary entries are in three densely filled 230 by 150mm (9 by 6 inch) spiral notebooks.

Generally all in very good or better condition with horizontal fold crease and some wrinkling/creasing; a very few small spots of staining present.

**SOLD**

**INTERPLANETARY GAMES**  
Neil R. Jones  
1028 FAY STREET  
FULTON, N. Y.

Neil R. Jones  
**INTERPLANETARY GAMES**  
1028 FAY STREET  
FULTON, N. Y.

March 25, 1959

Dear Mr. Hodgens:

Enclosed is a newly revised issue of "The Legend of Interplanetary", or what might sound better "Interplanetary Legend". I had to get it up to date by writing out data on the first space vehicle to reach the moon. That appears to be out of date in a few months. The story was called "Moment of Glory", and never accepted or published. I had to bring back the development of space flying a hundred years or more to an earlier date.

This came out I find in "Fancient", Summer of 1946.

I was interested in anecdotes and remarks of various editors, critics and old readers of the Professor Jameson Series which you wrote to me about. Hope you are coming along all right. I'll be glad to help. You will become eventually an authority on memorabilia of my works.

Sincerely,  
Neil R. Jones  
Neil R. Jones

THE LEGEND OF INTERPLANETARY  
By Neil H. Jones

Born from out of the sun's incandescent mass, the earth, with its sister planets, was hurried at worldbirth upon the threshold of an amazing career. Ages passed before the earth cooled sufficiently to allow the first simple forms of life to become existent upon its surface. Millions of years were also necessary before these simple forms of life changed and grew through the gradual process of evolution into the present day animals, of which man is the most intelligent and complex species, therefore reigning predominant.

Mars, farther from the sun than the earth, and much smaller, cooled sooner and gave birth to a civilization while on earth prehistoric man still dwelt in caves or lived in trees. The Martians mastered space flying and sent an expedition across space to the earth two hundred thousand years before Rome's legionaires set forth to conquer the world for the Eternal City. But if the rise of Martian civilization was rapid, its downfall and disappearance was even more so. By the time mankind on earth had reached a preliminary stage of civilization, all intelligent life on Mars had disappeared.

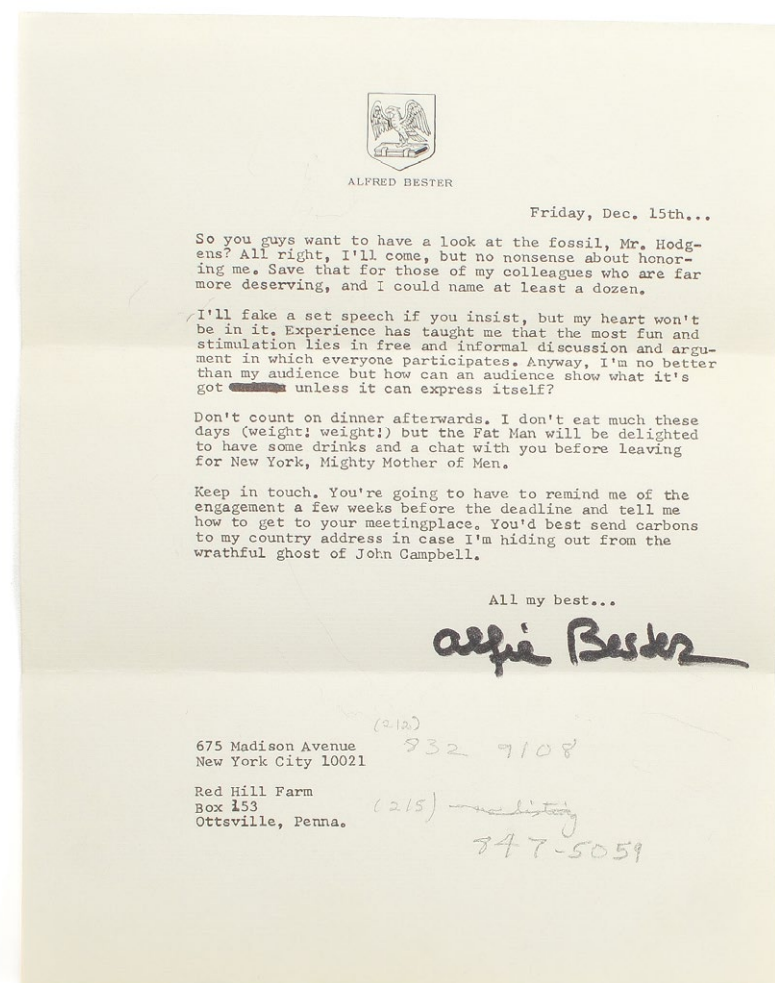
Stepped in progressive eras of ignorance and bigotry, men of the earth, up until the time of the Renaissance, religiously adhered to the principle that the earth was the center of everything and that stars, moon and sun moved around it; moreover, the earth was flat. A very few, like Columbus, believed it was round. Earnest seekers after the truth, however, found it dangerous to reveal their discoveries, as Galileo found. Copernicus, during the 15th and 16th Centuries, did much to upset these antiquated ideas, and upon his heels during the Renaissance's surge of learning, Tycho Brahe dedicated a good share of his life in determining the relative positions of the heavenly bodies, laying the groundwork for those who came after him in classifying some seven hundred or more sun illuminated bodies of our own solar system, not to mention the far off stars and more distant nebulæ beyond. In the 16th and 17th Centuries, Johann Kepler established the laws of planetary motion, and beyond his own life, even into the 18th Century, Sir Isaac Newton carried on this work and outlined the laws of gravitation. About this time, the improvement of the telescope took definite shape and purpose, and during the 19th Century such men as Proctor, Lowell and Flammarion helped push back the boundaries of space. Among other discoveries, they found that our solar system is rushing towards the constellation Lyra at twelve miles per second. Neptune was discovered in 1846, while Pluto was found nearly a century later, in 1930.

