

Hmm, what'll it be this quarter? I'm running low on "A's"...lessee what Brad Day comes up with in his checklist.... How does

AMAZING ADVENTURES

strike you as the title of SAPSzine No 13 published by Ed Meskys (% Metcalf, Box 336, Berkeley 1) on 15 July 1963 for the 64th mailing? I suppose it'll do, especially since I'll run out of titles in another year or so.

Since everyone else seems to be talking about furin films I suppose I might as well put in my own bit. They set up a film society here at the lab for the employees which specializes in showing foreign films. My immediate boss is one of the people running the deal and finally talked me into coming to one of the films. Thus it was that I saw last week the Sweedish film "Miss Julie."

The throwaway for the whole series gives very little info on any particular film. For instance, on this one it meerly says "Dir by A Sjoberg, stars Anita Bjork. Based on a Strindberg play, this powerful film is a study of a repressed, neurotic woman, her relationship with her mother and with her servant." Yeah, sure it is. But to me that blurb bears an implication that there is something similar about the two relationships...and there sure ain't!

The main character, "Miss Julie," is a rather badly mixed up mental case, but nothing at all like the nut her mother was.

I gather that the heroine was supposed to be about 20 or so, and is very immature for her age. The whole thing takes place during a traditional summer solstace party among the servants on her father's estate. She is always teasing and making passes at the servants, and this one time things go a little too far. There is a long scene where each tells about him/her-self and his/her childhood and how miserable it was, he ends up seducing her, and after a long scene during which she moans about what she has done and contemplates various schemes for running away from home "so as not to hurt her father" she takes his suggestion and kills herself. There is the implication that this was the final culmination of schemes on the part of her late mother, who hated everything feminine, for revenge upon her father.

OK, the picture was pretty good, and certainly better than most of the domestic product. However I am not an avid film fan and I don't expect to buy a pass to the rest of the series. (Included are "Earrings of Madam De" (French), "Rocco & His Brothers"(Italian), "Carnival in Flanders", "Gates of Paris," "The 7 Deadly Sine," and a half dozen others. They are shown evenings at essentially 2 week intervals.

As I was saying, it was good but I'm not really a film fan. I go to a commercial movie only about once a year, and back in New York I belonged to the "Film Group" and "Theodore Huff Memorial Film Society" largely because a number of friends did and I went to the meetings to see them.

By the way, a certain European fad seems to be creeping into this country. My supervisor, the one responsible for the film society, showed me some pocketbooks published in France which gave the script of a film and which was illustrated by some 50 or 100 stills from the movie. I see Ballantine has just done the same thing with "La Dolce Vita" which it issued for 75¢. After all these interesting writeups of the film in Warhoon my curiosity is aroused and I'll probably pick up the book.

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Guess it's time I did some MC's. As I start this master I've read just a little under half of the current mailing, including the monstrous POOR RICHARD'S ALMANAC. Yoiks, but Rich had guts to do such a large thing, thing, and with justified margins yet! Oh well...

PLONK NO 1 ΣΣΣ Rich Brown ΣΣΣ I suppose "leverage" was intended to be witty, but it gave me the impression of pure padding to try to fill space. Did like the Mulligans, tho, and hope you provide a key to the references.* ααα I suppose that no-one outside of LA will ever know the true story of Leslie Norris...if even they know! *At least to the first two...the second two were for the most part obvious.

YESIDEE 3 ΣΣΣ Dian Girard ΣΣΣ I have a rather low opinion of the "American" auto club, so the national one must be really bad! (My main gripe with the AAA is the way they fight every scheme for improvement of public transportation.) ααα The story is moving along rather smoothly, but may I suggest that next time you include a synopsis of past events? I haven't yet gotten around to digging out the last mailing and still don't remember how the hero got the trinket which set him off on his pilgrimage. And it took me a few pages to get into the thing again.

