

FEBRUARY 1999

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Freedom of the press:

Whoever owns the press owns the freedom.

---Arthur Lane Terego

Freedom of speech:

Everyone can speak; only the wealthy can make themselves heard.

---Arthur Lane Terego



News Diary

■ 1-19-99 A judge of the British Columbia [Canada] Supreme Court ruled last Friday that a federal law against possessing child pornography violated the freedom-of-expression clause of Canada's Charter of Rights.

The provincial government is going to appeal the judge's ruling that there was no proof that mere possession of child porno-graphy made people more inclined to sexually molest children.

The government holds the opposite view, obviously. But that is an illogical, slippery slope argument, since it leads to the conclusion that possessing or watching a murder mystery (for instance) leads to a greater inclination to commit murder...and to the conclusion, which may rise up and bite the state, that war films and war stories lead to a greater inclination to kill the 'enemy'---whoever the government names as 'enemy' this generation.

My view is that the force behind any given behavior or inclination springs from the depths of the human mind which seeks from the universe of human activities that which it wants or needs. The hunger seeks the food. The food does not force itself upon the mind not interested. Nor does the Devil make us do it [Though that supposed power of his explains his ubiquity and popularity.].

Obviously there are other factors at work in the behavior of child molesters. The molester molests because his emotional dysfunction is so great that social and family prohibitions cannot stop him. No doubt there are a far greater number of people interested in child porno who don't go beyond watching and fantacizing. As there are untold millions who are attracted to violence and crime films and crime novels who do not themselves act out such activities.

A few people do not have sufficient inner prohibitions to prevent copycat violence. But we don't jail everyone who has some crime novels or videos in the house. Nor do we jail those who produce such material.

But isn't one murder worse than one act of child molestation? [Unless one considers abortion to be child molestation? Any semantic curve is possible in the bizarre world of the



Politically Correct...]

That question provokes another: why are we so illogical and hysterical and hypocritical about protecting children from any kind of harm?

I suggest that because we are so unconsciously guilt-ridden about the millions of unborn human lives we 'legally' kill via abortions every year, we project that guilt as rage onto those we can demonize as harmers of born children. Scapegoating, I believe the process is called.

■ 1-22-99 'Clinton foresees terrorist attack

□ The president says a germ or chemical attack against the United States is "highly likely" and is resolved to bolster the nation's defenses

'Clinton said he is weighing a proposal from the Defense Department to establish a commander in chief for the defense of the continental United States, a step that civil libertarian groups strongly resist.

'Such a program would' ... 'set up a military leadership to help fight chaos and disarray if an attack occurred.'

'Pentagon commanders oversee regions around the globe, but not the continental United States.'

---Quotes above from a New York Times News Service story by Judith Miller and William J. Broad in the 1-22-99 *The Oregonian*.

The story above, derived from an unusually long, 45 minute interview with the president, will raise suspicions in most conspiratologists, especially those who have been saying for years that a president would, following an elitist, oligarchic agenda, first take steps to prepare this country for martial law and then install a fascistic dictatorship, using as an excuse an actual 'terrorist' attack or attacks (invited or executed by the government itself).

Clinton includes the dangers of possible 'electronic "hacker" attacks' on our systems of supply and communications and command-and-control. This 'danger' inherently dictates the end of the Internet as a free arena of ideas and communications. The government hates the 'anarchy' of the Internet and the encryption programs anyone can possess. Government feels only they should have secrets and act in secret. 'National Security' will require outlawing private secrecy.

I, for one, have spotlighted the "Anthrax" scare stories mounted by the FBI and others in this country.

And I'm aware of our government's highlighting, in the cooperative news media, of Saddam Hussein's alleged impossible-to-find-and-stop biological

and chemical weapons production and accumulations.

And we see now why that Afghanistan-based 'millionaire terrorist' has been so demonized of late. And why so-called 'outlaw states' have been labeled and vilified for years.

The oligarchy---our rulers---have been readying us for the regrettable but necessary measures (loss of most civil rights, a life of literal slavery) they have planned for this country.

The final two paragraphs of a long follow-up agitprop story in the following day's *The Oregonian* [**'Clinton seeks \$2.8 billion to fight terrorism' by John M. Broder of the New York Times News Service**] are fine examples of double speak, government style (and media cooperation):

'The president sought to increase awareness of emerging threats without raising undue alarm about events that have yet to materialize on American soil.