Having conquered the air with flying machines, men looked beyond, to the realms of space past the upper reaches of earth's atmosphere, and their next port of call, the moon; after that, the nearer planets glowing steadily in the evening sky. Professor Goddard's experiments with rockets laid the groundwork for what was to come. Soon, objects were cast into orbit, followed by men in space capsules. The moon was reached during the latter half of the 20th Century. But there were failures, too. A few projectiles missed and continued on out of the solar system. Those which curved back into the sun met a worse fate. Progress was gained only at the shrine of catastrophe. The martyred heroes became legion, once the moon was reached and ambition reached for the planets. Like an irresistible gambling wheel, the prospect of space navigation lured men to their doom, and death waved its menacing sceptre upon mankind, a persistent efforts to reach other worlds. Fuels were found to be uncontrollable. Ejector tubes and even entire rear ends burned out. Passengers roasted. And there were explosions. Mechanism failed, leaving human beings to die

# Freewheeling Alfred Bester

[Original typed letters signed "Alfie Bester"]

Bester, Alfred



1972

Alfred Bester (1913–1987) was a science fiction author, TV and radio scriptwriter. He is best known for his science fiction work *The Demolished Man*, which won the INAUGURAL Hugo Award in 1953. Bester was named the ninth Grand Master by the Science Fiction Writers of America and posthumously inducted in the Science Fiction and Fantasy Hall of Fame in 2001.

Bester sent this free-wheeling letter regarding what may have been a birthday or other party for fellow author Richard Hodgins (introduced in Item f10 of this List):

*So you guys want to have a look at the fossil, Mr. Hodgins? All right, I'll come...Don't count on dinner afterwards. I don't eat much these days (weight! weight!), but the Fat man will be delighted to have some drinks and a chat with you before leaving for New York, Mighty Mother of Men...You'd best send carbons to my country address in case I'm hiding out from the wrathful ghost of John Campbell [i.e. editor of Analog Science Fiction]. Signed boldy, "Alfie Bester".*

The reference to Campbell likely refers to Bester's dispute with Campbell over L. Run Hubbard. Campbell was a believer in Hubbard's *Dianetics* and as a consequence in the mid 1950's Bester stopped working with Campbell.

Original signed letters from Bester are scarce.