POOR RICHARDS ALMANAC 15 ΣΣΣ Rich Brown ΣΣΣ As I said above, yoiks! I met Stanbery on my trip up to Seattle last September, and he didn't strike me as in the least unusual. The quiet, unassuming type. The first few times I tried to phone Tosk he was out chasing girls so I talked to Paul. He made a bit of a fuss about not being a well known fan and wondering if I had ever heard of him. Well, I did remember some fine song parodies by him that Bruce Pelz had printed in his N'APAZine some 6 months previously, so I complimented him on those. With what struck me as some embarrassment he brought up Coventry too, and said he was somewhat infamous because of it. I admitted having heard of the thing and his connection with it. ααα When I finally did get to visit Tosk a few days later Paul was there of course, and I saw the mss of his novel. I believe it was complete but he was in the middle of revising it. Of course in the very limited time I had available I couldn't try to read the massive manuscript.

The last sentence on page 49 of the play is "You're just a blob," and by a coincidence it was just this one word which had the centers of its letters punched out and was overinked so that the word itself IS a blob.

As I said at the top of the page, I read this thing. I'm afraid that Paul didn't succeed in communicating too well and I'm still vague as to what the whole point to the thing is. It seems to change direction several times until I wonder if it has one at all. But something THIS leaborate simply couldn't be a hoax...Paul really must have been trying to say something. I'll admit it took me three days to plow thru the thing, and a 2nd reading would clarify some points, but I doubt that I'll ever get around to trying again. There are just too many other things that I want to read for the first time. (Or re-read, like lord of the Rings and Gather, Darknes's!) ααα Initially it seemed to have the rather standard but still viable theme of imperfection of communication...that a person's ideas become emasculated when he tries to convey them to someone he considers important. But then all sorts of shifts take place. ααα And I found the cuteness of the characters' admitting they know they're on stage, and addressing themselves directly to the

AMAZING ADVENTURES:3/// audience irritating. aya I gather this was not seriously meant to be a play to be performed, but a "closet drama"--a narrative written in the form of a play merely for convenience. Right?

FARAGO NO 2 ΣΣΣ Larry Grilly ΣΣΣ Who did your cover? It isn't bad.

POT POURRI NO 27 ΣΣΣ John Berry ΣΣΣ You seem to be turning to writing serious fiction. First there was "Fingerman" in Xero 10, and now this. Both were rather good, and I'm looking forward to more.

OUTSIDERS 51 ΣΣΣ Wrai Ballard ΣΣΣ Just got a letter from Betty Kujawa in which she mentioned that you probably won't be able to make the Westercon next week. I'm sorry to hear this, cause I was really beginning to look forward to meeting you. (I don't consider running into you in the hall one morning at the Chicon when we were both too bleary to notice anything as meeting you.) aya Blanchard in '66!

DIE WIS NO 8 ΣΣΣ Dick Schultz ΣΣΣ What is that lying on the foreground on the cover? aya The soldier printed on page two had an interesting effect on the cover. Because of showthru he was partly visible, and seemed to be a ghost advancing among the stars. I purposful effect like that might be an interesting experiment to pull one of these days. aya Another continued story with no βαδγ summary of previous events. Now cut this out!

Well, that's 2½ pages of pica, so I guess I've now met minac requirements and my membership is saved for another quarter. Now let's see how much further I can push this.

Huh? Vazis about a bullet having a weight of several hundred pounds because of its velocity? I am somewhat croggled by this statement and wonder just what you meant. Hmm, perhaps it's that the bullet exerted a force of several hundred pounds while being decelerated by the armor?

