

EDITORIAL

Looking over my MC's on ISCARIOT, they seem rather silly. Altho I was kinda dissappointed by the exclusion of "Slaughter Row" fiction and Dick's article, I wasn't "disappointed" with ISS all around. And the last few lines!! They sound so patronizing I couldn't believe I'd written 'em (thats allf the editor of OUTRE' patronizing ISCARIOT'S editorship.

Hank Lutrell must consider H. Beam Piper a poor story teller. Piper put "Doc" almost exactly the same as Jim did.

You have noticed OUTRE' isn't the same. Much thinner and no general material (unless you call the letter-col general). It's not all my fault. I couldn't find a pubber so I decided to pub in on hecto, which we have. I didn't think it would be entirely fair to use somebodies material in a hektoid zine. Back to the pubbers, Plott was too busy. College student, newspaper correspondent, ROCT do make for a heavy schedule, you know.

SING A SONG OF BURROUGHS

BY Ian Bailes

(sung to sing a song of sixpence)

Sing a song of Burroughs
Pocket full of trash
Four and twenty Cliches
Hacked into a mash
Every single page so very very trite,
Isn't it a pity /
That he never learned to write.

The Estate is in Tarzana
Counting up it's money
Hacks like me write songs
That aren't very funny
Many sf readers get so very bored
Next time I see a Mars book
I'll impale it with a sword.



MAILING COMMENTS

SPORADIC #8 Plott. Don't ever pull a dirty trick like disguising Sporadic again. You nearly gave me heart failure. There I was, tearing frantically thru my mailing, hunting for Spore, when I saw A.F.T.P.R.F.S. "Oh no!" I moan, "What kinda corn is this?" Just for laughs, I decide to look into it, and then I discover your hoax. Sigh, I guess I shoulda known. I mean, nobody's that corny, and who but Bill plott would pull a dirty trick like disguising their 'zine.

Once inside, I found your "con-report" interesting. One thing, Bill. What did you do once you got there? You gave us a play by play description of your trip there and back, but just what did you do there?

Why'd ya wanna go get a letter-col for? Don't you get enough of us back seat editors in our MC's? Well, maybe it's not such a bad idea, just as long as it doesn't get in the way of your other material.

SPECTRE #1 Your first issue would have been better titled "Iscariot" junior edition, Larry. Same format, same color paper, same mimeo, even the same typer. Well, at least, you picked a fine 'zine to emulate. If only OUKAE were a little more like Iscariot.

Spectre could have used MC's in the worst way. MC's would have added a little variety to your contents; kinda add contrast to your weird-fantasy fiction, weird fantasy cover, weird fantasy inside and back cover and weird fantasy illus. You know.

CLIFF HANGERS AND OTHERS #4 The cover was funny. Morbid, but funny. I wonder if Mr. Gibson is as talented with his written humor.

You had a good idea in doing MC's, but in ghu's name not in verse! A Robert Burns you ain't. Honest. But a skilled fan-writer you are. So why not try doing your MC's in the vein you are best equipped for?

Your story was good. But please give it 3 more chapters and then conclude it; theres nothing so boring as a story one knows isn't gonna end.

DOL DRUMS #1 Dave, you must have some kind of a powerful personality or something. I could hardly tell Bill's article from your matterings,

Thanx for the explanation of how to make your own Mimeo-scope. In case you couldn't tell by OUKAE' #1's cover, I could use it.

MAILING COMMENTS

(cont'd)

Why do I always find myself chronically unable to comment on lockezines?

ISCARIOT #9 The cover I didn't like. Definitely, it I did not like. I guess I'm just spoiled Iscariot-wise. I am used to covers like the one you used on #6 and 7 and #8.

Iscariot disappointed me all around thisish. First: No "Slaughter Row". Yes, yes, I know the letter-col squeezed it out. Second: No fiction. Were you guys possibly planning on using Montgomery's piece that he used in Spectre? Surely there musta been some reason for the exclusion of fiction. And finally, one last complaint, which I suspect may tie in with the exclusion of "Slaughter Row": no Andrews cartoons.

Now that I've used up two paragraphs telling you what I didn't like, I'll tell you what I did like. Plott's article was well written, of course. Joe Stton made sense in "Phantom". Come to think of it, "The Phantom of the Opera" is a rarity. For once, the movie was better than the book. "Moon Beams" was pleasant reading.

