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Not that long ago (a little over a month), or far away (Page 1908), I said: "Baring major health or financial reversal, there will be one more issue this calendar year."

When I said that I neither expected OUTWORLDS 59 to be quite this slim...nor to be out quite this soon. But then, who am I to determine the course of this humble fanzine?

1988 has been a Good Year, overall, for me and, I think [see over...], an excellent year for OW. This slender "ending" should not be construed as a slackening of interest on my part, nor is it indicative of a belated effort to get the OW fiscal house in order [existing subscriptions will be extended an issue] -- but rather read it as a vehicle to frame the Annual Index...and as a Progress Report/Announcement:

Those of you who have followed the canon of my "writings" for any appreciable length of time will already know that "moving" is, arguably, the least favorite thing in my life that I have, voluntarily, done more than once. I do not like even the thought of it; the actuality of it is traumatic. I cannot put it any other way.

When I moved from the vintage 2468 Harrison to the, by comparison, palatial 1874 Sunset/#56 -- I said that I felt I had only one more "move" left in me...and that would be years off. So why...after a mere two years, is there a different address up there?

It is not because I wish to invalidate your filing cards/computer listings/address books; I may be that mischevious, but I am definitely not that energetic! Nor is it because I am dissatisfied with my current surroundings...nor that I've finally sorted the kipple out to such an extent that a next move would be "organized". I've had Good Intentions...but then the "cassette" version of OUTWORLDS 50 still remains unedited on video tape, and OW 27.5 resides in three boxes of unedited letters.

~~IT IS! OF COURSE! BECAUSE OF A WOMAN!~~

Karol Brown is a local fan, who is also a nurse. She is not the woman who is causing this move...but Karol is to blame. Almost precisely three years ago Karol was discoursing on the joy of sf conventions at the nursing home she was then working at...when one of the other nurses said something to the effect of: "...conventions...science fiction ... do you know Bill Bowers...?" Karol, bless her subtle soul, acknowledged that she did indeed know me. And my life hasn't been the same since!

Several years earlier, when I inhabited the lower floor of 2468 Harrison, the 2nd floor apartment (which I eventually moved to) contained a very attractive woman. Despite her belief, I am somewhat shyder than some would have me, so it was some time before I eventually spoke to her. We spent some pleasant times together back then, but things didn't work out. Still, when Karol told me of her "discovering" Lynda I knew I wanted to see her again. Very much so. And I was overjoyed when she agreed to see me again.

Her name is Lynda Burgoyne. She is my friend...she is special...and I hope that most of you will get the chance to meet her.

This is a big step for both of us. I won't speak for her, but it's been fifteen years since I've lived with someone else. I'm aware that I'm going to have to modify some of the routine/habits I've formed over those years, and that it won't always be easy--but Lynda means a great deal to me--so I'm going to give it my best...

The LoCs on OW58 are coming in [including two of the most unique I've ever gotten], and I'm looking forward to surprising you with the next issue. But given the time and expense of combining two households, I'm reluctant to make firm deadlines. I do hope to get OUTWORLDS 60 out in the original January/February timeframe... And, although the move will not hasten the schedule...I still plan on having the Doc Lowndes "collection" out early next year. In the meantime, I'd best get packing... Where did all this stuff come from, anyway...! ...see you in a couple of months.

---Bill; 10/26/88

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