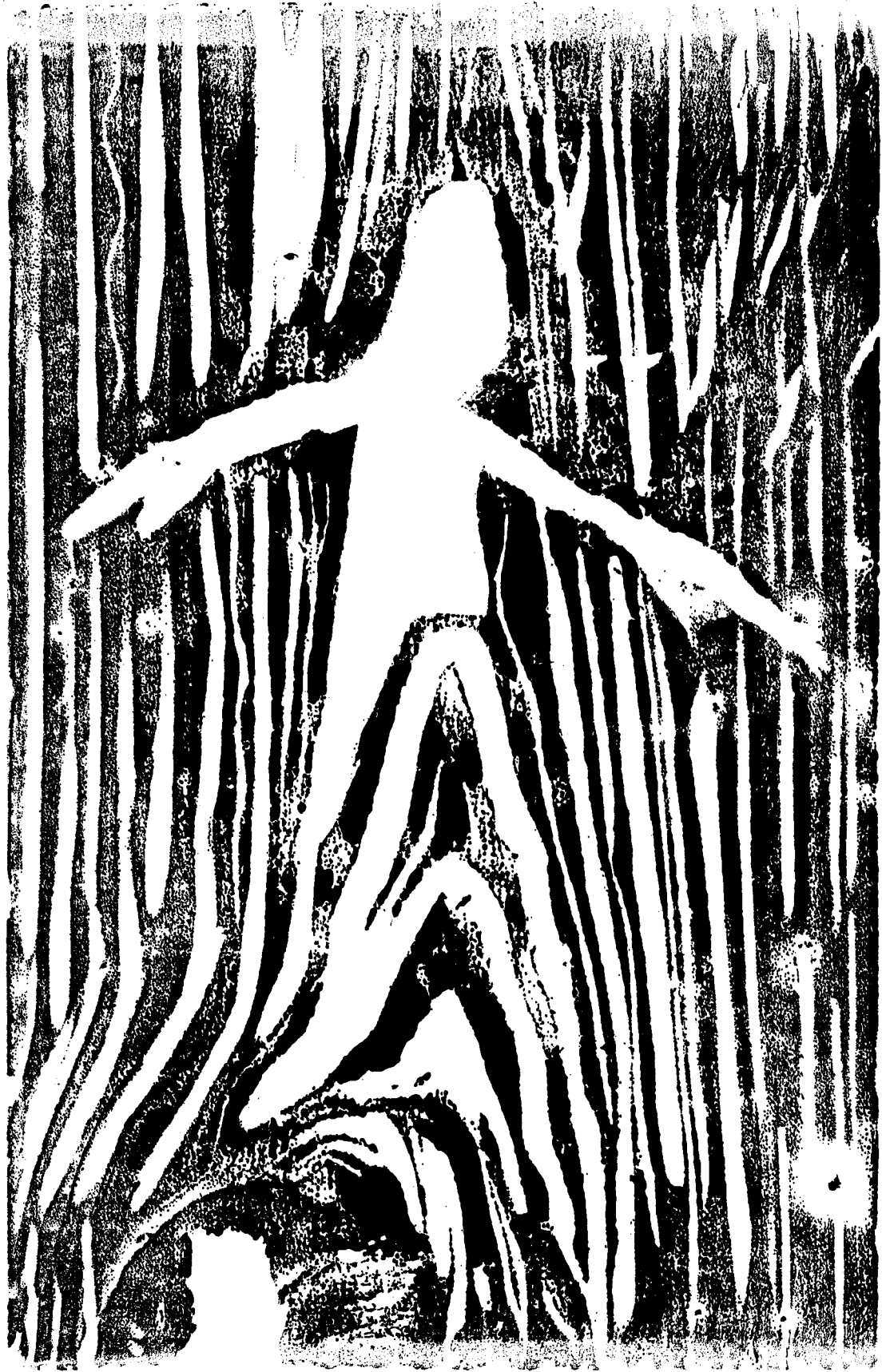


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of his friends have not lived to retire. After working all his life on the docks, Father is trying to live to Sept. so he can retire (he has had 2 heart attacks). Before the strike he was working on the average of 1 day a week, and really living on the \$35 a week unemployment insurance. But you can't get that while you're on Strike.

