

WITH THIS ISSUE SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW IS DEAD!

In the months ahead, within the year, all subscription moneys due will be refunded.

All material--reviews, articles, artwork, will be returned.

WHY??????

Why have I taken this road, when SFR is more popular than ever, when the circulation is literally growing by the hundreds every issue?

BECAUSE the magazine is so successful...it is demanding, requiring, gobbling, more and more time and energy every day. I love to get mail, I love egoboo, but...but this hobby is too much of a good thing--as a hobby. And it is a slightly losing, to breakeven proposition as a business...

The result is that I suddenly, last week, this week, found myself spending five and six hours a day doing office work--tending the books, tending the subscriptions, writing business letters, arranging details with the printer...on and on. All the work of a full-time editor--publisher and none of the money that should command...

But it isn't the money that counts. It is the prospect of the future which looms---servicing a circulation of 2000 - 3000 - 4000... Yes, good friends, there is a potential eight or nine thousand paid subscriptions out there in the world for a magazine like SFR. But there is also madness.

I have to call a halt now. There is an overriding reason: I have books in my guts kicking and screaming to be born. If I keep on with SFR those books will not get written. They'll sour and rot and make me sick. I love SFR. I love editing the magazine, and writing for it. BUT BASICALLY, I AM A NOVELIST. I have to get back to my profession.

That is the very hard decision I have had to face up to. I have been promising myself and friends and others for over a year now---"I'll get around to writing some science fiction soon...soon..." But SFR took too much time, and it was all I could do to write enough easy-for-me porno to keep the bank balance in fairly good shape. Recently I missed some deadlines and caused an editor and publisher some problems...because I put SFR ahead of my professional writing.

THAT STOPS NOW.

I'm sorry...I had great plans...great material. The material will likely show up in other fanzines. I hope so. I hope you will understand my quandry and understand why I have to cut everything off now, clean. I'm 43 years old and I want to get some important-to-me books written.

I'll still be in fandom. Chances are I'll have more time soon to actually participate in fandom in the form of letters and perhaps some reviews.

I'll likely be in the FANTASY AMATEUR PRESS ASSOCIATION in about a year.

But I will never again let myself in for the time-consuming ordeal/orgasm that a big circulation fanzine becomes.

BEWARE, all ye ambitious, eager fan editors. DO NOT LUST AFTER BIGNESS. It will chew you up and swallow you.

--RICHARD E. GEIS