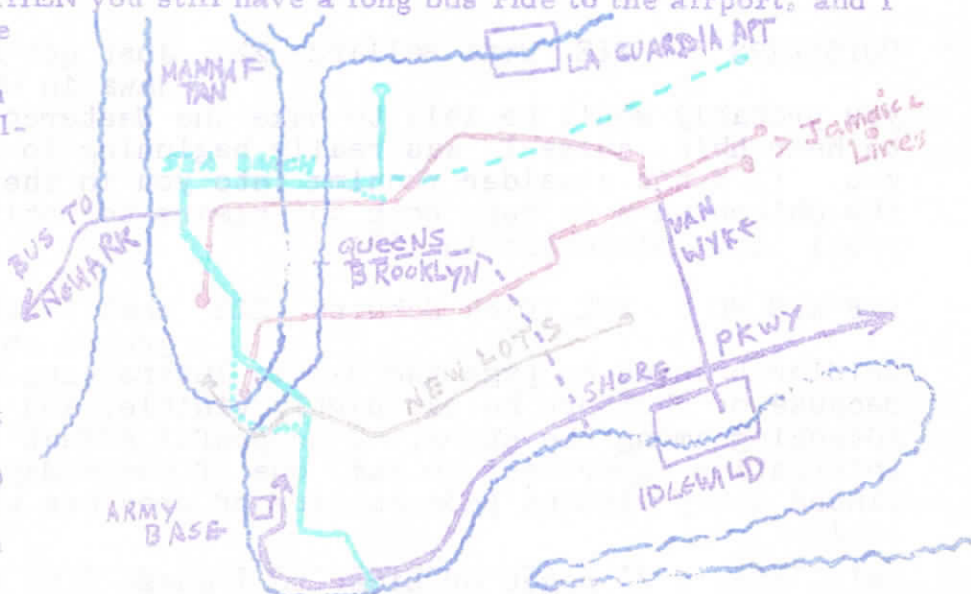
CHASTITY BELT ΣΣΣ John Foyster ΣΣΣ What? Another phys at in ///Oh, crud! I better go find another typer. This seems to be on the fritz. Not enuf pressure at the right, too much on the e b.///

Hmm, it's ages since I tried to use an Executive on Dotto masters. Last time, in fact, was in Sept 61 for N'APA and the results hadn't been too good. But lousy masters and the unusual "Directory" 14 point typeface hadn't helped either. It will be an interesting experiment to see how this comes out. Lessee, now, where was I? Oh yes,

Another physicist in fandom? Good grief, we seem to be taking over or somethign. Or were you in some other field and just somehow ended up teaching physics? At St. John's, the school I was last associated with, we had one person teaching physics and earth science (there is only one course in this field and hence to E.S. department as such) even tho his training had been in chemistry. A number of years ago the "School of Pharmacy" didn't have anyone to teach the survey physics course all of the Pharmacy students have to take and asked him to step in for a semester. Somehow he was never relieved from this and has taught physics ever since, & somehow even wound up getting the Earth Science course added on. About 4 years ago when the university finished the 2nd, "Science-Pharmacy", building of its new campus the SoP moved out to it and more or less merged with the College. As a result he became part of the College physics staff.

AMAZING ADVENTURES: 4/// IGNAZT no 33 555 Nancy Rapp 555 Now if Bruce hadn't been mean

but had used a pica typer or wider margins it wouldn't have been necessary for you to rush in that extra 1.2 pages. aya The remarks about passing thru Brooklyn remind me of a comment I forgot to make on SPACEWARP. Art talked about having to get from the Brooklyn Army Base [some 20 blocks from my old home... the Army Base is at 2 Av & 60 St, and I lived on 45th St between 7th & 8th Aves, and hope to again some day] to Idlewild Airport. I never did have to go there by public transit for my parents always drove me there and picked me up. But I do know that it is next to impossible to accomplish. You have to take the Sea Beach subway into Manhattan, and get one of the two Jamaica lines from there. THEN you still have a long bus ride to the airport, and I am totally unfamiliar with the Queens bus system. I would guess that one runs along van Wyke Blvd [I think I mis-spelled the name of that street] but I'm not sure. Hmm, I suppose you could also take the IRT New Lots Ave line to the end and a pair of busses to get there. /// Both of you mentioned passing many miles of row houses getting there. This implies you took the cross-country route instead of the Shore (or "Belt") Parkway. [Parkway is New Yorkese for a Freeway which permits no trucks or other commercial traffic. The first few were built in the 30's as scenic pleasure roads for Sunday afternoon drives, and I don't think they were supposed to get you anywhere. However they caught on, thanks in part to the local Auto Club, and until recently no Expressways [Newyorkese for Freeways, which do allow trucks] were built in the city... only Parkways. All but the very oldest are almost up to California Freeway standard, and the newest are; there is, however, a 45 MPH speed limit on all of them, raised in recent years from 35 MPH.] The Parkway is 5 or so miles longer, but there was an entrance a half dozen blocks from the Army Base, and it passes right in front of the airport.



