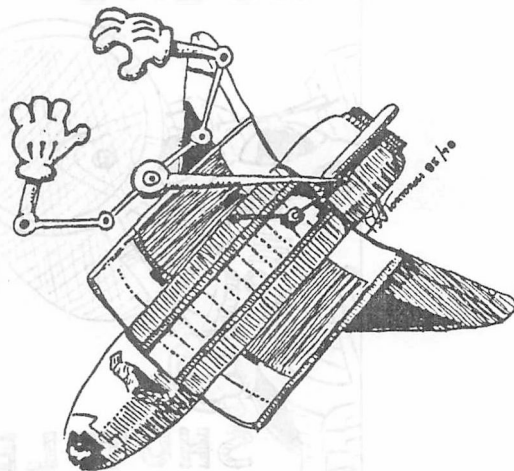


SFSFS SHUTTLE



JUNE 1990

63

The Official SFSFS Newsletter

JUNE GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Saturday June 23rd
at 2:00 p.m.

TOPIC: "The Awards Season"
Award Nominations & Other
Reccomended Works of 1989.

LOC: The Riverland Branch of the
Broward County library
2710 West Davie Blvd.

Take I-95 to Davie Blvd, go west
to Riverland Rd. The library is on
the SW corner.

CREATIVE WRITING GROUP

DATE: Sunday June 24th at 2:00 pm

LOC: 3685 Coral Springs Drive
Coral Springs
Carol Gibson 305 345-9326

The Creative Writing Group is
essentially a support group for
those who'd like to flex their
literary muscles. All interested
SFSFS members are welcome. Those
who come equipped with munchies
will be doubly blessed.

SFSFS BOARD MEETING

DATE: Sometime before the end of
June (or life as we know it)

LOC: TO BE ANNOUNCED

All Subcommittee Chairs are to
have their budgets ready for
discussion and approval.

Call 407-392-6462 for Information.

FILK MEETING

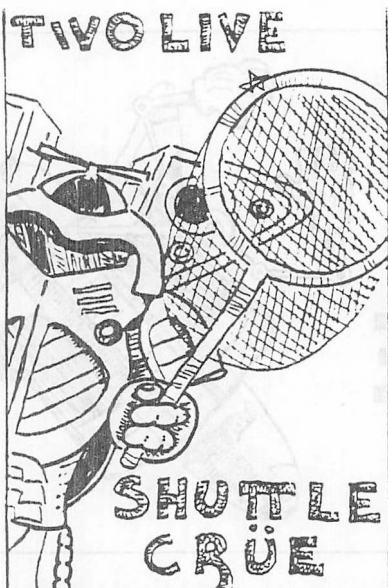
DATE: Saturday June 9th
at 7:30 pm

LOC: The Siclari/Stern residence
4599 NW 5th Ave
Boca Raton

Call (407) 392-6462 for info.

MEDIA RESEARCH

We are getting together to
attend a number of select films.
Please contact Carol Gibson at
305-345-9326 if you would to be
notified of upcoming events.



EDITOR: Gerry Adair

CONTRIBUTORS:

Joe Siclari, Edie Stern &
Waldo Lydecker.

ART: Phil Tortorici

LOGO: Phil Tortorici

SFSFS LOGO: Gail Bennett

COLLATER, STAPLER, STAMP
STICKER & PURVEYOR OF
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES FOR
THE EDITOR: Marion Lean

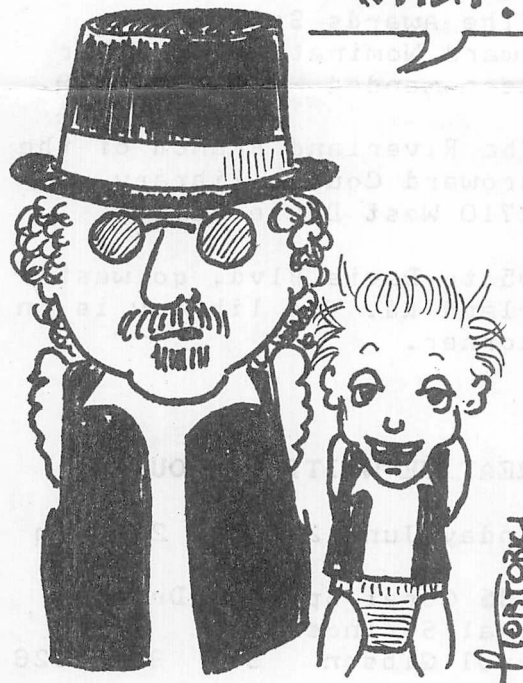
Send art, poetry, reviews,
LoC's, etc. to:

Gerry Adair
1131 Harmony Way
Royal Palm Beach, Fl 33411
407 793-7581
FAX #: 407 833-0646

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ARE WE IN
OR
WHAT?