'He said the government would assure civil liberties even as it organizes its military, intelligence, criminal justice and public health agencies to respond to the threat of biological or computer terrorism.'

Do you see the sleight-of-tongue in this double-speak? Clinton will assure civil liberties while the govt. is organizing to combat the threat. **Not assure civil liberties while it is responding to the threat.** The impression is that we'll still be able to vote and speak and write and assemble and travel as we wish when the govt. responds to the threat.. But that's not what he said!

If I may call a spade a spade, what Clinton wishes is the revised and expanded military & intelligence organizations in place so that he can declare a State of Emergency by means of his War Powers and to rule the country under martial law [Obey or Die] and his Executive Orders ...all under the color of law..

The new laws authorizing the new Pentagon continental commander-in-chief and 'necessary' powers of command and control must be passed by congress to give the new disguised dictatorship (The Emergency) a patina of legality, and to make it easier to initiate the state of emergency and to quickly control the country, especially the visceral patriot reaction of 'old-fashioned' people who think they are free citizens and who would be willing to fight and die for that freedom and who will be the real primary target of the military and

intelligence forces. A swift, prepared round-up of suspect patriots and a confiscation of all private guns is likely in order to 'prevent riots and looting and other crimes'.

Under the guise of preventing mythical 'terrorist hackers' from sabotaging the govt.'s computers and records, massive control of the Internet would be necessary, as well as key-word computer monitoring of all e-mail and fax.

[It seems as if the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the local police, sheriffs, and state National Guards would not be enough to fight riots and medical crises. On-the-spot conscription into the federal armed forces would be required.]

And I suspect a 'triggering and convincing' event [with media overkill] (perhaps in Mexico?) will occur at the proper time to insure passage by congress of this new 'continental command' violation of the Constitution.

Clinton may not be the dictator-to-be this story and my commentary imply. But I'm very inclined to see him as The Man. All it would take is the swift appearance of a stock market crash---any month now!---and a swift climb of unemployment...and the contrived small explosive or chemical or bio attack of mysterious origin needed to terrify the country. We would be stamped into giving up all freedoms "temporarily" in exchange for security and safety.

I keep remembering the supposed Tonkin Gulf "attack" on US warships which gave President Johnson the excuse to get a Resolution through an alarmed, outraged congress which allowed him to vastly escalate the Vietnam War via a massive expansion of the American expeditionary force.

Of course, now, it would take a very long time to make sure the country was safe and would remain safe from "terrorist" attacks in a world permanently full of vicious Hate America enemies.

This great emergency would require years of a huge buildup of the armed forces, the internal security forces, and perhaps a series of 'punitive' invasions and bombing campaigns of 'enemy' states... The 'defense' industries in this country have come upon hard times lately, and a war state with vast expenditures would save their asses nicely, would require heavy expansions, would require millions of added workers...

Incidentally, I look for a space program, too, which would allow us to station thousands of "defense" missiles in space satellites everywhere, perhaps also thousands of pinpoint laser weapons in

satellites, capable of targeting and incinerating a single person anywhere...

Of course such weapons would be on station over this country, too, to deal with 'traitors' and 'terrorists' of various stripes.

Really, don't you see how such a "terrorist" war state would benefit everyone? Except that tiny minority who care about such vague things like 'freedom' and 'the Constitution' and who-cares shit like that. There'll be detention camps waiting for them weirdos and malcontents.

Boy, this doom&gloom stuff is fun to predict and describe! Wouldn't it be great if it came true?



AND HERE'S ANOTHER ARROW INTO THE HEART OF THE REPUBLIC From Ian Goddard:

'U.S. Code 50 (Chapter 32, Section 1520(b)(1)) states that the Department of Defence MAY "conduct any test or experiment involving the use of any chemical or biological agent on civilian populations" only if the DoD notifies "local civilian officials" 30 days before testing chemical or biological agents on U.S. civilians.

'So you have the right to have some "civilian officials" notified before you're used in bio-war experiments. So we all have the legal right to be a Guinea pig without knowing, so long as some officials know.

'Read this law at the Cornell University library:
<http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/50/1520.html>

'This law was added to the U.S. Code in 1996. Why would federal law define a right for the DoD to "conduct any test or experiment involving the use of any chemical or biological agent on civilian populations" (granted a few officials know) if no such tests and experiments were planned? It stands to reason that they are planned!