I suppose if you had to get out there by semi-public transit, it would have been simplest to take a subway to the East Side Airlines Terminal and catch a limosine out. (30 minute subway ride to the Terminal, 1 hour to Jamaica. Running time of bus and limosine unknown.) Of all the airports in the NY area, the easiest to reach is Newark. A half hour subway ride to Times Square, 1 block to the Port Authority Bus Terminal, & a 25 minute, 40c, bus ride out there. When I was East last April & flew up to NY from DC I chose the plane to Newark and used that route to get home.

PLEASURE UNITS 4 555 Gordon Eklund 555 As Metcalf will probably tell you, Avalon also puts out a regular hardcover SF line --but that because every book MUST be printed on exactly the same number of pages the stories are usually butchered pretty badly. While they were available from "Pick-A-Book at \$1.20 a few were worth it, but no more now that Marty Greenberg has raised the price to \$2. aya "Tales of Tomorrow"... I remember watching that... in 1950, I think, same time as "Out there" on the CBS network. As I remember it, OT was the better of the two most weeks, with ToT being nothing but a weak imitation. A little later ToT took to broadcasting cruddy horror stories, then lost its title. That is, the curddy horror stories continued but the program had no title. A few weeks later it disappeared altogether. About the same time it turned up on the radio... WJZ in New York. I think that's the "American" network. There it was VERY good, sponsored by Galaxy and doing (for the most part) stories from its pages. The first one I

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AMAZING ADVENTURES: 5 /// heard was Fritz Leiber's "The Moon is Green" from (I believe) the then current issue. About the same time Willy Ley had a 15 minute radio program called "For Your Information" in which he answered questions sent in by the listeners.

FLABBERGASTING number 26 \$\$\$ Burnett R Toskey \$\$\$ House on the Borderland came out as a pocket book about a year ago. α Lasers are nothing. Items appeared recently in some professional journals about a possible "Gamaser" which would emit coherent gamma rays. If developed, this will be the true "ray gun" of SF. γ photons would be stored in a crystal like that used in Mossbauer Effect experiments, and emitted in a controlled spurt. Several unclassified reports on this have appeared in the literature (I can't give the references right now because my notes are back in my office & I don't feel like going there. If anyone is interested, I'll either send them direct or mention them in a future SAPSzine.) Way it looks, this was something too new to get classified and that's why it got into print. Even if it is, I suppose nothing can prevent me from speculating about possible uses... I think I might try writing an article for my Genzine, NIEKAS. α I would guess that the sex novel was written by a Seattleite named something like "Greene." I seem to remember Buz reviewing several by him in CRY a year or 2 back.

NIFLHEIM no 3 \$\$\$ Dave Hulan \$\$\$ Ulp!

THE SEVEN EYES OF NINGAUBLE no 9 \$\$\$ Larry Anderson \$\$\$ Ulp!² And I thought I had had troubles with a detached retina! How long have you been attending classes at Missoula? If you go back far enough you might have been there when the father of one of the local fans was... if I remember correctly... dean of the faculty.

COLLECTOR \$\$\$ Howard DeVore \$\$\$ My, but you had fun!

That ends the MCs for now. I've run out of zines that I've read, and will have no more time to type masters before the Westercon at which I will give these masters to the OE. If time permits I'll finish the comments, and print some LOCs I got, between then & the deadline & mail the masters to Bruziver.