THE SFSFS SHUTTLE June 1990 # 68

The South Florida Science Fiction Society is a Florida non-profit educational corporation recognized by the Internal Revenue Service under section 501 (c) (3). General membership is \$15 per year (\$1 for children). The views and opinions expressed are those of the authors and artists and not necessarily those of the publisher. Why are you reading this?

SEMPER SURSUM

DISPATCH FROM THE HELM

IT'S NOT EASY BEING GREEN

It's high time we talked about the number one threat confronting the youth of America these days! Crack Cocaine? Nope! Satanic Cults? Don't be ridiculous! Gang violence... AIDS... Promiscuity? Hell, they're easy to deal with. Judging by the flood of ink used to condemn it, the number one threat facing our kids today is exposure to **TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: THE MOVIE**.

Apparently hundreds of parents have run screaming from neighborhood theaters clutching their glassy-eyed, traumatized children to their chests after only 35 to 40 minutes exposure to this insidious threat, bemoaning the lack of good, wholesome family entertainment. Disney entertainment. Entertainment that instills healthy, virtuous and, above all, non-violent behavior. "Have A Nice Day" behavior.

I'm curious. What did these parents think they were taking their kids to see? We're talking **teenage mutant ninjas** here. Somehow or other the title might lead one to expect something other than the ambience of "Rebecca Of Sunnybrook Farm". Rebecca never could handle a Sai worth a damn anyway.

What these bastions of good sense claim would be preferable is a return to the values exemplified by our own childhood role models. I don't know about you, but a society characterized by the problem-solving skills of Popeye, the social graces of the Three Stooges and the level-headed temperament of Donald Duck sounds more like one of the inner circles of Hell to me.

Speaking of Donald, I wonder how many parents, who feel that The Disney Channel makes an ideal baby-sitter, caught that vintage WW II cartoon in which "The Duck" (as George Plimpton calls him), mistakenly believing that he has lost the lower half of his body, accepts a revolver from a weeping Sergeant Pete, and puts it to his head to remedy his predicament. Now there's a value worth incorporating into a formative psyche; if you should ever become handicapped, you can always perform your very own 32 caliber lobotomy.

I must have taken my kids to a different Ninja Turtle flick. Sure there was violence, but, more importantly, (if you cared enough to see it) an equal amount of emphasis was placed on the values of friendship, loyalty, honor, and love of family (if a rat and four turtles can be described as family). The only blatant act of senseless violence committed in the film occurs in the final battle between Splinter and Shredder. It is committed by Shredder and results in his death.

The turtles themselves fight only when provoked and always within a strict code of honor. I seem to recall a certain "Masked Rider Of The Plains" who operated within similar restrictions every Saturday morning of my childhood. Each installment contained the obligatory shoot-out, fist-fight and chase but repeatedly emphasized that force was only to be used when no other options were available and never, never to kill. Hi-Yo, Silver! (Who were those masked turtles?)

That's why my boys & I took in TMNT on Easter Sunday instead of staying home & watching **THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD**. With any luck, they picked up some values I think are important. At least, with a nod to Lenny Bruce, they didn't learn to kill Christ when He comes back.

Till next month, I'll see you on the Dark Side.



SFSFS NEWS

Welcome to our new General member, Janice Scott Reader.

Greg Zentz is alive and well and living in Jacksonville. He forwards his best regards to the membership. He also re-newed his General membership. (Rumor has it he was so dazzled by the new Shuttle that he couldn't help himself.)

Terri Wells is about to travel on. She and her husband will be moving to New Jersey in early June. Her new address:

Terri Wells
239B Willow Turn
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054
(609) 727 - 3225

Take good care, Terry. We'll miss you!

Dana Reed, Prudy Taylor Board and Richard Lee Byers have tentatively agreed to appear as guests at TROPICON 9.

Doug Wu may be doing a solo gig at the WISHBONE GRILL on S Miami Avenue sometime in early July. Gee, I wonder who might be on hand to help him get down and get filky! Speaking of filky, ORION'S BELT, "with any luck at all" should have a tape available by late Summer, early Fall.

Peggy Dolan reports that Charles L Fontenay has arranged a special tour of the Salvador Dali museum for those attending the upcoming Travelling Fete in St Petersburg. She adds, "Get those memberships and hotel reservations in."
NOW !!!