Personal Health Bulletin

■ New reading glasses. They finally found a pair of bottles with thick enough bottoms. But seriously, I now can read a bit more than usual, for a while. It's a pleasure. Though the eye exam did inspire the optometrist to mention I had the beginning symptoms of cataracts.

■ My neck began to bother me more than usual in early January---*snap-

crackle-pop* when I turned my head or raised my chin... And the pain intensified...and the pain radiated sideways into my shoulders and arms.

I had had these problems infrequently before to a much lesser degree for twenty or more years, so I applied a heating pad, wore a neck brace to restrict movement, and watched a lot of CNBC.

But it didn't do much good, so I hied myself to Dr. Wiebe (excellent Primary Care Giver) and got my blood taken, my blood pressure taken [140/80] and some X-rays taken. The upshot and downshot is that I suffer from Degenerative Arthritis---there isn't a decent disk in the whole of my neck---and there's nothing to be done but not abuse the neck, take more pain killers, and wait---if I live long enough---until the process is complete (that is until the neck bones are naturally fused or locked in place so well that no head movement is possible). THEN the pain will stop.

So now instead of taking 12 coated aspirin a day, I take three 600 mg. coated Ibuprofen caplets per day (one after each meal).

We'll see how that works.

But right now I'm writing this entry in pain, and I must warn ye, I'll probably be a grumpier, sourer, more antagonistic, more pessimistic, more cynical commentator than ever.

I know, I know, that's just what you want. Selfish bastards!



NOTE FROM ANONYMOUS

1-6-99 'I don't recall the exact date when I took this out of the paper, but it was just within the past few days:

"Babies may 'know' rules of language"

"Babies struggling to turn babble into polished patter use a previously undiscovered instinct for rules to master the building blocks of language, scientists at New York University announced Thursday.

"The new insight is persuasive evidence that the ability to think in terms of formulas and rules is not just something that must be learned through schooling, as some scholars have argued, but is also a fundamental characteristic of every human mind, several language experts said.

"Working with 7-month-olds, the NYU researchers determined that even the very young can make sense of speech by figuring out on their own simple rules about the patterns of language structure and grammar.

"Moreover, the babies appear to deduce these formal rules well before they can understand what words mean or how to say them.

"The research was published today in *Science*."

Geis Comment: We are programmed. Our DNA, our genes, create learning paths and patterns in our fetal brains and after our birth as we mature during infancy and childhood.

What force or entity caused our brains to develop this instinctual ability (need?) to develop, speak and learn language? [Among other things.] God? Aliens?

Reading and writing language may be a more difficult aspect of this ability...or a more intellectual application.

We are thus---again---shown to be more creatures of instinct and programming than we are (as the elitist Socialists and Liberals wish/need to believe) creatures with blank slate minds, all malleable clay ready to be molded by the superior philosopher kings of state planning.



Update: TWA-800 Cover-Up

DISAPPEARED NEWS THE ORWELLIAN NIGHTMARE (c) (01/07/99) Ian Williams Goddard

One of the more disturbing issues surrounding the TWA Flight 800 crash has been the claims made by some people that on the night of the crash they saw reports on TV that confirmed a missile hit, yet the reports apparently disappeared into an Orwellian black hole.

Now a news cameraman has spilled-the-beans on one of these disappeared TV reports, indicating that what people have been saying they saw on TV really was on TV.

People have claimed they saw an interview, right after the TWA 800 crash, of an Air National Guard pilot as he stood on a tarmac in front of an aircraft. The pilot said the passenger jet was hit with a missile and that Navy-missile exercises were being conducted at the time.

Consistent with such an interview, the Long Island paper, *Suffolk Life*, reports [1]:

"Long Island's Channel 55 cameraman James Hughes, said during an interview that he and another camera crew from one of the networks were at

the airport when the C130 landed. The crew, he said, stated they saw a missile heading toward FL800 just before they witnessed the explosion.

"The C130 crew members were pulled away from the two camera crews by what Hughes said appeared to be their superiors and came back claiming they had seen nothing."

This not only confirms TV-witness accounts of a truth-leaking interview of a pilot at an airport, but it also clearly indicates that the truth was known that night and, with the immediate censure of the pilots, it also reveals that a massive cover-up was activated immediately, which must explain why the media forgot about that explosive interview.