Oh, and by the way, don't feel bad if you get jumped on by others for this issue. Anyone can lay a bomb once-in-awhile.

WORM FARM The section, "Gibson's View of Fandom" actually made me laugh! Congratulations, not many fanish cartoons do. Especially liked the one about the neffers feuding. How true, how true.

Other than the cartoons, there wasn't a whole lot to comment on. I will say, I hope you can find something else to write besides poetry in the next issue. Gee, I'm murder on poetry, am I not?

STRANGER THAN FACT #1 The cover was a mess, I must say. Yes, a real mess. If I were going to shell out the dough for a photo-offset zine, I'd try my hardest to get something really impressive. Maybe even something by a pro. It looks like Ameen stole this thing from a kindergarten finger-painting class.

"Breaking Point" was fine fiction, but stories about lusher depress me, so I won't say anymore about it. I must say that Ameen writes 1,000% better than he paints. "Beyond Immortal" was the worth of the issue.

The David's story was Davids doing what he is best at, satire. Does his story this issue remind anyone of "Contact Point"?

MAILING COMMENTS

(CONT'D)

STRONGER THAN FACT #2 The change in format didn't disappoint me in the least. As a matter of fact, I like STF better this way. Your cover was a vast improvement over last issue's. I only hope I can cut OUTR's cover into stencil that well tis time.

Keller's story reminded me of the only other Keller story I've read, "The Doorbell". The way the cruelties of the courtesans are described as favors.

A.K. David's was good once again, but I've seen him do better in CURSED and STF#1, for th at matter. Mailing comment Jim; you gotta have mailing comments. You want STF to have personality? Mailing comments got personality and, heh, heh, you've already got a good name for your MC's: "Junkyard".

SOUTHERNER #9 Five members gained, and only one lost, 174 pages this mailing. It makes me laugh to think of Hulan's article in "Ala Rums and Excursions".

S.F.P.A. gained five new members last mailing and still managed to keep away from the neo-ish air that plagues N'APA. In fact, OUTRE was the only 'zine with a faint tint of neo-ishism, and that was mostly the cover. Which I hope is corrected by this issue.

By the way, I think I've talked Paul Gilster into joining S.F.P.A. Is CYGNUS # 2 in this mailing?

POST-MAILED ZINES

CANTICLES FROM LABOWITZ The cover was the best in the mailing, gary. If I had an illustrator like Bell on a string I wouldn't complain.

Leah's story outdid yours a bit, and your's outdid Kirkpatric's a bit; Kirkpatric's story outdid Kirkpatric's poem; and Kirkpatric's poem outdid Asbell's poem; Asbell's poem.... well, uh, lessee.....Asbell's poem outdid the contents page, I think.

You sent CANTICLES to both S.F.P.A. and N'apa. I didn't think that was legal. It's not too hot an idea anyway. After all you couldn't find two apa's farther apart. Like: N'APA has gobs of 'zines of small quantity and S.F.P.A. has not quite so many 'zines, but they are of High quantity.

MAILING COMMENTS

(concluded)

If you have to, for some reason, send CANTICLES to both S.F.P.A. and N'APA, try this: edit an ish of CANTICLES each quarter, but one quarter send the ish to N'APA and send the nextish to S.F.P.A. If nothing else, at least put separate M.C.'s in for S.F.P.A. and N'APA copies.

Incidentally, I hope my list of active LOC'ers got you a few LOC'S (and maybe a little material). It's hard for me to understand your lack of material. I just NAH, NAG, NAG? And that's no joke.

WORM FARM Hey? Guess what, Bill Gibson's still around. It says so right here.

You're trying for the distinction of the best 'zine in the 10th mailing, eh? Then your work is cut out for you. Hulan should be back; ISCARIOT should be it's regular pleasant reading; STRANGER THAN FACT should be a strong contender.

Not to mention the various natter'zines and OUTRE'. (I think this issue is fairly good). Your real job would be getting the other members to admit if you're were the best 'zine in the 10th mailing.



