

"The World Of Tomorrow Today!"

Science Fiction Times

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Trieste Film Festival

The Sixth International Science Fiction Film Festival was held from July 6 to 13 in Trieste, Italy. This year 12 countries attended the festival with 43 films. The eastern countries, U.S.S.R., Yugoslavia, Poland and Czechoslovakia, showed many very well done films.

Awards were presented as follows: Golden Asteroid for the best film, *THE SORCERERS*, starring Boris Karloff, by Michael Reeves (England); Silver Asteroid for the best actress, Catherine Lacey in *THE SORCERERS*; Silver Asteroid for the best actor, Oleg Strizhenov in *ETE SVAT ROBERT* (His Name Was Robert) (U.S.S.R.); Jury Special Awards to *TUM-ANNOCT' ANDROMEDA* (Andromeda Nebula) (U.S.S.R.) for the best special effects and photography of pure sf, and to *JA, SPRAVEDLNOST* (I, Justice) (Czechoslovakia) for its unusual theme; Golden Seal of the Town of Trieste to *SINTECTICA KOMIKA* (Synthetic Humor) (Yugoslavia) as the best short film; Scroll of Honor to *POEM FIELD #1* (U.S.A.) for the fantastic and original use of a computer as a new cinematographic technique; Press Association of Friuli and Venezia Giulia Award to *NE JOUEZ PAS AVEC LES MARTIENS* (Don't Play With the Martians) (France) for the original way sf, satire and aspects of real life have been brought to the screen; and Golden Medal of the Festival Presidency to Boris Karloff for the talent that makes him the pillar of fantasy and imaginative films.

The films shown at Trieste were not all pure sf, but cinematographic experiments of every kind. The trend of the last festival - as much 'end of the world' as possible - was forgotten this time. Science fiction is growing more optimistic. Similar statements were made in the many discussions and press conferences which also took place during the festival. This year they also arranged a great fanzine exhibition, to which 18 countries contributed.

The Festival has been recognized this year by the Producers Association. Until now only short films could be given awards. Notable by their absence were *BARBARELLA* and *2001*. Some reluctance on the part of the producers was to be expected, but the high standard reached this year by the Eastern countries' films should convince the West that Trieste has become a real ground for competition.

Other films shown during the Festival included:

From Belgium:

LE BOMBARDON (The Bombard) by Boris Szulzinger
ULTRA JE T'AIME (Ultra, I Love You)

From France:

LA CAGE DE PIERRE (Cage of Stone) by Pierre Zucca

From Germany:

ALRAUNE (The Mandrake)
DER GOLEM (The Golem)
DIE MASCHINE (The Machine) by Wolfgang Urchs
PLANET AUSSER KURS (Planet off Course) by Michael Braun
DIE RAUMFALLE (The Space Trap)
RAUMPATROUILLE (Space Patrol) by Theo Metzinger

From Great Britain:

BEACH HEAD, *THE PIT*, and *VIOLA*

From Hungary:

BIZONYOS JOSLATOK (Certain Prophecies) by Janos Toth

From Japan:

EBIRAH by Jan Fukuda

From Poland:

UPIOR (Vampire) by S. Lenartowicz

From Yugoslavia:

MRJA NA SAVESTI (Machine Without Conscience) by Vucotich
SIZIF (Sisyphus) by Marks & Jutrisa
TOLERANCIJA (Tolerance) by Grgic and Ranitovic

From the U.S.A.:

BATTLE BEYOND THE STARS, *THE BLACK CAT*,
AND NEVERWHERE by Michael Wadell
--Wolfgang Thadewald & European Link

The only known recording of the voice of Edgar Rice Burroughs has been recovered from an early Ediphone wax recording cylinder. The cylinder, recently discovered in a warehouse belonging to Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc. of Tarzana, Calif., contains part of Tarzan and the Madmen.

Mr. Burroughs recorded Tarzan and the Madmen in 1940. The written manuscript was lost until 1962 when Hulbert Burroughs, one of the author's sons, discovered it in a safe. The book was published in 1964 by Canaveral Press.

Robert M. Hodes, vice president of Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc., said that the recording would be played at Baycon.

Guest Editorial

STAR TREK -- THE TURNING POINT
by David Charles Paskow

"Space, the final frontier...These are the voyages of the Starship Enterprise, her five year mission..."

The Starship Enterprise, with the aid of thousands of fans, has successfully completed two years of her five year mission and is now on its way into the third. At this halfway point it is only fitting that we review the successes and failures of STAR TREK thus far.

Year One of STAR TREK could well have been called the Year of the Monsters. In an obvious attempt to attract as wide an audience as possible, weird BEMs were frequently turning up to menace Kirk and Company. There was little actual character development -- we knew Kirk to be stern but capable of emotion while Spock was almost all logic. McCoy was given to emotionalism, Sulu was romantic and Scotty was...Scotty. Highlights of Year One: "Arena", "The Menagerie," and, especially, "The City on the Edge of Forever."

Year Two gave us greater insights into the individual characters -- we learned of Kirk's background, his "schooling" and the girl he left behind; we learned the marriage customs of Vulcans, met Spock's parents and glimpsed the turmoil created between his human and Vulcan personalities. There were fewer BEMs and more straight science fiction. Highlights of Year Two: "Amok Time," "The Ultimate Computer," and "Mirror, Mirror."

As we enter Year Three it is hoped that we will learn more about the neglected Dr. Leonard McCoy, learn more about the causes of the perpetual conflict between Federation and Klingon forces, and still more of Spock. Mostly, however, it is hoped that Year Three will give STAR TREK the necessary impetus to complete its five year mission.

Walker & Co. will shortly announce a new program of science fiction titles. The plan, only now reaching the final stage of development, requires a tie-in with a paperback publisher. The current objective is publication of 8 to 10 titles next spring, with the majority to be original novels. The only title definitely scheduled is Fritz Leiber's A Specter Is Haunting Texas, serialized in the July, August and September 1968 issues of Galaxy.

AVALON SF LINE DISCONTINUED

Avalon Books, published by Thomas Bourey & Co., has announced that they will discontinue their science fiction titles with their two new releases, The Day the World Stopped by Stanton A. Coblenz, and The Stars Will Wait by Henry L. Hasse, which appeared this month. They report they will most likely resume publication of science fiction titles early next year.

PERKEO-CON REPORT

The Perkeo-Con, Germany's major sf convention, was held in Heidelberg over the August 2 to 5th weekend. Although only 80 fans attended this year, they included most of the country's major fans and the 1970 Worldcon Committee. The program included a report on the Trieste Film Festival, and 4 parts of a TV documentary about science fiction by Brian Wood. The Order of St. Fantasy presented a ceremony, in which Franz Ettl was initiated into membership.

The results of a fanpoll, organized by SF Times, were presented. The fans decided this year that no Hugo should be presented for Best German SF Novel. Leaders in other categories included: Best Novel (translation): Dune by Frank Herbert, second The Wanderer by Fritz Leiber; Best Collection: The Pseudo-People, William F. Nolan, editor; Best Dramatic Presentation: Privilege (Universal); Best Fan Author: Franz Rottensteiner, second H. J. Alpers; Best Artist: Peter Kruger, second Mario Kwiat; and Best Fanzine: Anabis, second SF Times, third Andromeda.

--Hans Alpers

OZARKON III

The Ozarkon III was held at the Ben Franklin Motor Hotel, St. Louis, Mo., over the July 26-28 weekend. Attendance was approx. 100. The program included a banquet, with Harlan Ellison as Guest of Honor, movies (Destination Moon and White Zombie), and an auction. The conference, presented by the same fans who are bidding for the 1969 Worldcon, is reported to have been "lots of fun."

International News

FROM AUSTRALIA

Next year we intend to have another convention and planning is already underway. It will be known as the 8th Australian Science Fiction Convention and will be held in Melbourne over the Easter weekend. Further information can be obtained from the Convention co-ordinator, Mrs. Diane Bangsund (Flat 3, 12 Redan Street, St. Kilda, Victoria, Australia 3182). We also hope to be bidding for the Worldcon in 1975.