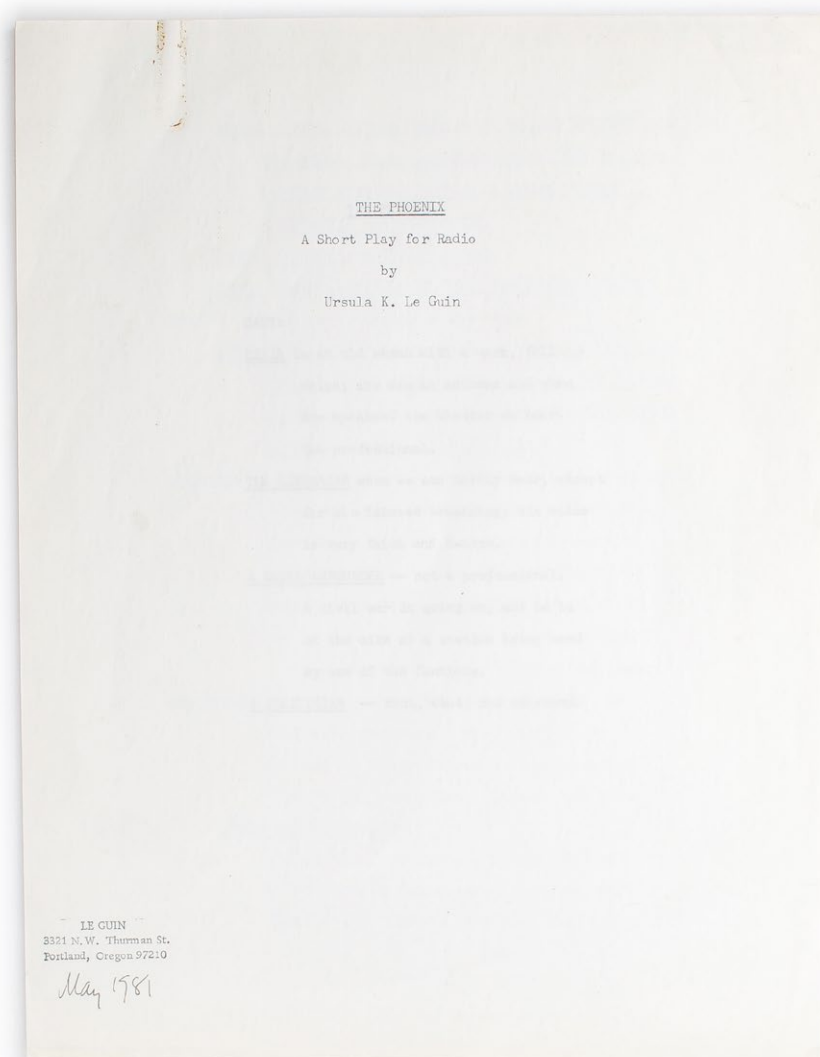
December 15, [1972]. Letter sized on Bester's letterhead. Very good plus (folded).

\$395

# Unpublished Ursula Le Guin

## The Phoenix. A short play for radio

Le Guin, Ursula



1981

Portland: n.p.

May 1981

Ursula Le Guin (1929–2018), science fiction author extraordinaire, had a literary career spanning nearly sixty years. This story, “The Phoenix”, was published in short story form in *The Compass Rose* in 1982. This version—a “short play for radio”—predates the short story and, although the story arc remains substantially similar—the text varies considerably from its later prose form. “The Phoenix” as a play is not listed in [isfdb.org](http://isfdb.org) nor referred to in any bibliographies or archives we were able to search. This is very likely an agent’s copy, submitted by Le Guin prior to rewriting the play as a short story.