I am very uncertain as to what my address will be by when the next quarter rolls around. I had hoped it would be Falls Church, Virginia, but it is beginning to look like I will be in Livermore for another 6 months, perhaps a year. I came out for only a summer and I can't seem to escape.

I'm sorry about the skimpyness of my last few zines. And I don't hold out too much hope for the future because I'll probably be going back to school this fall. I finally see the end approaching on my MS, after 5 lousy years, and I suppose I ought to get started on the doctorate. It's two years since I've taken any classes and I'm worried a bit about being out of shape. And then, I'm now involved in a lot more fanac than I was then. Mebby I should take that job in San Diego... now that Ted's graduated there would be no fans to distract me from my studies, and I am SO easily distracted.

----- Well, till next mailing (or if I make it, till after the Westercon).-----

9 July, and I think I survived the Westercon. Didn't get too much out of the first two days, but that was because I was too tired to really enjoy myself. However the last two days really swung. I stuck with the official "wake" party 'till it broke up at 5:20 AM, watched the sunrise from the balcony, and then met Don Franson who drove me straight to the Rad Lab gates on his way to L.A. To put it mildly, I did not get much work done yesterday. In fact, when I arrived I was still a little high from the party. But enuf of this nonsense--back to MCs.

RESIS # 13 AAA Norm Metcalf AAA Are you putting us on, or is this really a term paper that you had the nerve to turn in?

AMAZING ADVENTURES 6 /// This is by far the worst piece of writing by you that I have seen. It reads as if you first drafted your term paper onto stencil, and used that for making your second (to be handed in) copy. I didn't mind your first paper because it was somewhat interesting, but please! Give us no more crud like this!

MEANINGLESS PILLAR POLE RESULTS AAA Norm Metcalf AAA My, but you came on bitter about the whole thing! ptp I doubt you got much of a response because 1) SAPS are too lazy to be bothered with the citing of references, and 2) many won't want to bother voting twice. Some parts of your system seem to be definite improvements, however, and I hope they are given a fairer trial next year. ptp I remember your pole came up in some conversation at the N3F oneshot party at the Trimbles' a few months ago. One of the points made was that some types of writing represent much more work than others. Thus, while a 3 page poem is unusually long, a 3 page article isn't and (usually) represents much less effort. The feeling was that this should be taken account of, and (for example) more than one point should be available for poetry. ptp I didn't vote in the 2nd pillar pole due to a simple lack of time.

THE PINK PLATYPUS, THE GREEN GIRAFFE, and the POLKA-DOTTED PANDA # 3 AAA Tom Armistead AAA When I make a typo on a ditto master, I strike it over and (if necessary) type an "x" in the margin to help find it. When I finish the page I cut the offender out with a sharp knife.

UTGARD # 1 AAA Dave Hulan AAA John Boardman told me, on my last visit to New York, of a rationalization he has come up with for the Pellucidar series. It is really stretching things a bit, involving both collapsed matter and anti-matter, but I better let him reveal the details himself in Lupoff's sequel to A READER'S GUIDE TO BARSOOM. ptp The problem of telling time when there is no day or night must arise in the polar areas...especially in underground havens during the winter months. It will also come up when astronauts begin taking really extensive trips. However in both cases I imagine living by a clock will retain the normal time sense. If the clock were to break down the results might be interesting, so some scientist might well perform that stunt in an isolation chamber. ptp No objections from me towards long book-reviews. But you say the Venus stories are your favorites? I'm crogled 'cause I've always heard that they represent ERB at his worst. I must admit this is only hearsay as I have never read anything by Burroughs. (That condition will be corrected soon, as I hope to read the Dover edition of The Moon Maid/The Land that Time Forgot in the next few months.)