(The C-130 was piloted by Col. William Stratemeier. Major Frederick Meyer, who said he saw a meteor-like streak, piloted an HH-60 helicopter. After retiring from the ANG, Meyer said that the first blast looked like "the detonation of an anti-aircraft shell." [2])

It would seem that if military command says forget that news, it is forgotten, and any who remember it and/or who believe what those pilots said they saw are smeared by the GovtMedia as liars, criminals, or nuts... who might have to be locked away.

The evidence suggests military control of society.

Maybe that's why, in the same week Pierre Salinger's report came out, CNN reported: "The FBI this week launched a criminal investigation, hoping to stop missile theorists." The government of a civil nation does not activate "criminal investigations" to "STOP THEORISTS" (!!), but the U.S. Govt does!

MORE CONFIRMATION OF PILOTS INTERVIEW

The sudden change of the pilot's story is consistent with a report from *Aviation Week & Space Technology* that the ANG C-130 pilot "said he had seen what appeared to be the trail of a shoulder-fired SAM ending in a flash on the 747," and then in the next issue, *Aviation Week & Space Technology* reports that the pilot had a sudden change of mind, now saying: "We did not see smoke trails [from a missile], any ignition source from the tail end of a rocket nor anything..."

And the media filmed the witness intimidation [1]:

"The C130 crew members were pulled away from the two camera crews by what Hughes said appeared to be their superiors and came back claiming

they had seen nothing."

Anyone capable of rational thought can see (a) that the military pilots were pressured to say they did NOT see what they'd ALREADY said they saw, and (b) that this is prima facie evidence of a cover-up, and (c) specifically, a cover-up of a missile hit.

If the media taped those pilots changing their story under pressure and yet forget that event and portray those who believe there's a cover-up as nuts & liars, then the media are choosing to promote the cover-up.



THE MAJOR MEDIA: VOICE OF THE MILITARY STATE

If the media could forget about a widely-televised interview of military pilots saying FL800 was hit by a missile, pilots who are then quickly whisked away by superiors only to return saying they saw nothing, could we trust the major media to report it if someone with inside information contacted them with a major scoop?

If they'd cover-up the former, they should also cover-up the latter. In fact, when James Sanders gave CBS a patch of the rocket-fuel-covered seat cushion [6] so that they too could test it, CBS gave it to the FBI instead and then assisted with the FBI's efforts to jail Sanders by spreading FBI disinformation about him.

So when people say there could not be such a large cover-up since someone would come forward, it stands to reason that if someone with critical evidence did come forward and in so doing contacted a major media network to get his/her story out, the network would contact the FBI and then forget about the incident.

STILL MORE DISAPPEARED AND CENSORED NEWS

Speaking of news the media ignores, last September the (now retired) agent who headed the FBI's "investigation" said that the "boats" below FL800 seen on the NTSB radar plot that the FBI cited the Privacy Act to conceal the identities of, were "Navy vessels that were on classified maneuvers." An outright admission by the top FBI agent of a cover-up, and recorded on tape!

Would that make headlines? Not one. 100% black out!

(See <http://www.erols.com/igoddard/coverup4.htm>)

The evidence indicates that the major media operate as a team, advancing the agenda of the military-state.

Consistent with that hypothesis is the fact that the day after FBI agent James Kallstrom called Hollywood director Oliver Stone a "bottom-feeder" for his plan to interview eyewitnesses of the FL800 crash in an upcoming TV program looking into the missile theory, ABC canceled the program. Other TV networks chimed in to denounce Stone's shameful effort to allow eyewitness accounts to evade the military black out, which the on-the-spot censoring of the C-130 pilots proves went into effect on the night of the crash.

Our military-government may or may not have good reasons to keep the Navy maneuvers under the TWA 800 crash classified, but we as citizens do have good reason to hold up the light of free inquiry to the darkness of military-state secrecy: secret government endangers truth, freedom, and democracy.

For Internet cites, sites and references to these news stories, interviews and broadcasts, visit Ian Williams Goddard -----> <http://Ian.Goddard.net>

Geis Comment: I don't agree with Ian in his belief that the military control the government and that the media are lackeys of the military.

That's a 'tail wagging the dog' reality I find untenable.

It requires that the entire civilian administration be secretly loyal and/or subservient to the Joint Chiefs of Staff? That the President, the v.p., the Sec. of Defense, the NSA, CIA, FBI, etc. take orders from...whom? From three men who are chosen by the President?