OASIS III REPORT

A few random observations and opinions...

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

I hope other participants had it a bit better than I did. The Plaza Inn reminded me of an aging hooker who hopes that, by some miracle, the thick application of powder and paint will conceal her age. The giant Plaster of Paris fruit in the courtyard added just the right degree of tackiness. John Waters would love this place.

The thermostat in my room was unable to lower the temperature below 78. The shower provided cold and lukewarm trickling water.

On the positive side, a score of restaurants and convenience stores were easily accessible by foot. The Baker Street Grill had exceptional seafood.

FILM PROGRAM

Living proof that the video revolution is killing film programs at Cons. My son & I arrived about 10 minutes after the scheduled start time for ROGER RABBIT to find the room empty and the equipment off. The poor Gofer who tried to help didn't seem to have the faintest idea how to get the audio & video to work simultaneously. We finally gave up. Any schedule that includes ALPHAVILLE, however, can't be all bad.

As for Doctor X and Monique, the least said the better. I haven't seen that kind of stunned "deer frozen in the headlights" look on an audience since the 1972 4th of July Talent Show in Kenosha, Wisconsin when Chief Gunner's Mate Gary Spacek downed a gallon and a half of Brick oven beans and tried to fart the Overture to Die Fledermaus.

OASIS III REPORT

Gary's act, besides being incredibly difficult to follow, had more socially redeeming qualities than that of Dr X and his zaftig companion. I hope to initiate the "Bring John Zacherley to a Florida Con as Toastmaster" fund to show how it's really done!

DEALER'S ROOM

A pleasant assortment of items at good prices. I added two Arkhams to my collection without having to take out a second mortgage. Plenty of books, magazines, and implements of destruction to suit any taste.

ART SHOW

The Art room was well lit and not too crowded. A slightly better attempt to counter-balance the usual sea of anthropomorphic fuzzy animals, Who/Kirk/Picard/Spock portraits and winsome unicorns/dragons was evident. The **FIRST MEN IN THE MOON**, **SEVEN FACES OF DR LAO & DRAGON** sculptures were breathtaking.

I was particularly impressed with the work of Peggy Ranson. Her **FAMULUS** reminded me of Frank Brunner's work on **DR STRANGE**. I couldn't resist making it the first piece of art I've ever purchased at a con. If you have any spare pieces lying around, Peggy, I know this newsletter editor who...

Somehow I would have gathered the money needed to purchase a print of Carl Lundgren's **"THANG.."** if I only had a great answer to the question my far better half would have asked the second after I'd have brought it into the house. ("And just where did you intend to hang that???") Since I work at a Mental Health clinic, a snappy retort of "In my office!!" just wouldn't have worked. A fascinating and disturbing piece!

PANELS

No better, no worse than any I've attended at other cons.

I just wish that guests who participate in panels would stop feeling so self-conscious about sharing their opinions and/or discussing their work. If the attendants weren't interested, they wouldn't be there. By the time, the heming and hawing is over, half of the allotted hour is gone. Fortunately this only occurred once or twice. The judicious use of skilled moderators would probably go a long way to avoiding all the wasted time.

The participatory art panels, especially those which included or were geared specifically to a younger audience, were particularly commendable. My 7 year-old son, Jason, unleashed a barrage of questions at Mary Hanson-Roberts and she graciously responded to each of them without a scintilla of condescension. Thanks Mary,! You really whetted his appetite for the art camp he'll be attending this summer.

But we all know that attending panels is not the main reason for going to a con. And so, without further do...

OASIS III REPORT

PARTIES - NETWORKING (for you yuppie puppies) - GENERAL SCHMOOZING

It was a real delight to finally meet Richard Lee Byers and The rest Of The Stone Hill Gang. I can see why NECRONOMICON has such a good reputation. I'll try my damndest to make it in October.

For some reason, I always envisioned Kimiye Tipton as a tall, willowy blonde. Imagine my surprise! Rembert was... well, Rembert.

The Fellowship of Talisker was summoned for the first time this decade. Responding to the call were: Edie Stern, Joe & Patty Green, Joe Haldeman and your humble & obedient editor.

The Travelling Fete/Tropicon 9/ Hawaii in '93/ New York in '95 party was the scene of the con's second incidence of violence. Shuttle contributor Waldo Lydecker, still smarting over some trifling slight from Lee Hoffman that occurred more than 3 decades ago, greeted her with one of his patently caustic and offensive barbs. Lee, never one to suffer a fool, dumped a bowl of Polynesian pineapple dip in his lap and then deep-sixed his Smith-Corona in the pool. You shoulda been there!