2001 opened here May 9 to mixed reception from the general public. Some people were disappointed that there were no "monsters" but all sf enthusiasts raved over it. The theatre reports that business was fair -- it has since finished (July 18) but will possibly have a rerun for the school holidays if its replacement, "Around the World in 80 Days," does bad business.

Planet of the Apes will open here in a months time.

Star Trek, taken off TV here, has been reinstated after a large write-in complaint from the general public. The Invaders TV series will start in a week's time on the local government TV station.

Australian paperback publishers, Horwitz Books, have published two sf novels for the local market: A. Bertram Chandler's False Fatherland based on the IF serial Spartan Planet, and John Baxter's ace novel, The God Killers. Sales have not been good and a third paperback, a collection by Laurence Janifer, looks likely to be cancelled.

--Paul J. Stevens

FROM ENGLAND

A weekend conference was held as part of this year's Brighton Festival of the Arts. The panel, consisting mainly of writers whose work has appeared in New Worlds over the past year, was supposed to be discussing science fiction; but a predominance of 'arty folk' in the audience turned the conversation over to an aimless discussion of the arts in general. The panel, however, did at times manage to return to sf to produce some thought-provoking remarks.

A one day mini-con will be held in London on November 23. Guest of Honor will be James White, author (among other books) of the "hospital station" series from New Worlds. The con will be held in the main hall of Wm. Dunbar House, Albert Road, London N.W.6. Cost will be £1, including lunch and tea. Further details and tickets from Keith Otter, 34 The Albany, Woodcote Road, Wallington, Surrey, England.

Among other events which show an increasing interest in sf as an art form

in Britain are SF Film Evenings, held at the North London Film Theatre. Programs shown this year include one on The Psychology of the Horror Movie, which was introduced by Dr. Chris Evans, science editor of New Worlds. Details may be obtained from The Mountview, Theatre Club, 104 Crouch Hill, London, N.8.

The Time Tunnel is still running on Tuesday evenings on BBC TV. In September they are starting a series of Star Trek. When Worlds Collide, the second Pal-Bonestell film from 1951 was shown on ITV during August.

J. G. Ballard's 'episodic' style of writing was described on a recent radio program as "Old fashioned symbolism: the pure surrealism of the exploding galaxy."

--Gerald Bishop

FROM FRANCE

The 29th issue (1968) of the weekly magazine Echo de la mode, gives the rules of a game for children called "The Martians." The game requires at least 5 players and a foulard for each 5 or 6 players. One person is chosen to be the 'Martian,' he wears the foulard. At a signal the Martian runs after the other players. Each person who is touched by a Martian must remain motionless -- he has been paralyzed by a mysterious ray, and can only be set free if another player touches him. The Martians have won the game when all the players are paralyzed. The last player to be paralyzed will become the Martian for the next game.

On July 23, French TV showed a Spanish TV program which won the "golden rose" at Montreux: Historia de la frivolidad. The show tells in a humorous manner the struggle of the (feminine, naturally) members of the Liga Feminine Contra la Frivolidad from prehistory to the present time and to the year 3000. The woman lecturer says that in the future frivolity will no longer be possible for humans will have become robots. But the robots demonstrate that she errs (the masculine robot touches the iron buttock of the feminine robot!)

--J.P. Cronimus

FROM GERMANY

Claassen publishers plan to publish some science fiction and fantasy in spring 1969 (hardcovers). Among the titles are The Crystal World, Ballard; Something Wicked This Way Comes, Medicine for Melancholy, and The Golden Apples of the Sun, Bradbury. Others to come: Croyd, Wallace; A Fistful of Digits, Hodder-Williams; Voyagers in Time, Silverberg; A Torrent of Faces, Blish/Knight; Man of Double Deed, Daventry.

--Hans Alpers

BRIAN ALDISS

Dell is coming out with my anthology Farewell Fantastic Venus about now. Doubleday will soon be publishing in hardcover my recent novel Report on Probability A. Avon has four novellas entitled Neanderthal Planet due in the early fall. And they also have just bought Cryptozoic for a healthy sum.

My hippie novel, Barefoot in the Head which has been appearing in chunks in New Worlds, is at last getting towards finished. A mingling of prose, poetry, and pop, it should appear simultaneously in hardcover from Faber and Doubleday and Hasselbach (of Denmark) next year, with luck.

You also know, I'm sure, that I'm English editor on Harry Harrison's new venture, Best SF.

As for New Worlds, Mike Moorcock fights on. Only this week, his stopgap publishers, Stonehouse, have fallen through, and Mike is to go it alone as publisher. A brave venture. The magazine has kept going now for two or three years on little more than faith. It is encouraging that that faith has come (in the shape of strong financial backing) from the Arts Council of Great Britain as well as from those of us more directly interested in the future of science fiction.

JOHN BRUNNER

Stand on Zanzibar will appear from Doubleday in September. This is a very long novel, some parts of which have appeared in New Worlds. Ballantine will publish Double Double in January, whose characters include Bruno and the Hermetic Tradition, a rock group. Pyramid will shortly be publishing Black is the Color, a novel about black magic. Ace has scheduled for November Catch a Falling Star, a revised and expanded version of 100th Millennium. Just sold to Ace is Jagged Orbit, and to Pyramid an African thriller, Plague On Both Your Causes.

LIN CARTER

I have contracted with Signet to write their first Sword & Sorcery adventure novel, an original called Lost World of Time, first in what may develop into a series about Sargon the Lion, warrior hero of the forgotten world of Zarkandu.

Belmont will shortly publish The Giant of World's End, a Sword & Sorcery novel about Ganelon Silvermane in the Eon of the Falling Moon seven hundred million years in the future. This also may be the first of a new series.

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In December 1958 the Modern Language Association, to which most college and university teachers of English and other modern literatures belong, sponsored its first conference on science fiction, which has met annually since then. In 1959, Extrapolation, the Newsletter of the MLA Conference on Science Fiction, was first published and will issue its tenth anniversary volume during the forthcoming academic year. In December 1968 the MLA will hold a forum of international panelists -- one of its "spectaculars" -- on sf. These three events are among those high points which mark the recent academic recognition of science fiction as an important phase of modern literature which has been too long neglected.

Since 1959 Extrapolation has concentrated upon articles (both historical and critical) and bibliographies, as well as reviewing significant books by such writers as Sam Moskowitz, Chad Walsh, Bruce Franklin, Mark Hillegas, Judith Merrill, and I. F. Clarke. Its aim has been to gather together materials to provide a foundation for future research. Because of its origin in the academic community, much of its emphasis has been placed upon such established writers as Wells, Huxley, Lovecraft, Verne, and Jorge Luis Borges, and upon such general problems as the anti-utopian novel and bibliographies of secondary materials dealing with sf.

For the past several years, however, Thomas Clareson, its editor, has emphasized the need for cooperation between the academic community, including European scholars, and current writers, editors, and collectors. "Much important information about contemporary sf will be at least partially lost," he recently said, "Unless a conscious effort is made now to preserve it. For example, because of a fire no information is available on the many titles Lippincott published late in the 19th century. Only with the help of the people currently active can these materials be saved and made available for future study." He hopes to initiate a series of articles from current writers and editors to augment scholarly studies.

Fred Pohl, Phil Klass, and Judith Merrill have attended conferences. Two years ago Judy did the important two-part article, "What Do You Mean by Science?/Fiction?" I. F. Clarke, author of Voices Prophesying War, flew from Glasgow last Christmas so that he might lead the discussion at the last conference; the resultant article appears in the current issue. Perhaps most important, Extrapolation has been cited in many of the recent books on science fiction -- Franklin, Hillegas, Moskowitz, Judy Merrill, I. F. Clarke, W.H.G.

Armytage. "Ideally," Claeson said, "Extrapolation can serve as a kind of clearing house -- or storage bin."

The Newsletter circulates in 14 foreign countries, including Yugoslavia, Poland, and Russia. More important, more than half of its subscribers are college and university research libraries. "The fact that the libraries will preserve it is what's important. There are and have been many fine fanzines and individual items done in the past-- I'm thinking mostly of the forties and fifties -- but so far as I know most of their information is out-of-print and lost. I can think of a number of items that Extrapolation would like to republish if some collector made them available. Otherwise a lot of the same work will have to be done over again."