EGOBOO (and criticism)

GEORGE PROCTOR Route 1, Gilmore, Texas

Dear Kent,

Your editorial was very nice (enjoyed it). Katz's filk was nice also. War Makers was best story in zine, altho I had guessed ending. //You ain't the Lone Ranger, George. So did Hank Luttrell, a mundane friend and myself// Yes, you left a $\frac{1}{2}$ a page blank! You're slipping you could have had an illo there. Book reviews, I haven't read but one the first and though it smelled. I have all the rest, but haven't gotten around to reading them. The Valley of the Werewolves wasn't too hot. You could have slipped a small illo under credits. Thanx and Excuses. "Next" was short and sweet. All in all very nice 'zine. //Thank you, thank you//

HANK LUTTRELL, Route 13 .2936 Barrett Sta. Rd., Kirkwood, Mo.

Dear Kent,

The story THE VALLEY OF THE WEREWOLF'S. I have two criticisms of. (1.) The place where he said "Doc" wasn't needed and not only that it was poor story telling. (2) This was sort of a science fiction story, No? yes? it tried to explain the Fantastic phenomena with scientific rationalization rather than Mysticism. Well the science was so much nonsense, and that bothers me. //The ignorance is no excuse, it's mine. I don't no hardly anything about science; maybe Jim doesn't either. Future stories in this series will be straight fantasy. Happy?//

You like Night's Black Agents? So did I. I got the Arkham House edition. You should try Shadows with Eyes (Ballantine) the story A BIT OF THE DARKNESS, in my mind was more than worth the money (only 35¢, by the way) // I saw Shadows with Eyes at the newstand and it didn't look too good to me. However, since you have read I have the issue that "A Bit of the Darkness" appeared in//

I think the story who's name you couldn't remember was The Final Ingredient by Jack Sharkey, No, Yes? It used the same story line anyway. I don't have Sterling's 3 W. but I read this story in F&SF, Dec. 60. // Yeah, The Final Ingredient. You know that guy hasn't returned that book. I strongly recommend purchasing 3 W.

Mr. Gilster's, "The War Makers" was well written if a bit over-played. Some things in a story should be impyed rather than said outright. The starting of wars to eliminate population problems seems a bit unrealistic. //where's your willing suspension of disbelief, Hank ole boy?//

If they want to be this brutal about it, poisoning off a hunk of the lower class pop, would seem more practical.

Mr. Katz was funny. And your editorials were made up of readable sentences. //Readable: Is that all you can say about such an obvious work of sheer genius? //

GLENN PRIMM, 28 Burnside St., Nashua, N.H.

Dear Kent,

Arnie sure can write songs, can't he? What a way to join a fan club: I joined N3F by reading about the N^oAPA in CURSED.

That piece by Paul Gilster was rather good, from the point of style and story, although the ending is pretty hackneyed. That's not to say that the story isn't any good. As a matter of fact, it's pretty good, not great, maybe not even pro stuff, but for faan stuff, it's pretty good.

I notice that most of the books in your review column are horror or wierd, and not sf. Why? You prefer fantasy or science fantasy to science fiction?

Well, I liked that werewolf bit. More in the future about that reporter-cameraman team? With a background like the one used in the story, many more stories can be written. We'll see.....

LEN BAILLES, 27 Split Rail Place, Commack, N.Y.

Dear Editor,

On the whole, Outre^o was fairly enjoyable, I enjoyed your editorial and the story by Gilster. The reviews were dated, and I disagree with you on a few points. I rather enjoyed Bohey Men, and found one or two stories in it to be highly humorous, and The Skull of the Marquis de sade was an excellent horror story. I can't say that perhaps you don't like fantasy, because of the other favorable reviews given fantasy books, but are you sure you read this one carefully? Night's Black Agents left out the best story in the hardbound edition, Adept's Gambit. I wish Mr. Leiber would remember Mouser and Fafhrd more often rather than forget them. Didn't care too much for that werewolf yarn, but it was well written, even if the plot was a little old-hat.

I really don't think you could call that half page on the back sheet a story. Battle should try to actually write a story when he has an idea rather than merely spewing forth the whole thing on half a page and accomplishing very little. It is more an incident than a story. The mag could best be improved by adding more editorial chatter, swinging away from the monster angle and into sf and by adding some artwork. Outre is certainly worth continuing.