Instead, in the TWA-800 'crash', I believe the military, primarily the Navy, were either instinctively into Denial and cover-up mode after the disaster, or were acting on swift orders from the Secretary of Defense and/or the President. And I believe the FBI, the CIA and the NTSB were/are under top secret orders from Clinton to cooperate in and further the cover-up, probably on the basis of that most-sacred rationale, 'national security'.

The role of the major media is particularly shameful in this scandal and disaster, but they are a collection of billionaire owners and obedient editors, and their reasons for 'cooperation' with the cover-up probably boil down to fear, self interest, protecting the administration, and 'national security'. ■■■■

BOOKS RECEIVED



Some reviewed, others listed and described and sometimes unfairly dealt with.



Guest Review By Joseph T. Major

THE HAUNTED WOOD: Soviet Espionage in America – The Stalin Era By Allen Weinstein and Alexander Vassiliev

Random House; 1999; ISBN 0-679-45724-0; \$30.00

Using declassified KGB files and the VENONA decrypts (the secret codes of the Soviet spy agencies, broken by U.S. codebreakers), Weinstein, the author of *PERJURY: The Hiss-Chambers Case*, and Vassiliev, a Russian journalist and ex-checkist, have produced a work of stunning revelations about the depths of Soviet penetration of the US government in the thirties and forties.

For example, when Senator McCarthy made his Wheeling, West Virginia speech about Communists in the State Department, the Soviet State Security [it kept on changing names, from OGPU to NKVD to KGB plus some lesser-known names] spy station at Washington possessed a grand total of one (1) agent, a free-lance writer at that.

But it had not been so sparse previously. For example, back in the thirties, three different Soviet agents -- Lawrence Duggan, Noel Field, and Michael Straight -- had spotted a prime candidate, a rising young lawyer with "progressive" views, and had recommended him for recruitment.

At that time, however, Agent LAWYER (later ALES), Alger Hiss, had already been recruited. Duggan, Field, and Straight went on to their own careers, of varying successes. As for their prime candidate, well . . . (This alone should indicate the depth of proof against Hiss.)

Other matters discussed include analysis of the Soviet attempt to investigate ENORMOZ -- the Manhattan Engineering District. Weinstein and Vassiliev make an effort to untangle the skein of spies in that organization, both known -- Agents CHARL'Z (Klaus Fuchs), MLAD (Teddy Hall), and KALIBR (David Greenglass) -- and unknown -- one known only as PERS, whose career is laid out in enough detail that he ought to be identifiable. (The confusing history of claims about spies is also elucidated and (it is to be hoped) cleared up.) Also their outside controllers are shown off, such people as STAR (Saville Sax), VOLUNTEER (Morris Cohen), and LIBERAL (Julius Rosenberg).

Weinstein and Vassiliev maintain that the death sentence against the Rosenbergs was disproportionate and ill-advised, with regard to that case. Also, they recount the long string of unsuccessful attempts to recruit J. Robert Oppenheimer. American security did not do so well.

The book also discusses the interlocking networks of Soviet intelligence. At one point in his career, Whittaker Chambers was reporting to the Comintern (through Hungarian-American Communist activist Jozef Peter), the State Security (through State Security officer Itzhak Akhmerov, code-named BILL), and the army's GRU (through Colonel Boris Bykov), all at the same time.

Not all the insiders were inside the government. As a literal comic turn, Weinstein and Vassiliev recount the story of Boris Morros (Agent FROST), a man who lived three lives, as Soviet spy, FBI informer -- and Hollywood producer. How Morros gradually came to where he could take the Soviet Union to the cleaners is a witty story in itself.

This is counterbalanced by some shocking stories. For example, there was a congressman who was a Soviet agent -- Samuel Dickstein (D-NY), Agent CROOK -- and he nearly got on the House Un-American Activities Committee!

Other lesser figures served in various agencies, and the well-known story of Harry Dexter White (Agent RICHARD), for example, is recon-

firmed. I have seen it denied recently, for example.

For the best revelation of how far-flung the Soviet spy networks were, and how quickly they collapsed, this new work is a rewarding read. ■

A DANGEROUS MAGIC

Edited By Denise Little

DAW [#1112] Fantasy Anthology, 1999, \$6.99, 320pp, Mass market paperback, ISBN:0-88677-825-5.