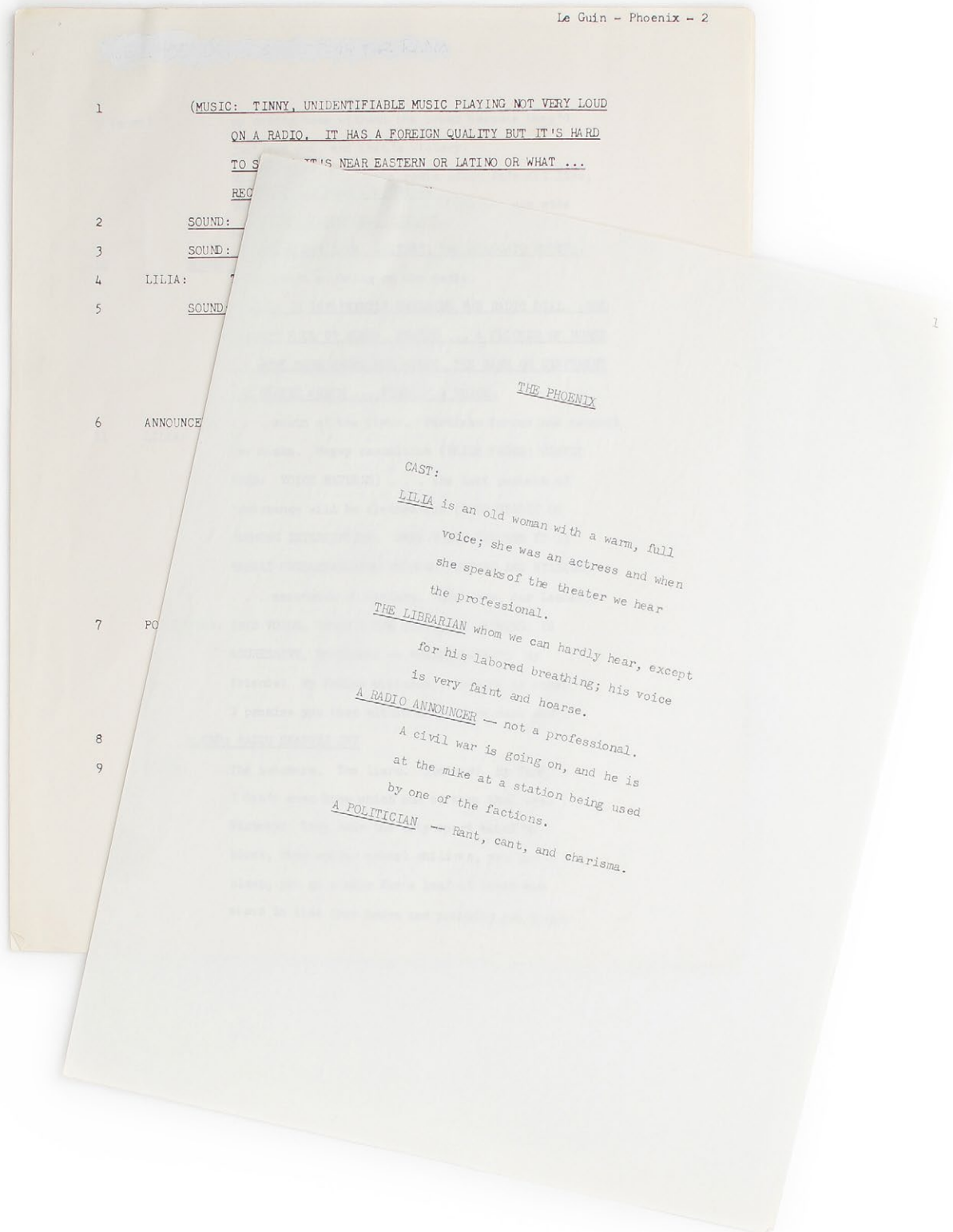
Unpublished Le Guin manuscripts are unheard of. This is an opportunity to own a unicorn—a Le Guin story in the play for radio form as she originally conceived it.

Unpublished manuscript. Letter sized, 11 loose leaves. Typed title page with Le Guin’s rubber-stamped address at bottom left and inked date of “May 1981” in her hand. Title page and page 1 are typed on a typewriter, pages 2–10 are photocopies with an annotation that appears to be in Le Guin’s hand at top of pg. 2 but whited out.

Very good, rust residue from paperclip to first page and back of last page and light indentation from a paperclip to each page, thus clearly indicating that the typewritten and copied pages were always joined as one.