My brother, Carl, (he is 6 years younger than I), joined the Air Force just before he was drafted. He only needs 1 more year at Texas A&I to get his degree in Electrical Engineering. The Air force signed him up for 4 years and put him into electronics, where he wanted to go. Not that he is happy. He doesn't like the Air Force. Anyway, he was sent to Turkey, where he has been for the past year. Stuck upon a hill top 50 miles from Anakara (the nearest town of any size). There are some small villages fairly close to his base. It is an hour's walk to the village and a two hour walk back because they have to climb the hill. And it snows there. Which was a shock to Carl. He has seen more snow in the past year than in all of the rest of his life. In the village they visited, all the men came out to shake their hands. But none of the women came out. Carl did see one girl washing her clothes at the village spring--on her knees doing it by hand. They still use donkeys for transportation.

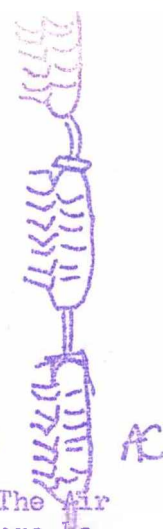
He made Sargent, which made him happy until most of the people under him were transferred to another base and Carl had to start working again. Now he is in Italy. Before he went he had to undergo a Security check. The FBI came around and questioned all his friends. It shook up his girl friends mother. She isn't used to being questioned by the FBI. Our next door neighbor found it a big thrill. Now he is in Italy, between Venice and Innsbruck (I think). Up in the mountains. I hope he learns to ski while he is there.

From his last letter: I spent a day in Venice on the way up here. It was cold and so foggy you couldn't see across the grand canal. It is a dirty old grubby looking place. Hotels are cheap though. Glass ware is cheap too. Clothes are definitely reasonable. I rode a train up to near here from Venice. It wasn't too bad. The trains here are electric. They are fast, and pretty smooth. They stop too often though.

He is really thrilled by this opportunity to travel, isn't he. Oh well, enough of that. On to the mailing comments, such as they are.

Alliance Amateur #39, Roy Tackett--So we finally had a waiting list. Too bad the shock was so great. Welcome to the new members. May you all enjoy yourselves. Roy, you aren't out for good, I hope.

Guano--art Hayes--As far as I am concerned you are the OE, until I hear differently from the Directorate anyway. So congrats, if that's what you give an OE. Oh, yes, any zines of mine that are extra, please send to Seth Johnson's fanzine clearing house. I will reimburse you for the postage. I hope the manilla envelopes last under the FO's handling. From some of the things I have received, I kind of doubt it.

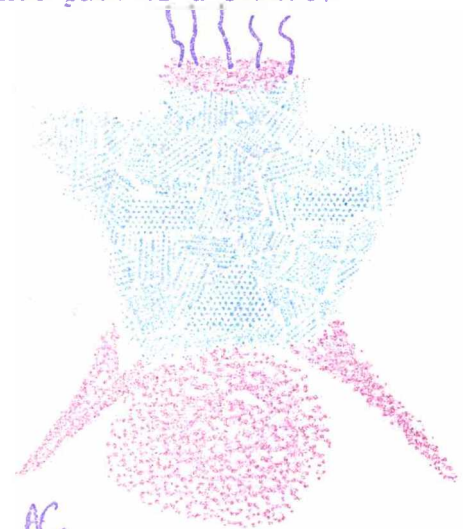


Half life--Stan Woolston-- Thanks for mentioning the Tape Bureau.. By now (Feb) I have issued 3 Replays (the Bureau zine, monthly as long as I have stuff to put in it, any of you want on the mailing list?), the bureau has a project starting (are any of you interested in taping books etc for the blind? Contact Nick A Grassel, 14432 Polk, Taylor, Mich, 48180 for more details), there are several members interested in taperepondence, and others interested in trading tapes of talks, etc. Personally, I want to build up a library of tapes of fannish interest, from cons and elsewhere. If any of you all have something along this line, I'd like to hear about it. The Bureau is getting a fair selection of tapes and is always interested in new members.