Fifteen tales of magic, most with a strong romance element. Authors include Roberta Gellis, Andre Norton, John deChancie, Gary Braunbeck, Peter Crowther, and Michelle West.

THE ENGINES OF DAWN

By Paul Cook

ROC Original Science Fiction Novel, 1999, \$5.99, 288pp, Mass Market paperback, ISBN:0-451-45736-6.

The alien Enamorati technology has provided humanity with the means to explore the vast depths of space without limitations save one: no human may view the mysterious engine which powers the human spacecraft. But when a University ship carrying thousands becomes stranded, two students and a disgraced professor uncover the disturbing truth behind the alien technology and set the stage for revolution.

The first scene opens with a teenage boy's problems with dating, and I could not go on.

Shadowrun #35:

RUN HARD, DIE FAST

By Mel Odum

ROC Original Fantasy Novel, 1999, \$5.99, 288pp, Mass market paperback, ISBN:0-451-45737-4.

The cover painting scene of a street battle involving body armor and high-tech guns suggests shoot-em-up science fiction, as does the plotline involving a 'shadow-runner' street samurai cyborg leading a rescue team against three megacorporations.

Where, I wondered, does the fantasy come in? I discovered references to spiritualism and psi talents.

DRAGON ULTIMATE

By Christopher Rowley

ROC Original Fantasy Novel, 1999, \$6.99, 384pp, Mass market paperback, ISBN:0-451-45548-7.

The seventh and final book in the *Bazil Broketail* series.

The dragonboy Relkin looks forward to his retirement from the Legion and his impending nuptials. But with the Empire of the Rose weakened by plague, the bloodthirsty Deceiver amasses an army powerful enough to finally destroy his ancient enemies, the High Ones. Relkin and the legendary battledragon Bazil Broketail must make a final stand to protect their world from the most devastating evil imaginable....

Rowley writes as Asimov desired: in

author-invisible mode. I like his writing because he doesn't wallow in 'characterization' and character thinking of every possible option and motivation, nor does he call attention to himself with pyrotechnic style and technique. He gets on with the story!

Volume Two of *Crown of Stars* PRINCE OF DOGS

By Kate Elliott

DAW [#1078] Fantasy Novel, 1999, \$6.99, 640pp, Mass market paperback, ISBN:0-88677-816-6.

Prince of Dogs returns readers to the war-torn kingdoms of Wendar and Varre, and the intertwined destinies of Alain, raised in humble surroundings but now the Count's heir; Liath, who struggles to unravel the secrets of her past while evading the traps set for her by those seeking the treasure she hides; Sanglant, believed dead by those who could save him, but actually a prisoner in the city of Gent; and Fifth Son, who now builds an army to do his father's bidding—or his own!

A high fantasy multi-volume, generational, magic-sorcerer-spirits-demons medieval universe of power struggles and war, of many characters, well-told by a talented, disciplined writer of high skill.

And *Volume Three, The Burning Stone*, to be published soon.

A reading feast for some, another fat repetition for others.

SECRETS OF THE ANCIENT GODDESS

By Brenda Gates Smith

SIGNET Novel, 1999, \$6.99, 382p., Mass market paperback, ISBN:0-451-19547-7.

7000 years ago in what is now Turkey, the beautiful wife of a priest of the Goddess is exiled from her people for giving birth to her second deformed son. In order to survive, Yana befriends a band of nomadic traders traveling with a kind priestess—Henne, a radiant redhead and woman of the Goddess. But the Goddess is not worshipped by all, and Henne is abducted by barbaric northern invaders.

To avoid slavery, Henne must remember her childhood training—proving her worth in a camp of dominating men who worship a foreign god. And Yana, coping with the loss of her friend, must rely on her intuition and growing knowledge of the Goddess to guide her to a new life and love in a strange land.

Brenda Gates Smith writes well...and I'm inclined to say this novel is another, better, stepping stone in the wide, shallow river of Feminism. *Clan of the Cave Bear* being the first that I'm aware of.

THE GODMOTHER'S WEB

By Elizabeth Ann Scarborough

ACE Fantasy Novel, 1998-99, \$5.99, 308p, Mass market paperback, ISBN:0-441-00600-0.

Cindy Ellis, on her way to Arizona to train a horse for a friend, meets a strange old Indian woman with a rainbow-colored blanket and a spindle in her hand. Together they visit a world of poverty and sorrow, watched over by this old woman. They encounter the power of magic,

and a web of love strong enough to capture all who dare step inside...