MISTILY MEANDERING # 4 AAA Fred Patten AAA I too only caught a glimpse of Betty Kujaws at the Chicon, but I more or less made up for it at the Westecon. I had several very interesting conversations over a number of long stretches, tho even then we didn't cover everything we wanted to. Well, there's always the Discon.... ptp I wonder what does give with the various re-issues involving Gnome Press. Most of the FP & FPCI re-issues are quite simple. When a book is first published only some copies are bound. When these are sold, more are bound, etc. I understand that because of this there are a number of variations in the bindings of different copies of the same Lensman books, for instance. Marty inherited unbound sheets and at first had them bound with the original FP/FPCI design. But then he changed his mind and subsequent books have had Gnome Press bindings and d/w's. I understand, however, that some recent ones also have GP title pages which imply a new printing. ptp As for whether or not Gnome Press is dead, I don't know. The GP checklist published about a year ago in Mirage listed Heinlein's The Endless Frontier as his next book, but it has yet to appear. From a book-review in a recent New Worlds I see that it has been published in England as Orphans in the Sky.

ASTOUNDING STORIES OF SUPER SCIENCE AAA me AAA Apologies for the crudzine. ptp I did manage to get that paper ready in time, tho barely. But I didn't get the East Coast job I wanted so I failed in my main pur-

AMAZING ADVENTURES 7/// ((Halaluyah! I owe no pages next quarter)) pose.

And I guess that that finishes the mes for this quarter, except for a "thanks" to Bruce for continuing "The Distawf Side" and an "I enjoyed" to Karen on her story.

Oh, don't blame the lousy repro on Bruce this quarter, other than indirectly. His Ditto is on its last legs so he couldn't run my zine off. Therefore I had to do it myself, & as I type this the first 5 pages are done. As long as I stick to one side it doesn't look bad at all, but as soon as I print on the back the showthru kills everything. Oh well, I suppose this is caused by overfluiding and cheap paper.

Since I have some room left on this master, I might as well dig out the LOCs I got. Actually, all I have is two from Harry Warner and a VERY late PC from Frank Dietz. (Tho I got it recently, it commented on A Merrit's P M from 1.5 years ago!) Taking Harry's most recent letter first,

423 Summit Ave, Hagerstown, Md. May 30, 1963

Dear Ed:

Astounding Stories of Super Science makes me more happy than ever that I didn't go to see "The Birds" the Saturday night I had some spare time and it was at a theater to which I own a pass. I think it's nice to have birds hopping around me outdoors but after having a couple in the house with me I've decided that I definitely don't like them cooped up in the same cage that encloses me.

IN HIS PREVIOUS LETTER (of Oct 31, 62) HARRY HAD SAID:

Without any certainty about how you'll take the remark, I must say that you are starting to sound very much like Norm Metcalf in your fanzine. If you used mimeography, I would begin to have as much difficulty keeping you two separate in my mind as I do with Ed Cox and Lee Jacobs, even though I've met both of you and there's no physical resemblance.

This doesn't bother me any, tho I wonder how Norm will take it. First off, a lot of people seem to have stopped sending him fanzines but only send me one copy % him. He's been thinking of writing an article called "I am NOT Ed Meskys," and perhaps your letter will finally move him to do it. Also on a number of occasions he has told me that my writing style stinks so I don't imagine he'll take too kindly to your remarks for that reason too. I'm fairly style deaf, and this quarter I noticed anything really bad in Norm's writing, so it must have been really bad this time. ptp But I use mimeo in my N'APazine, tho I admit I only started doing so about the time of this letter.

Ibsen would agree with you about critics who find things in works that the authors didn't put there. Ibsen was amazed at the deep and subtle symbolism that he was credited by the experts with putting into Peer Gynt, and said about one such discovery, "I'd have never thought of doing that in a thousand years." Of course, the Freudians contend that it's done by the writer's subconscious, his id or ego, and that it matters not at all that the author doesn't realize all the wonderful things he's accomplishing.

Yrs., &c., Harry

And that brings another SAPSzine to a close. Till next quarter,

Ed Meskys