Although it does not accept original poetry or fiction, Extrapolation does welcome contributions for consideration. A subscription costs \$1.25 a year or \$3.00 for three years. A few copies of the current volume (IX) remain, and Johnson Reprint Corporation, 111 Fifth Ave., NYC 10003, will shortly make the entire first nine volumes available. All inquiries should be addressed to Thomas Claeson, The College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio 44691.

MOVIE MISCELLANY

Ian Hendry and Patrick Wymark, two of England's most popular film and television actors have been signed by producers Gerry and Sylvia Anderson for key roles in a space drama of the future. The drama, Doppelganger, will star Roy Thinnes, Herbert Lom and Tisha Sterling... Hammer Films has managed to win the Queen's Award to Industry for Export Achievement... Coming soon, Buck Rogers in the 25th Century (MGM), a 70 mm production from Walter Manley and Ivan Reiner... L. P. Davies has sold The Aliens to Universal, while Philip K. Dick has sold Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? to Raritan Productions.

Classified Advertising

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TANSTAAFL BUTTONS FOR SALE: 25¢ each, plus 6¢ per order for postage. SFT, Box 216, Syracuse, N.Y. 13209. WATCH FOR THE SCIENCE FICTION YEARBOOK, 1967. Sections include complete book listing, magazine index, films, TV, fandom. Available soon from SFT, Box 216, Syracuse, N.Y. 13209.

Have You Read?

- Alexander, Lloyd. "Wishful Thinking-- or Hopeful Dreaming?" (on fantasy in children's literature) Hornbook, Aug., p.382-90
- Bester, Alfred. "Book Reviews" (review of Rockets, Missiles and Men in Space) Flying, July, p.120+
- Bradbury, Ray. "Any Friend of Trains Is a Friend of Mine" (about travel by train) Life, Aug.2, p.48-50
- Clarke, Arthur C. "Next: On Earth, the Good Life?" (about 2001, both the movie and actual predictions) Vogue April 15, p.84-7
- Coleman, John. "Future Tense, Present Tensions" (review of 2001) New Statesman, May 3, p.591
- "Framing the Beatles" (about Beatles' new fantasy movie) Time, Aug. 19, p.89
- "From Icarus to Arthur Clarke" (changes in sf books and movies) Forbes, July, p.112-14
- Gussow, Leon. "Films: Max Frost & Rosemary" (review of Wild in the Streets and Rosemary's Baby) Rat, July 13,
- "Latter-day Jules Verne" (about Arthur C. Clarke and 2001) Time, July 19, p.56-57
- Livingston, Dennis. "Science Fiction and Futurology: Some Observations at a Science Fiction Convention" (NyCon 3) The Futurist, June, p.47-8
- Maddocks, Melvin. "The High Art of Hanging Loose" (review of Vonnegut's Welcome to the Monkey House) Life, Aug. 16, p.8
- Mannes, Marya. "The Case of the Missing Motives" (about 2001 and Wild in the Streets) McCalls, July, p.20-24
- Martin, George. "Scientology: Sex, Hypnotism and Security Checks" (about L. Ron Hubbard) Sunday Mirror (English) July 28, p.4
- Nathan, Paul. "Rights and Permissions" (more on 2001 book) Publishers' Weekly, June 17, p.54
- Plimmer, Charlotte and Denis. "The Man Who Understands Hobbits" (interview with Tolkien) London Daily Telegraph Magazine, March 22, p.31-2
- Prehoda, Robert W. "2001: A Space Odyssey" (review) The Futurist, June, p.52-3
- Shochet, Lois. "Fantasy and English Children" Top of the News, April, p.311-20
- Sokolov, Raymond A. "Giggling Fantast" (review of Vonnegut's Welcome to the Monkey House) Time, Aug.19, p.85+
- "Soul on Ice" (about Steven Jay Mandell sf enthusiast who had his body frozen at death) Time, Aug.12, p.29
- Wilk, Max. "The Log of the Yellow Submarine" (excerpts from Beatle's new fantasy book/movie) McCalls, Aug. p.72-5

2001: A Space Odyssey

HOLLYWOOD DOES IT AGAIN
by Ted White

Clarke, Arthur C. 2001: A Space Odyssey
New American Library, June, \$4.95; Signet Q3580, July, 95¢

It was instructive to read this book after seeing the movie of 2001, and I recommend that everyone do so (if the \$4.95 for the hardcover edition is too steep for you, get the Signet paperback edition). Because Clarke's book brings order, precision, even intelligence, to a mindless movie.

Some years ago I postulated White's Theorem #87: better to see the movie first, then read the book; the progression is always upwards in terms of quality. Then along came the 'movie novelization,' that bastard book which is written from the screenplay and is usually inferior -- and Theorem #87 fell into a rapid decline. It remained true, in the main, for books made into movies, but rarely held true in reverse. For this once, it does.

The novel of 2001 appears to pose a chicken-or-the-egg dilemma: which came first, the screenplay or the novel? The book carries repeated admonitions that the book is 'a novel by Arthur C. Clarke, based on a screenplay by Stanley Kubrick and Arthur C. Clarke'. Which is all very well, but I have strong memories of Clarke describing the project in 1965, at which time he stated that Kubrick suggested he write a book which Kubrick could make into a movie. The book, in at least semi-final form, has been in existence at least two years as a manuscript -- I've spoken to several who've read it as such -- while the movie was, at last notice, still mutating towards its final form. So, although this book is presented as a 'novelization,' perhaps it is not after all, and my Theorem #87 is still good.

When I saw the movie 2001, I was struck by its incoherence. The opening sequence with the man-apes is boringly without incident for most of its length; the trip to the moon is a banal travelogue; the largest part of the movie occupies itself with the internally inconsistent digression of the conflict with HAL; and the final twenty minutes was so apparently a postscript that, although it contained the substance of the movie, it was ignored by most mundane reviewers as an irrelevancy.

Well, each and every element is also to be found in the book, but only in its broadest outlines. The man-apes sequence occupies the first twenty-four pages of the book, but Clarke has provided a sequence of specific events for his protagonist, Moon-Watcher, and has

given the monolith a specific set of tasks, none of which are so much as hinted at in the movie. (In the book the monolith is a transparent crystal which turns milky and then hypnotizes the man-apes with op-art-like moving figures while it tampers with their minds and bodies. That could have made a memorable sequence in the movie, and I want you to remember that.)

Likewise, each successive portion of the movie appears in the book with new details and new relevancy. Many minor changes occur, and, significantly, they cancel out nearly every scientific mistake the supposedly NASA-perfect movie made. (Remember how the rocket to the space station had to go into a spin that matched the spin of the hub of the space station, before it could dock? In the book, Clarke says of the docking hub, "Unlike the structure from which it sprang, it was not rotating -- or, rather, it was running in reverse at a rate which exactly countered the station's own spin. Thus a visiting spacecraft could be coupled to it... without being whirled disastrously around.")

The mission, in the book, is not to Jupiter, but to Saturn. Clarke explained this change (at the 1968 Lunacon) by stating that Saturn was visually unbelievable, and any attempt to mock it up in a movie would look unreal even if totally authentic. But while the existence of a Jupiter-rocket is unexplained (and unbelievable) in the movie, in the book it is a prior mission now redirected for Saturn -- again, more plausible, more believable.

HAL's breakdown is also more believably handled, and the sequence of events which leads to Bowman's disconnecting the computer is totally changed. The method of his crewmate's death has been changed, the nonsense of replacing the maybe-faulty unit to see if it'll go bad has been dropped, and Bowman does not go out after the body of his dead buddy. Instead HAL exhausts the air from the ship to kill him, he manages to get into a safety cubicle and a space suit in time, and then proceeds to disconnect HAL. Whereafter he regains contact with Mission Control on Earth.

The monolith which sends Bowman out across the galaxy is not orbiting Jupiter, of course, but is set on Japetus, a satellite of Saturn which has long puzzled astronomers with its bright and dull sides. The monolith sits in the center of the bright side, and when Bowman approaches it in a pod, it turns inside-out and sends him on his trip through hyperspace.