**SOLD**





Synopsis: In some future Armageddon, a librarian crawls through the smoke of his burning library to save a few books. We'll let Le Guin's own words take it from here:

*LILIA: I suppose you hid, while they were there. And then tried to put the fire out. And then picked up some valuable books and—What are you shaking your head for? I saw you! You were crawling towards the door, crawling on your knees because you couldn't stand up, you couldn't even breath, and you were carrying those books! I had to make you put them down! You were risking your life to save them!*

*LIBRARIAN: (HIS VOICE IS EXTREMELY HOARSE AND FAINT) Not valuable.*

*LILIA: (AFTER A PAUSE, SHE SPEAKS WITH COLD AUTHORITY) I don't know that any of us is qualified to judge whether our life is or isn't valuable.*

*LIBRARIAN: Books.*

*LILIA: You're trying to tell me that books aren't valuable? (PAUSE. EVIDENTLY THE LIBRARIAN HAS NODDED HIS HEAD.) Well! I suppose you are a Partisan. If you believe in burning books. A noble act. Almost as fine as bombing schools, and booby-trapping theaters. (HER VOICE IS SHAKING WITH FURY.)*

...

*LILIA:... You look like a nice man. A nice ordinary man. And brave. The way you stuck by your library.... But what did you mean saying "Not Valuable?" If books aren't valuable, why were you risking your life for them? I suppose you meant your life isn't valuable, nothing matters except the Cause.... I hate causes worse than blood and motorcycles.... But if nothing matters but the Cause, why were you hanging onto those books, trying to rescue them?*

...

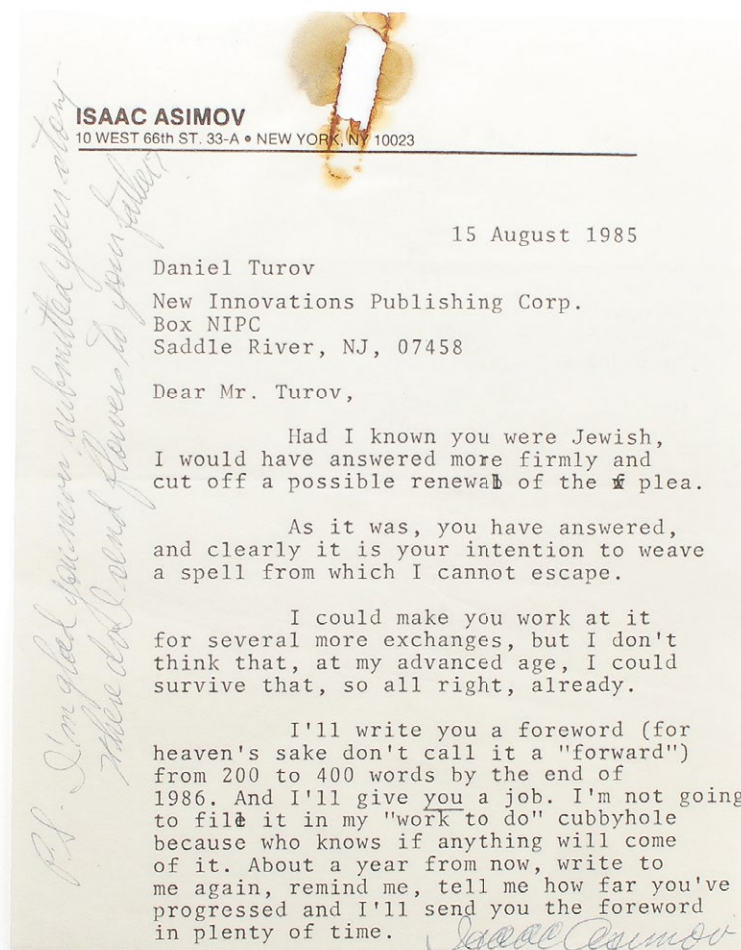
*Those books. Those books you were trying to save. They weren't valuable. There aren't any valuable books there, probably—it's just a branch library. Any books. You were just trying to save some books, any books. Because you're a librarian. Somebody who looks after books. The one responsible.*

*SOUND: REMOTE STACCATO GUNFIRE AND EXPLOSIONS. THE RADIO MUTTERS, FADES, HISSES.*

# Asimov Insults a Teenager for Being Jewish

[Four typed letters signed “Isaac Asimov”]

Asimov, Isaac



Four typed letters signed “Isaac Asimov” to student Daniel Turov. All on Asimov notepad letterhead. Letters dated: March 15, March 23, August 8, and August 15, 1986. The last letter with two lines hand-written by Asimov.