I read Man of Many Minds and enjoyed it enough to buy the sequel, Alien Minds. Which I also like. I still have the two hcs. Panshin's first Villie rs story is Star Well. Both it and Thurb Revolution were fun books to read. There really wasn't much action, and what there was detracted from the enjoyment of the story, but I enjoyed the books. I have been rereading them, and I keep finding things I missed before. I actually had to look up two words in the dictionary, very unusual for me. "o you know what copacetic and fardel mean? I do now. Oh, yes. Moondust is not part of a series. As far as I could tell, it does not tie in with The Weirwoods at all. Moondust takes place in and around Jerico with Joshua camping on the outskirts of the city.

2001 Light Years from Home and T.A.Reader.--

Jerry "apidus--I agree, "Man of La Mancha" is very good. I saw the road show in Houston, and spent an engrossing 2 hours and 20 minutes. And I went out and bought the record. For best prozine I'm going to vote for Analog again, unless it comes up with better stories then they have been running. I still read Analog the day I get it. I don't always do that for it. In fact, I put off writing this while I read the March Analog and I've had the Feb. If for a week and still haven't read it. Pegasus goes to a lot of other people besides N'APA. Too many I'm beginning to think. I was lucky as a child. My parents also encouraged my reading and I read everything. For instance, I read the Burton translation of the Arabian Nights before I was 15. Have you ever read this translation? It is a lot different from the childrens stories. when you have a few hours to spare you might dig into it. I'd be interested in what people think of it.



AC

Low Down--Richard Labonte--I'd like to see LD this year too. It sounds like a good thing for people like me who not only haven't read some of the Hugo nominees, but don't intend to. (for instance--Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep will probably be one, but I don't intend to read it), I did read Stand on Zanzibar and it is quite good.

Mini-yun--Frank Lunny-- Strange Names? I know a man whose first name is Cooper. My boss's middle name is Lowry. And a co-worker is called Fran (or Franic) short for Franichecick, or something like that. Po Piers isn't bad. Dallas is really working for the con in 73. I haven't heard anything from the New Orleans bunch except they want the bid.

Guano--Art Hayes--Finally people are investigating the effects of marijuana. It came out in a Dec. issue (I think) of Science. I have a copy but I'm too lazy to get up and find it. Anyway they found that marijuana does not dilate the pupils, but it does make your eyes bloodshot. The first time you smoke marijuana your reflexes, etc, are impaired and you don't do as well on tests as before you smoked. But experienced marijuana smokers do better on some tests after smoking and don't do worse on any of them after smoking. Also, you have to be taught to feel the effects. You don't get very high the first time. In other words, the more often you smoke the less it takes to make you high. Apparently because you have learned to detect the effects.

Green Gruzak--Wally Weber--If you have an extra copy of WNR I'd like to see it. I've read good and bad reviews of it, so it should be interesting.

Hoom--Bee Bowman and Frank Denton--Did you read the 100th Millenium? If you ever run across it do so (it's an Ace double). When you compare it with Catch a Falling Star you can see how John Brunner's talent has matured since 1959. The ending is the same in the two books, and the beginning is about the same, but inbetween it is quite different. The Tape Bureau is going well right now. I foresee having to cut back this semester, but hopefully the Tape Bureau won't be part of the cutback. I enjoyed all of Hoom but can't think of anything else to say about it (it's getting late and I have to go to work in the morning). So many thanks for sending it to me.