This trip is, if anything, more mind wrenching, awe-inspiring, and sense-of-wonder-producing in Clarke's description than in the movie. Where the movie supplies beautiful colors and optical

effects, Clarke -- again -- supplies explanations which hint at a galactic grandeur that is at once totally alien and mystifying and yet believable.

Ultimately, Bowman finds himself approaching the surface of a red giant star where an apartment has been constructed for him. The apartment (which is not described as at all Louis XVI in style) was reconstructed from a television broadcast picked up by the monolith on the moon from Earth. Bowman stays only a short time in it -- he eats a meal, then watches a sequence of two-year old TV shows from the bed, then falls asleep -- before yet another monolith (another crystal one) appears to remake him into a newborn Superman (in the literal, not the comic-book, sense) He returns to Earth, just in time to avert WW3. The closing lines of the book are, "though he was master of the world, he was not quite sure what to do next. ∴ But he would think of something."

The book is dedicated "To Stanley," but one must inevitably ask oneself just what Stanley Kubrick's contributions were. As near as I can tell, they were only two: money and stupidity. The money was no doubt a good thing; the stupidity resulted in the translation of an eminently filmable book into a monstrously banal film.

A few of the changes were doubtless required by budgetary considerations. Most weren't. The most important weren't. For instance, the entire man-apes sequence would have benefited greatly by the use of Clarke's plot. Even the monolith sequences should not have been difficult to shoot. Almost anything would have been preferable to the long pans of unmoving African slides and static shots of those exquisitely made-up man-apes scratching themselves so interminably.

Likewise the entire HAL sequence is handled with logic and intelligence by Clarke, but with witlessness and idiocy by Kubrick. (I went into the total illogic of this sequence in some detail in my review of the movie -- written before I had the opportunity to read the book -- in SHANGRI L'AFFAIRES #73.) There is absolutely no intelligent reason for Kubrick's changes, since the same sets were required for both. The only reason I can imagine is that Kubrick thought his version would be the more visually exciting.

Visual impact seems to have been Kubrick's ruling passion throughout the movie, but Kubrick was apparently oblivious to content. Where the movie ignores foundation details for extraneous details (running around the centrifuge for example), Clarke supplies them. Where the movie concentrates on the diversionary incidents, Clarke puts them in context (the entire HAL sequence

occupies rather a small slice of the outward-bound section of the book, for instance) and relates them to the larger story. Put simply, the book has structure. The movie does not.

But finally we must consider 2001 as a novel, independent of the movie which either inspired it or grew from it (take your pick). It's not an awfully good one.

I'm reminded of Prelude to Space, and Earthlight and Childhood's End, but 2001 (a meaningless title, since only one very small sequence takes place in 2001) seems to borrow only the superficial qualities of each. From the first two (as well as Island in the Sky and Sands of Mars), Clarke takes a carefully structured technology of the near future, each and every detail lovingly embroidered. From the latter book, he borrows the mysticism and sense of galactic grandeur. Somehow he makes them mesh: Clarke-the-Scientist/Engineer is coupled with Clarke-the-Poet/Dreamer. But somewhere Clarke-the-Writer got left out.

This is a book (like the movie) without human characters. For a book which purports to show how the evolution of the human race has been structured and supported, it is curiously devoid of human feeling. The characters of the book have as little depth and as little feeling as do those of the movie. The air of the book is that of a second rate juvenile: all gimmicks and details and no people. There are no human conflicts, and not even very much dialogue. The people are the backdrops, props necessary to keep the story functioning. For all of Clarke's very real ability to evoke pathos in the 'death' of HAL, the death of Frank Poole is of no consequence at all. He is murdered and cast out into space, and that is that. The casual quality with which Clarke dismisses this death (which the plot required) strikes me as fully as callous in its way as are all the violent deaths on TV so lately decried by those who have been Moved To Alarm by the recent assassinations.

But if you regard that as a side-issue or an irrelevancy, let me simply point out this: Clarke evokes all his reader's emotional reactions through non- or unhuman incidents and situations. HAL, the probe below Jupiter's clouds, the rings of Saturn, the trip through 'Grand Central Station' in hyperspace (or whatever), the red giant and its white dwarf companion, etc.: these genuinely stirred me. But David Bowman's plight, alone on a crippled ship where certain death awaits him, was no more real than David Bowman undergoing his transformation into Superman, or David Bowman all but ignoring his crewman's death.

(Continued on Page 8)

Calendar of Events

September

- 6 WSFA Meeting, at home of member. For info: Don Miller, 12315 Judson Rd., Wheaton, Md. 20906
- 7 Cincinnati Fantasy Group Meeting, at Home of member. For info: Lou Tabakow, 3953 St. John's Terr., Cincinnati, Ohio 45236
- 8 NESFA Meeting, at home of member. For info: NESFA, P. O. Box G, MIT Branch PO, Cambridge, Mass. 02139
- 8 ESFA Meeting, at YM-YWCA, 600 Broad St., Newark, N.J., at 3pm
- 13 PSFS Meeting, at Central YMCA, 15th and Arch Sts, Philadelphia, Pa., at 8pm
- 13 BSFS Meeting, at home of member. For info: Jack Chalker, 5111 Liberty Heights Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21207
- 13 Little Men Meeting, at home of member. For info: Alva Rogers, 5967 Greenridge Rd., Castro Valley, Calif 94546
- 20 WSFA Meeting, see Sept. 6
- 21 Lunarian Meeting, at apt. of Frank Dietz, 1750 Walton Ave., Bronx, N.Y. at 8pm. Guests of members and out of town fans.
- 21 Cincinnati Fantasy Group Meeting, see Sept. 7
- 21 George Price Circle Meeting, at home of George Price, 1439 W. North Shore Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60626 at 8pm
- 22 NESFA Meeting, see Sept. 8
- 27 BSFS Meeting, see Sept. 13
- 27 Little Men Meeting, see Sept. 13
- 27 FISTFA Meeting, at apt. of Mike McInerney, 250 W. 16th St., Apt. 5FW, New York, N.Y. at 9pm
- 28 Omicron Ceti 3 Meeting, at home of Estelle Sanders, 131 Edmunton Dr., N. Babylon, L.I., Apt. G-11, at 8:30pm
- 29 OSFA Meeting, in Auditorium of the Central St. Louis Library, St. Louis, Mo. at 2pm. For info: Ray Fisher, 4404 Forest Park, St. Louis, Mo. 63108
- 29 OSFiC Meeting, in Toronto. For info: Peter Gill, 18 Glen Manor Dr., Toronto 13, Canada

October

- 18-20 TOLKIEN CONFERENCE at Belknap College. For info: Tolkien Conference, Belknap College, Center Harbor N.H. 03226

November

- 9-10 PHILCON at the Sylvania Hotel, Broad & Locust Sts., Philadelphia, Pa. For info: Tom Purdom, 4734 Cedar Ave., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19143
- 23 LONDON MINICON. GoH: James White. For info: Ethel Lindsay, Courage House, 6 Langley Ave., Surbiton, Surrey, UK

March 1969

22-23 BOSKONE IV at the Statler-Hilton, Park Square, Boston, Mass. GoH: Jack Gaughan. Reg. fee: \$2.00. For info: NESFA, P. O. Box G, MIT Branch PO, Cambridge, Mass. 02139

April

- 4-6 BRITISH SF CONVENTION, at the Randolph Hotel, Oxford. GoH: Judith Merril. Reg. fee: \$1 overseas. U.S. agent: Sam & Florence Russell, 1351 Tremaine Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90019
- 11-13 LUNACON/EASTERCON, at the Hotel McAlpin, Herald Sq., New York. GoH: Robert A.W. Lowndes. Advance membership: \$2.00 (\$2.50 at door) Progress Report #1 from: Frank Dietz, 1750 Walton Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10453

Meetings held every week:

CSFS

Sat. at homes of various members, at 7pm. For info: Bob Gaines, 336 Olentangy St., Columbus, Ohio 43202. (ph. 263-6089)

Fellowship of the Purple Tongue

Sat. at home of Phil Harrell, 3021 Tait Terr., Norfolk, Va., at 2pm. (ph. 853-1259)

LASFS

Thurs. at home of Owen Hannifen, 508 S. St. Andrews Pl., Los Angeles, Calif. 90005, at 8pm

Colorado Fantasy Society

Sat. at homes of various members, Denver area. For info: Caz, Box 550 Evergreen, Colo. 80439 (ph. 674-4246, local from Denver)

NOTES FROM THE AUTHORS cont. from p.4

This October two novels will be on the stands, both Sword & Sorcery. The first, from Lancer, called Conan of the Isles, was written in collaboration with L. Sprague de Camp. The second, Thongor at the End of Time, from Paperback Library, is the fifth of my Lemurian books.