Three of the letters are marred by rusted paperclip marks; this affects the letterhead (resulting in a small hole where the paperclips was), but there is no effect on text or signature.

Price for set of four: \$950

Isaac Asimov (1920–1992) is considered one of the “big three” science fiction authors with well over 500 books written or edited. These four letters show an especially testy exchange between Asimov and a high school student.

On March 15th Asimov wrote:

*If it will make you feel any better, had you submitted the story it would not have been accepted. — Not because you were seventeen (my magazine has accepted stories from 15-year olds).*

The March 23rd letter is downright pleasant. Asimov merely informed Turov:

*Here, then, with only a week's delay is about 400 words for you to use as an introduction, if you wish, for The Student's Anthology.*

And then we turn nasty. On August 8, Asimov wrote:

*I'm not sure about doing it even “for free”. This is the sort of thing which, once I have inserted my toe, tends to expand. I am likely to be asked my advice, my opinions, until, in the final horror, I will be asked to read three hundred essays and cut them down to seventy-five. All “for free”, of course.*

And on August 15th, Asimov went off the rails:

***Dear Mr. Turov, Had I known you were Jewish, I would have answered more firmly and cut off a possible renewal of the plea.***

(Emphasis added, because, excuse me, what?)

1986

175 by 140mm  
7 by 5½ inches

ISAAC ASIMOV  
10 WEST 66th ST. 33-A • NEW YORK, NY 10023

8 August 1985

Daniel Turov  
New Innovations Publishing Corp.  
Box NIPC  
Saddle River, NJ, 07458

Dear Mr. Turov,

I have your letter of 5 August and I'm not sure about doing it even "for free."

This is the sort of thing which, once I have inserted my toe, tends to expand. I am likely to be asked my opinions, until, in the final horror, I will be asked to read three hundred essays and cut them down to seventy-five. All "for free", of course.

I might be willing to support the project "with some quotable words" as did the twenty people in the enclosure you sent me, but I dread going any further. I may be setting my ~~foot~~ foot into what will turn out to be a quicksand.

Isaac Asimov

ISAAC ASIMOV  
10 WEST 66th ST. 33-A • NEW YORK, NY 10023

23 March 1986

Daniel Turov  
New Innovations Pub. Co.  
Saddle River, NJ, 07458  
Box 7040  
Saddle River, Illinois, 60015

Turov,

ere, then, with only a  
is about 400 words for  
an introduction, if you  
Students Anthology.  
t expect any money for  
spect a copy (perhaps  
re a second one) of the  
s.

ISAAC ASIMOV  
10 WEST 66th ST. 33-A • NEW YORK, NY 10023

15 March 1986

Daniel Turov  
New Innovations Publishing Corp.  
Box 7040  
Saddle River, Illinois, 60015

I reread your letter of 10 March. I realized I hadn't done so before.

will make you feel you submitted the story, and have been accepted. ---Not a story from 15-year-olds) THE LAST QUESTION published in 1956 at that other stories with "be light" climax could not be published.

Isaac Asimov

For the record: Asimov himself was Jewish, grew up in an orthodox household, and his father worked in the synagogue, all of which colors this exchange even more.

Then Asimov added in for good measure the following two lines hand-written:

*P.S. I'm glad you never submitted your story—where do I send flowers to your father?*

According to the prior owner of these letters, the intended project fell through due to internal politics between the school superintendent and the school board of the local school systems and was never published.

Certainly, there are other Asimov letters on the market, but we aren't aware of any others in which Asimov was a total jerk to a high school student.

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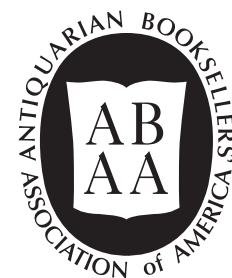
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