This one is 'a woman's book'---as are all of the 'Godmother' novels. Seems there are genres, niches within genres, and niches within niches, in publishing.

ISAAC ASIMOV'S VALENTINES

Edited By Gardner Dozois and Sheila Williams

ACE Science Fiction Anthology, 1999, \$5.99, 243p, Mass market paperback, ISBN:0-441-00602-7.

Ten-story Valentine-oriented anthology by Eleanor Amason, Terry Bisson, Tony Daniel, Lisa Goldstein, James Patrick Kelly, Nancy Kress, Tom Purdom, Robert Reed, Robert Silverberg, and Connie Willis.

MATTIMEO

By Brian Jacques

ACE Fantasy Novel, 1999 mass market paperback edition, \$6.50, 432p., ISBN:0-441-00610-8.

See below.

THE LONG PATROL

By Brian Jacques

ACE Fantasy Novel, 1999 mass market paperback edition, \$5.99, 318p., ISBN:0-441-00599-3.

Jacques has written ten of these 'translations' of human-to-animals stories. And is apparently quite good at it (Duh! Like, bestsellers!). But there's something about such fantasies which to me smack of ludicrousness, falseness and cheating, and I can never quite forget that these are dumb animals!---and I'm being insulted to be asked to pretend they're just like me.

Maybe I resent the obvious childishness of the premise. Maybe I resent being 'used' by the author invoking my remnant Child. Whatever. Bah! Humbug!

DOG EAT DOG

By Jerry Jay Carroll

ACE Novel, 1999, \$12.00, 297p., Trade paperback, ISBN:0-441-00597-7.

In his debut novel, Jerry Jay Carroll introduced readers to William "Bogey" Ingersol, a corporate takeover artist who marked his territory on Wall Street with the people he destroyed. Then one day Bogey awoke in an enchanted world...as a dog. A big, shaggy dog who marked his territory somewhat differently...

Now, in *DOG EAT DOG*, Bogey's back in human form. He learned his lesson in that magical world, using his new "leash" on life to help the poor and adopt every stray dog he can find. But little does Bogey know that something has followed him back to this world. Something dark and powerful. Something that has learned all the dirty tricks Bogey used to pull in the financial world. Except this evil being has set his sights not on Wall Street, but Pennsylvania Avenue.

Very professional, very well written, fine, swift dialog, and entertaining. I

think this would make a hell of a movie.

THE PLEISTOCENE REDEMPTION

By Dan Gallagher

AncientProphecies.com Press, 14268 Action Street, Brooksville, FL 34613, 1998, \$9.95, 389p., Trade paperback, ISBN:0-9666929-2-6.

Using Fossil Gene Redemption (FGR), geneticist Kevin G. Harrigan experiments with genes from a frozen "Ice Man." His work prompts Iraqi leader Ismail Mon to provide resources for exciting new research that enables Harrigan's team to regenerate extinct animals and human sub-species from the Ice Ages. But when it is discovered that FGR is also the basis for genetic weapons of mass destruction, United States intelligence and defense leaders must act.

There is the potential for a fine thriller here, but Gallagher is only one small step from amateur as a writer, and his wrong scene structures, clumsy plotting, boring characterizations and square-wheeled dialog wastes that potential.

He is rightfully concerned with the religious implications of Fossil Gene Research & Recreation and the Fate of Mankind as we know us, but his interesting God-religion-science arguments can't save the novel which dies for lack of believable people and lack of real tension.

Reviews



AND THEN I SAW....

THE POSTMAN [1997 - R]

Kevin Kostner's rendition of a politically correct hero-by-accident plot, this time in a postwar fractured, wilderness America as his opportunistic character poses as a postman and inadvertently sets in motion social forces for Good.

He and the locals defeat the local tyrant in the stereotypical end of a too-long film. Worth watching for the first hour.

BOOGIE NIGHTS [1997 - R]

Burt Reynolds as a cynical director of porno films in the 80's discovers a stupid, selfish young stud with a big cock and makes him a star. The old story of success destroying a weak character.

Reynolds is good enough, but the film is a sad downer, a sour comment on Hollywood.

PHANTOMS [1998 - R]

Same-old-shit horror film with an underground monster (the ancient shape-changing mother of all tapeworms!) with bony old Peter O'Toole as the scientist.■