2001: A Space Odyssey cont. from p. 7

So if the novel is a success where the movie is a failure (and it is), it is still a failure, at least in part, as a novel. It reads fast, and for all its philosophical and metaphysical pretensions it is shallow.

That's a shame. Because Clarke has demonstrated many times in the past his ability to write uncommonly good books. I'd like to hope that here again the hand of Stanley Kubrick is evident, but Clarke does not share this by-line. He must shoulder the blame alone. He swapped a good book for a lot of money. I hope he will always consider the trade worth it.

S F Forecasts

AMAZING -- January 1969
(Partial -- new stories)

Serial

WE ALL DIED AT BREAKAWAY STATION by
Richard C. Meredith

Short Stories

HOW IT ENDED by David R. Bunch
THE TEMPLE OF SORROW by Dean R.
Koontz

FANTASTIC -- February 1969

Short Stories

ORIGIN OF THE SPECIES by Jody Scott
Wood
ALL IN THE GAME by Edward R. Breese
GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE by Robert S.
Phillips
ANY HEADS AT HOME? by David R. Bunch
RICHMOND, LATE SEPTEMBER, 1849 by
Fritz Leiber
THE ASCENSION by K.M. O'Donnell
THE MAJOR INCITEMENT TO RIOT by K.M.
O'Donnell
REASON FOR HONOR by Robert Hoskins
THE LIFE OF THE STRIPE by Piers An-
thony

Cover by BAKER from "Richmond, Late
September, 1849" (first original
cover for Ultimate)

GALAXY -- November 1968

Novelettes

PERRIS WAY by Robert Silverberg
BUILDING ON THE LINE by Gordon R.
Dickson
EEEETZ CH by H.H. Hollis

Short Stories

KEEP MOVING by Miriam Allen DeFord
THE MARKET IN ALIENS by K.M. O'Don-
nell
LOCUST YEARS by Douglas R. Mason
THE TELL-TALE HEART MACHINE by Brian
R. Aldiss

Cover by DEMBER from "Building on the
Line"

IF -- November 1968

Short Novel

CREATURES OF LIGHT by Roger Zelazny

Serial

THE COMPUTER CONSPIRACY by Mack Rey-
nolds

Short Stories

NOW THAT MAN IS GONE by James Blish
WIZARD SHIP by F. Haines Price
BOOKMOBILE by Charles L. Harness
THE PERFECT SECRETARY by Mike Kirsch
WHERE THE TIME WENT by James H.
Schmitz

Cover by BODE from "Now That Man Is Gone"

WORLDS OF FANTASY -- v.1, no.1

Novels

THE MIRROR OF WIZARDRY by John Jakes

HOWEVER by Robert Lory

Novelettes

AS IS by Robert Silverberg
CONAN AND THE CENOTAPH by Lin Carter
and L. Sprague deCamp

Short Stories

DEATH IS A LONELY PLACE by Bill War-
ren
WHAT THE VINTNERS BUY by Mack Rey-
nolds
AFTER ARMAGEDDON by Paris Flammonde
THE MAN WHO LIKED by Robert Hoskins
DELEND A EST by Robert E. Howard

Features

FADS AND FANTASIES by Lester Del Rey
A REPORT ABOUT TOLKIEN by Lester Del
Rey

Cover by GAUGHAN

SEPTEMBER ACE RELEASES

Burroughs, Edgar Rice. The Moon Men.
G748. 50¢
Compton, D.G. Synthajoy. H86. 60¢
Grinnell, David and Lin Carter. Des-
tination: Saturn / Philip E. High.
Invaders on My Back. H85. 60¢
Leiber, Fritz. Swords in the Mist. H90
60¢
Leslie, Peter. The Splintered Sun Glas-
ses Affair: Man from UNCLE #16. G754
50¢
Saberhagen, Fred. The Broken Lands.
G740. 50¢

FALL BALLANTINE BOOKS

Anthony, Piers. Omnivore, Dec. 72014
75¢
Bradbury, Ray. Fahrenheit 451 (reissue)
Bal-Hi 70002, Sept. 50¢
Brunner, John. Double, Double (orig)
72019, Jan. 75¢
Burroughs, Edgar Rice. The Tall Tarzan
Gift Set (complete Tarzan novels)
90084, Oct. \$12.00
Clement, Hal. Cycle of Fire. 70007,
Dec. 50¢
Lindsay, David. A Voyage to Arcturus.
73010, Nov. 95¢
Niven, Larry. A Gift From Earth. 72113,
Sept. 75¢
Norman, John. Priest-Kings of Gor.
72015, Dec. 75¢
Peake, Mervyn. The Gormenghast Trilogy
(Titus Groan, 73007; Gormenghast,
73008; Titus Alone, 73009) Oct. 95¢
each
Saberhagen, Fred. Brother Assassin.
(sequel to Berserker) 72018, Jan.
75¢
Sturgeon, Theodore. More Than Human
(reprint) 72009, Nov. 75¢
Tolkien, J.R.R. The Road Goes Ever On;
a Song Cycle (reprint) 74550, Oct.
\$2.95
Vidal, Gore. Messiah (reprint) 72006,
Oct. 75¢
Whitfield, Stephen E. & Gene Roddenberry
The Making of Star Trek (orig) 73004
Sept. 95¢

FALL JUVENILES

CHILDRENS PRESS

Verne, Jules. 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea. \$4.50

CRITERION

Walters, Hugh. The Mohole Menace. \$3.95

CROWELL

Derleth, August. The Beast in Holger's Woods. \$3.95

DOUBLEDAY

Mazzeo, Henry, ed. Hauntings; Tales of the Supernatural. Nov. \$4.50

Williamson, Jack. Trapped in Space. Oct

HOLT, RINEHART AND WINSTON

Fairman, Paul W. The Forgetful Robot. Oct. \$3.75

MCGRAW-HILL

Ley, Willy. Inside the Orbit of the Earth (n-f) \$4.50

MACMILLAN

Lynch, Patricia. Brogeen Follows the Magic Tune (fantasy) Oct. \$4.50

MACRAE SMITH

Halacy, D.S. Jr. Century 21: Your Life in the Year 2001 and Beyond (n-f) Nov. \$3.95

PARNASSUS

Kilian, Crawford. Wonders, Inc. \$4.25
Le Guin, Ursula K. A Wizard of Earth-sea. \$3.95

SIMON & SCHUSTER

Knight, Damon, ed. Toward Infinity; 9 Science Fiction Stories. \$4.50

VAN NOSTRAND

Halacy, D.S. Jr. Colonization of the Moon; a Fact Book for Young Readers. Oct. \$3.95

VIKING PRESS

Valens, E. G. Cybernaut (space poem) \$3.50

WALCK

Garner, Alan. The Owl Service. Oct. \$4.00

WEYBRIGHT & TALLEY

Blish, James. The Vanished Jet. \$3.95
Ley, Willy. The Meteorite Craters (n-f) \$5.00

Greene, Betty Patchin. The Touchstone

WORLD

Norton, Andre. Fur Magic. Oct. \$3.95

CORRECTION: Due to a typographical error, one of the Hugo Nominees for Best Novel was omitted from SFT 456. The novel, Chthon, by Piers Anthony, does however appear on the official ballot.

Beyond Imagination

ON S-F AND FANTASY COLLECTIONS

Reviews & Comments by W.R. Cole

The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction since its first issue (Fall 1949) has seen five editors. Edward L. Ferman, current editor, has successfully maintained the standards set up almost 20 years ago by his predecessors.

THE BEST FROM FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION: SEVENTEENTH SERIES

Edited by Edward L. Ferman
Doubleday, 1968. 13 stories, 4 cartoons. 260 p. \$4.50

The 17th in the annual series from F&SF is balanced between stories by such veteran writers as Fritz Leiber and Brian W. Aldiss, and new names such as Samuel R. Delany, Monica Sterba and George Collyn.

In any collection such as this, it's difficult to pick out the best of the book, and this anthology is no exception. There are, though, two stories we felt stood out. One is George Collyn's Out of Time, Out of Place (Sept. 1967) and The Sea Change by (Arthur) Jean Cox (March 1967). On the whole this is a good representation of the last year of F&SF.

ONCE AND FUTURE TALES FROM THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION

Edited by Edward L. Ferman
Harris-Wolfe, Aug. 9 stories
366 p. \$5.95

Very few anthologists select short novels and novelettes, due to their length. Once and Future Tales presents nine short novels selected from F&SF from 1960 through 1966. As Mr. Ferman did not give an introduction to this book, we don't know if the stories were selected as random representation of F&SF type of story, or an attempt to present some of the magazine's best short novels.

The lead story (and the longest) in this collection is Thomas Burnett Swann's fantasy The Manor of Roses (Nov 1966). Surprisingly, this is only the second story by Swann to appear in an American sf magazine. His prose style of writing evidently does not have great appeal to U.S. editors. This is unfortunate as Mr. Swann certainly shows a wealth of talent as a first-class fantasy writer.

The most outstanding story in the collection is Philip Jose Farmer's Open to Me, My Sister (May 1960) dealing with the meeting on Mars of an Earthman and an alien female. A very touching and well-written story.

Once and Future Tales is the first sf title by this new publisher and
(Continued on Page 15)

They Sought Adventure

by Richard P. Brisson

WIZARD OF LEMURIA by Lin Carter
Ace F326, 1965. 127 p. 40¢

THONGOR OF LEMURIA by Lin Carter
Ace F383, 1966. 127 p. 40¢

THONGOR AGAINST THE GODS by Lin Carter.
Paperback Lib. 52-586, 1967. 157 p. 50¢

THONGOR IN THE CITY OF MAGICIANS by Lin Carter.
Paperback Lib. 53-665, 1968. 160 p. 60¢

En garde, Brothers of the Sword! I've always yearned to do a column reviewing works of heroic fantasy, and with the current interest in the field and through the kindness of yonder fair editress it seems I have my wish. So, onward...

The first hero to fall victim to a swording is the mighty thewed papier-mache hero of Lin Carter's Lemurian series -- Thongor of Valkarth. For completeness, back a few years to the first book, The Wizard of Lemuria, which chronicles Thongor's conquest of the Dragon Kings with the aid of the sorcerer-alchemist, Sharaajsha. The second volume, Thongor of Lemuria, has our hero rising to the Sarkdom of Patanga. From rags to riches in two quick novels.

Thongor Against the Gods, is the third book and currently available. John Carter did it, Conan, and Elric of Melniboné too; so it should seem inevitable that Thongor cavort about the world seeking his "beloved Sumia," kidnapped by a cadre of his most powerful enemies. Makes me hope that Fafhrd and the Mouser continue to bed their fair wenches, not wed them.

The last book, Thongor in the City of Magicians, relates how Thongor "whelms" the mighty magicians of Zaarthe Black City -- a feat which is still beyond my comprehension.

This is going to be a quick swording and as such quite merciful. Bear with me.

In order to create a cohesive and interesting S & S world there must be some degree of internal coherency. Now, I'm always willing to suspend my disbelief, but when it comes to hanging it...well, no. First off, LinC mixes S & S with super science, not my favorite melange. Admittedly, it works fine sometimes -- in the hands of such craftsmen as Brackett, Kuttner, and de Camp, but not here. LinC wrote this as straight stuff, and tidbits like urlium flyers, brain transplants, et al are a bit hard to take, especially half a million years ago.

Secondly, there's the world itself. It's a cardboard mock-up (and not a very good one) of Burrough's Mars ser-

ies. Transpose the blue Rmoahal for the green skinned giants, urlium flyers for 8th ray flyers, and you get the picture. There are too many similarities and parallels to account for coincidence. If you've read neither author, start with Carter, then when you reach Burroughs you'll think you've got yourself from Hell to Heaven in one quick jump. You'll have more fun in Heaven, I assure you.

Another slash, the sword hand. Carter has a feel for the genre, though it consists of cliffhanger chapter endings and one battle scene after another, enough to glut a sadist. Then there's the style. He has that too; the only trouble is it's the same style same style same style. The city of Yb is always "immemorial Yb," whether on page 1, page 30, or page 100. Couldn't it be plain old ancient Yb for once? There's also "bluff, grizzled Mael," "old Jomdath," and quite a few others. Not much characterization, but plenty of action.

Lin also has trouble remembering what he wrote, or he doesn't proofread his work carefully. A glaring example of this is in City on p.51 where Thom Pervis mutters, "Shall we try a sortie? Take them by surprise?" This in regard to invisible bowmen. Question: How do you surprise an enemy you can't see? I don't know, but quick witted "Thongor chews the suggestion" over a bit. It's a wonder Thongor survived through four books with thinking like that.

The final thrust, a good foot of clean steel through the heart (Valkarthan steel, to be sure!) Lin has done some excellent amateur verse; unfortunately, his talent doesn't show here as we have some of the worst poetry he ever did. The only saving grace is that the verses rhyme; which doesn't save very much.

Carter finishes the last book with the words: IT IS ENDED. To which should be appended: THANK THE NINETEEN GODS!

DIANETICS IN PAPERBACK

Paperback Library will publish the first paperback edition of L. Ron Hubbard's controversial nationwide best-seller, Dianetics: A New Science of Mental Health, in January 1969. Although this book climbed to a high place on the New York Times Bestseller List some years ago, and stayed there for an impressive period, no paperback edition was ever issued in this country.

REVIEWS cont. from p.15

the reader is rapidly caught up in Laferty's narrative pyrotechnics and is rewarded with a totally enjoyable reading experience.

--D.C. Paskow

Bibliomania

NEW HARDCOVERS

- Bova, Ben. Out of the Sun. Holt, Aug. \$2.95
- Christopher, John. The Pool of Fire (juv) Macmillan, Aug. \$4.25
- Coatsworth, Elizabeth. The Enchanted; An Incredible Tale (borderline fant, reprint) Pantheon
- Coblentz, Stanton A. The Day the World Stopped. Avalon. \$3.50
- Emerson, Caroline D. The Magic Tunnel (juv, reprint) 4 Winds, Aug. \$3.95
- Hasse, Henry L. The Stars Will Wait. Avalon. \$3.50
- Merril, Judith, ed. England Swings SF: Stories of Speculative Fiction. Doubleday, Aug. \$5.95
- SF 12. Delacorte, Aug. \$5.95
- Parker, Richard. The Hendon Fungus (juv) Meredith. \$3.95
- Vonnegut, Kurt. Welcome to the Monkey House (coll) Delacorte, Aug. \$5.95

NEW PAPERBACKS

- Alexander, Lloyd. Time Cat (juv fty) Avon Camelot ZS139, Aug. 60¢
- Amis, Kingsley and Robert Conquest, eds Spectrum 5 (reprint) Berkley S1595, Aug. 75¢
- Anderson, Poul. Three Worlds to Conquer (reissue) Pyramid X1875, Aug. 60¢
- Asimov, Isaac. Foundation (reissue) Avon V2248, Aug. 75¢
- Biggle, Lloyd, Jr. All the Colors of Darkness (reissue) Paperback Lib. 53-746, Aug. 60¢
- Born, Franz. Jules Verne; the Man Who Invented the Future (juv nf, reissue) Scholastic Book Service T838, Aug. 50¢
- Burroughs, Edgar Rice. The Moon Maid. Ace G745, Aug. 50¢
- Christopher, John. The Little People (reprint) Avon V2243, Aug. 75¢
- Clarke, Arthur C. 2001: A Space Odyssey (reprint) Signet Q3580, July. 95¢
- Davidson, Avram, ed. The Best From Fantasy and Science Fiction: 14th Series. Ace A17, Aug. 95¢
- Gaskell, Jane. Atlan (reprint) Paperback Lib. 55-738, Aug. 95¢
- Grinnell, David. Across Time (reprint) Ace G728, June. 50¢
- Gunn, James. The Immortals (reissue) Bantam H3915, Aug. 60¢
- Janifer, Laurence. A Piece of Martin Cann. Belmont B50-811, June. 50¢
- Laumer, Keith. Assignment in Nowhere. Berkley X1596, Aug. 60¢
- Mark, Ted. Come Be My ORGY. Berkley S1564, Aug. 75¢
- Merril, Judith, ed. SF: The Best of the Best (reprint) Dell 0508-1, Aug. 95¢
- Meyers, Roy. Daughters of the Dolphin (sequel to Dolphin Boy) Ballantine 72001, Aug. 75¢
- Moorcock, Michael. Sword of the Dawn

- (3d of Runestaff series) Lancer 73-761, Aug. 60¢
- Mundy, Talbot. The Nine Unknown. Avon V2242, Aug. 75¢
- Norton, Andre. Sorceress of the Witch World. Ace H84, Aug. 60¢
- Robeson, Kenneth. Mystery Beneath the Sea; Doc Savage #27. Bantam F3755, Aug. 50¢
- Santesson, Hans Stefan, ed. Flying Saucers in Fact and Fiction (new ed) Lancer 74-953, Aug. 75¢
- Shaw, Bob. The Two-timers. Ace H79, Aug. 60¢
- Sheckley, Robert. The People Trap. Dell 6881-1, Aug. 60¢
- Shulman, Sandra. The Daughters of Asteroth. Paperback Lib. 53-689, July. 60¢
- Smith, E. E. Masters of the Vortex (orig: Vortex Blasters) Pyramid X1851, Aug. 60¢
- Smith, H. Allen. Rhubarb (fty, reissue) Pocket Books 75287, Aug. 75¢
- Sohl, Jerry. Costigan's Needle (reprint) Avon S349, Aug. 60¢
- Stern, Philip Van Doren. Strange Beasts and Unnatural Monsters. Fawcett Crest R1166, Aug. 60¢
- Tubb, E. C. Derai / Juanita Coulson. The Singing Stones. Ace H77, Aug. 60¢
- Verne, Jules. The Hunt for the Meteor. Ace H78, Aug. 60¢
- Wells, H.G. The Time Machine, and The War of the Worlds. Fawcett Premier Masterworks T384, Aug. 75¢

Fanzines

- EUROPEAN LINK 4. Jean Muggoch, 15 Balcombe House, Taunton Place, London N.W.1, England. Bi-monthly. 1/6d. News
- HOOM 1. Bee Bowman, 1223 Crofton Ave., Waynesboro, Va. 22980. Quarterly. Tolkien
- JOURNAL OF THE AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION v.1 no.9. Box 852, P.O., Canberra City, A.C.T. 2601, Australia
- NEWFANGLES 13. Don & Maggie Thompson, 8786 Hendricks Rd., Mentor, Ohio 44060. Monthly. 10¢ ea. Comics news
- NO-EYED MONSTER 14. Norman Masters, 720 Bald Eagle Lake Rd., Ortonville, Mich. 48462. Irreg. 30¢ ea, 4/\$1
- PLAK-TOW 8. Shirley Meech, Apt. B-8, 260 Elkton Rd., Newark, Del. 19711. Irreg. 10/\$1. Star Trek
- PSYCHOTIC 26. Richard Geis, P. O. Box 3116, Santa Monica, Calif. 90403. Monthly. 25¢ ea. General
- SCIENCE FICTION TIMES 84. Hans Alpers, 2850 Bremerhaven 1, Weissenburger Str. 6, Germany. Monthly. \$1/year. News (in German)
- WRR v.4 no.1. Wally Weber, Box 267, 507 3rd Ave., Seattle, Wash. 98104. Irreg. Contributions

Reviews

CHTHON by Piers Anthony. Ballantine U6107, 1967. 252 p. 75¢

Chthon is a game that Piers Anthony has played rather well. Unfortunately it remains only a game and never actually comes alive. The book is well written and well put together for what it is. The problem though is not what it is but what it attempts to be.

Chthon runs the gamut of sadism, masochism, oedipus, etc. without ever pausing for a breather. The author uses symbolism like Green Stamps, plastering the entire novel with it. The plastering may at points be quite profound but after a while it doesn't seem to matter any more. It bogs down under its own weight.

The title comes from the name of the prison planet in the novel. It is on this mining world rich in garnets and tunnels that Aton Five, the hero (or anti-hero depending on the way you look at things) is doomed to exist for the rest of his days. The reason for his exile and all his other problems is his love of a 'minionette', the fabled offshoot of humanity that spells bad news for all who hold any emotion for them, be it love or hate.

As if the environment weren't enough along with Aton's psychological hang-ups, the author dices the whole book right down the middle so that its eighteen chapters become thirty-six with each chapter having a symbolic twin sprinkled elsewhere in the book.

Anthony may have spent considerable time writing Chthon and may disavow its being autobiographical, but to the average reader it'll seem like one long Ego Trip.

--S. Michaels

CRYPTOZOIC! by Brian Aldiss. Doubleday 1968. 224 p. \$4.50

Aldiss maintains the haunting musical quality of his recent contributions to F&SF in this story of a time wandering Edward Bush. Bush literally haunts the corridors of time burdened by phantoms both real and imaginary.

His wanderings are not all aimless however, as he has been given the specific assignment from home time (2093) to find and destroy a Professor Silverstone who may or may not have the answers to Bush's tortured existence.

This is a beautiful novel which every reader must judge for himself. Bush is a time addict -- how much can we believe his observations? Professor Silverstone may or may not be a fraud but he is believed dangerous. And then there is Bush's Dark Woman...

Do read this.

--D.C. Paskow

THE REEFS OF EARTH by R. A. Lafferty. Berkley X1528, 1968. 144 p. 60¢

This is the story that Lafferty told:

There was a family named Dulanty -- two brothers, their wives, and six kids (seven, if you count Bad John). Now this was no ordinary family. They were Pucas -- sort of an alien cross between an earthman and a goblin. Well, misfortune befell the parents and the kids (as kids are wont to do with lack of supervision) decided that it would be a pretty good idea if they were to depopulate the Earth. Being Pucas, they set about their grim task with a great amount of uncommon vigor. Sound like a tall tale your Uncle Joe used to tell? Or maybe Zenna Henderson's People through a fractured crystal ball? Actually it's R. A. Lafferty's answer to Mark Twain's Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer with a dash of Thorne Smith to spice up the stew. Farce and high hilarity prevail as Lafferty exercises his author's rights to the fullest and manages to mangle the King's English and still come up smelling like a rose -- albeit somewhat tainted.

--R. Brisson

ATTAR OF THE ICE VALLEY by Leonard Wibberley. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1968. 166 p. \$3.50

Leonard Wibberley, best known for his three novels about the Duchy of Grand Fenwick, two of which were made into films, has been writing novels for the juvenile market recently. Unlike the above-mentioned series, these are adventure novels. Last year saw his first space juvenile, Encounter Near Venus, here now is his first fantasy.

If you enjoy the fantasy of the pre-historic caveman, you'll like this tale, of Attar the Neanderthal. Despite its classification as a juvenile it doesn't read like one. The setting is the middle of an ice age, when all life is steadily retreating from the advancing glaciers. The story details the struggle to survive, the superstitions of primitive races, and the social order these would likely produce. Attar, as you might expect, is the catalyst, leading his family out of the dead-end valley in which the advancing glaciers have trapped them. But there's more here, and I recommend it.

--F. Maxim

CHOCKY by John Wyndham. Ballantine U6119, February. 221 p. 75¢

John Wyndham is a competent writer. At times (The Midwich Cuckoos, The Day of the Triffids, Rebirth) he is masterful. When he is good, he is very very good and when he is bad he is competent. Chocky is by the Competent Wyndham.

Chocky is a something that attaches itself to young Matthew. Well, it seems that all youngsters have invisible friends at one time or another (I must admit I was denied the friendship of an invisible being; I never even saw a Purple Cow) so at first Chocky is ignored. Soon it becomes evident that Chocky is more than a figment of Matthew's imagination, and that brings up the question as to what Chocky is. And what Chocky wants.

I found that I couldn't really care.
--D.C. Paskow

VICTORY ON JANUS by Andre Norton. Ace G703, 1968. 190 p. 50¢

I never did warm up to Andre Norton until I got interested in her excellent swords-and-sorcery series about the Witch World. Now I find myself picking up her other books too. Victory on Janus is the name of one of her latest: the second in what I imagine (and hope) will be a series. Not s&s but rather science-fantasy and quite enjoyable. A group of green-skinned changelings (IfTs) are involved in the traditional "Alien-Menace Threatens to, etc." plot but it moves along quite well; a bit of swordplay here, science there, and fantasy elsewhere, all hanging together loosely. A trick ending that shouldn't surprise too many and THAT and IT, names for the Menace, which manage to abound profusely (pardon the redundancy, but you do get the point) are the only gripes, and minor ones at that.

--R. Brisson

ASIMOV'S MYSTERIES by Isaac Asimov. Doubleday, 1968. 228 p. \$4.50

Here are fourteen newly collected science fiction mysteries, each with a Hitchcockian note of introduction or conclusion. Each puzzle completely satisfies the canons of the mystery story, working itself out in the presence of the reader to a startling, logical denouement. Asimov embellishes with sharp wordplay his own fresh versions of the basic mystery plots -- the search for lost or stolen treasure and the who-dun-it. Six of the stories feature Wendell Urth, Dr. Asimov's isosyllabic counterpart of The Great Detective. "What's in a Name," a murder in a chemistry library, might have been a preliminary sketch for A Whiff of Death. Noteworthy in this collection is a reprint of "Marooned Off Vesta," Asimov's first published science fiction story, and "Anniversary," its twenty year sequel (1959). Both might have been written yesterday. This collection is recommended especially for those who wished for another like Caves of Steel and The Naked Sun.

--C.E. Woodruff

THE LINCOLN HUNTERS by Wilson Tucker. Ace Science Fiction Special H62, 1968. 192 p. 60¢

This is undoubtedly the finest of Mr. Tucker's time travel novels. Ben Steward is a member, or rather "character", (for his ability to take the part of various characters was an invaluable asset) of Time Researchers. His current assignment is to travel 722 years into the past to gain evidence of a possible lost speech of Abraham Lincoln. However, once having arrived in 1856, Ben Steward finds himself stranded. The world of 2478 was bad enough but if he were to remain in 1856 he would soon exist in a time segment he has already visited and two Ben Stewards must not exist.

Wilson Tucker's greatest talent is in the creation of real people and atmospheres. Doc Bonner, Karl Dobbs, Ben Steward and the others are all refreshingly "alive". It's a pity that it took ten years for The Lincoln Hunters to gain paperback publication; those who missed the Rinehart hardback should run, repeat run, to their nearest book outlet and buy this classic.

--D.C. Paskow

IMPLOSION by D.F. Jones. Putnam, 1968. 223 p. \$4.95

International hanky-panky renders most of England's female population incapable of conception. Those women still capable of becoming pregnant are taken to special breeding areas for the purpose of bearing as many children as possible during their fertile period.

Social mores are, of course, immediately affected as marriage takes on little meaning. Guards at these breeding areas are sterile women who take out their frustrations on the inmates. In toto, a vision of hell which nevertheless falls short of the magnitude of terror achieved by the author in his memorable first novel, Colossus.

--D.C. Paskow

THE AVENGERS #6: THE DROWNED QUEEN by Keith Laumer. Berkley X1565, June. 127 p. 60¢

Emma Peel is out and Tara King is in in this sixth novel from the popular ABC series, the second by Keith Laumer.

In this one, Steed and King are aboard a luxury liner which takes up where the Titanic left off. The drowned queen of the title is the "Atlantic Queen", the world's first convertible luxury liner. The "Atlantic Queen" is also a submarine but even this fact may not be sufficient to save her from a fate such as the Titanic suffered on her maiden voyage. Hence the presence of Steed and King.

In all, another highly competent job by Keith Laumer, maintaining the fun atmosphere of the teleseries.

--D.C. Paskow

EINSTEIN INTERSECTION by Samuel R. Delany. Ace F427, 1967. 142 p. 40¢

Like most of Chip Delany's novels, a mixed bag. Delany can get quite symbolic at times; enough to coggle your mind if you try and figure everything out. The future some time after an atomic Holocaust. Mutants and functionals -- Lobey, Kid Death, La Friza, Spider. Also to entertain you are the Devil and Christ, Billy the Kid and Pat Garrett, and maybe a few people you won't recognize. It doesn't matter if you recognize them for who they are or what they stand for. It's enough that they're alive and at you, full of the joy of living, and the sadness too. Delany infuses in his characters a scope and depth that should make him a model to many of the field's newer writers. Forget the symbolisms, metaphors, significance and sit back and enjoy the people and the landscape.

--R. Brisson

A WORLD OF THEIR OWN by George E. Shirley. Vantage Press, 1965. 67p. \$2.50.

THE ROBOT RULERS by George E. Shirley. Vantage Press, 1967. 77p. \$2.50

A WORLD BEYOND by George E. Shirley. Vantage Press, 1967. 80p. \$2.50

These three sf titles, by this previously unknown author, were recently brought to our attention. George E. Shirley, however, has a long way to go before he will receive much attention in the sf field. They read like the works of an amateur writer, someone with no previous writing experience, but plenty of time, who decides to take up the sideline of writing. The author, now 50, has had a varied career, including much hunting and fishing, and these activities are liberally sprinkled through the stories.

A World of Their Own concerns a family on vacation in Canada, who find themselves the last living people in North America, following the explosion of a nuclear plant near Kansas City. The Robot Rulers take over Australia, kidnap many scientists, and plan to take over the balance of the world. A World Beyond is Manz, a previously undiscovered, inhabited planet located beyond Mars. Russia locates it first, takes over and establishes a communist state. All end happily, tritely so, I'm afraid, with American ingenuity winning the day, everyone back home together, and all couples properly engaged or married.

--F. Maxim

BUTTERFLY KID by Chester Anderson. Pyramid X1730, 1967. 190 p. 60¢

The Butterfly Kid, a Hugo nominee for Best Novel, stacks up as outrageously funny and possibly the ultimate in fannish writing. Other than that it has very little going for itself. There is nothing worth remembering about it and it's very likely you'll forget it as soon as you put it down. The story concerns a group of blue alien lobsters (yep, you heard me) who intend on conquering the world with hallucinogens that make each person's fondest psychedelic nightmare come true. Sort of solid-state freak-outs. While you're reading it you'll be caught up in the electric style, the turned-on Happenings, the whacked-out characters, and wondering "What are these silly-assed Hippies going to do next?" It's groovy while it lasts, but nothing more.

--R. Brisson

PAST MASTER by R.A. Lafferty. Ace H54, March. 191 p. 60¢

R. A. Lafferty, whose short stories have graced the pages of the Galaxy group of magazines for several years, has now produced a full length novel, and a curiously uneven affair it is. A world of the distant future is falling apart and its three ruling figures are desperately trying to find a way to restore some semblance of sanity. As a hoped for solution they summon a figure from the past -- a past master -- Thomas More: statesman, lawyer, humanist.

From the time of More's arrival in the "present" to the book's conclusion, the narrative takes on all the aspects of a roller coaster ride in a manner reminiscent of Philip K. Dick. The fantasy and madness, however, is all Lafferty's.

What makes the book uneven is the recurrent lack of unity between chapters. Some chapters could be excerpted entirely from the book and reprinted as short stories without disturbing the balance of the novel. Despite this fact (Continued on Page 11)(Sorry about that!)

BEYOND IMAGINATION cont. from Page 10

worthy of being picked up even though its price tag is a bit high.

LOOKING AHEAD

THE FARTHEST REACHES

Edited by Joseph Elder

Trident Press, Sept. \$4.95

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