There was actually a party where alleged adults gathered to watch X-rated Fuzzy animal videos. "Different Strokes for Different Folks" has a whole new meaning to me now.

SUMMARY

Somehow or other it worked for me and, on the whole, I enjoyed attending. In the hands of a less experienced staff, this con would have collapsed under it's own weight before noon on Saturday.

My main complaint is directed at the genius who didn't see any problem with scheduling this little shindiq straight through Mother's Day. Get a life or, at the very least, get a calendar!



A scene of unchained revelry at OASIS III

The 3rd Annual **Travelling Fête**

The Movable, Tropical, Florida Relaxacon

Guest of Honor

Charles L. Fontenay

July 27 – 29, 1990

Econo Lodge/South Central, St. Petersburg, Florida

A tropical festival to enjoy the sun; fan by the pool; have a drink with our Guest; and, of course, relax with your friends.

We don't schedule many items but you won't want to miss them!

On Saturday evening enjoy *the Movable Feast*, a special banquet featuring the Guest of Honor Speech. And don't miss the BATTLE OF THE AUTHORS. We also plan a field trip to the Salvador Dali museum, housing the largest Dali collection in the United States and one of the largest in the world. And, as there won't be a huckster room, you might want to join in our bookstore crawl.

Of course, our *Everlasting Consuite* will be open virtually all weekend with tropical specialties. And don't forget your inflatable dinosaur, or whatever, for the pool party.

Registration: only \$15.00 until June 15, 1990.

Room rates: only \$35.00 single thru quad

Econo Lodge/South Central, 3000 34th St. S., St. Petersburg, FL 33711; (813) 867-1111

***The Movable Feast*: only \$18.00 for our Guest of Honor banquet.**

Make checks for registration and banquet payable to: South Florida Science Fiction Society.

Mail to: Fête Treasurer, SFSFS, P.O. Box 70143, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307.

Peggy A. Dolan, Chairman

Sponsored by the South Florida Science Fiction Society [a 501(c)(3) & Florida non-profit corporation]

GUEST OF HONOR This year, *Travelling Fête* visits **Charles L. Fontenay**, who has returned to writing science fiction after a series of fascinating detours. From 1954 to 1964, he authored three SF novels: *Twice Upon a Time*; *Rebels of the Red Planet*; and *The Day the Oceans Overflowed*, along with a number of short stories. His themes run from space opera (with a "hard science" basis) to experiments in fantasy, horror, and humor; with the emphasis on the ideas and the people. After 1964, Fontenay pursued other interests and careers. Among the items in his lengthy resume are: award-winning journalist, biographer, philosopher, and black belt in karate. Since resuming his earlier career, he has been working on several SF stories and novels. His recent published work includes: "Fredeya" in *Barbarians II* (edited by Robert Adams; Signet); "The Silk and the Song" reprinted in *Cosmic Critiques: How & Why Ten Science Fiction Stories Work*, by Asimov & Greenberg; (Writer's Digest), and "Savior" in *Subtropical Speculations* (edited by Rick Wilbur; Pineapple Press - August, 1990). Be sure to get your ticket for the *Movable Feast* with your seat for the Guest of Honor speech. Charles Fontenay's varied careers, interests, and experiences provide him with a wealth of material for his role as an accomplished *raconteur*.

PROGRAM

Fête is a relaxacon, so there is no formal programming. Tradition (now in its third year) requires that the Guest of Honor make plans to entertain and/or enlighten his visitors. Joe Green took us to see the place where he works. (!!!) Joe Haldeman planned tours in the Gainesville area and of the stars. (The clouds were planned elsewhere.) At *Fête III*, Charles Fontenay presents "THE BATTLE OF THE AUTHORS". If that sounds to you like the clever title of a panel you have already seen a few times, you're in for a surprise. In response to a special request (from Dan Siclari), our GoH and Florida author/artist Sarah Clemens will don their black belts, bow politely, and show us the real thing! If you survive that, a visit to the Salvador Dali museum (largest collection in the world), and raids on the local well-stocked used book stores are also on tap.

PARTY POOL

Fêters to be found fielding the inflatables this year will include past *TROPICON/Fête* guests. Confirmed to date are Lee Hoffman and Joe and Patrice Green. We also expect this year's OASIS Fan GoH to put in an appearance. As the evening wears on, keep your eyes and ears open for Vince Miranda and some of his filking buddies. Be prepared

to immerse yourself in the *Fête* Filk. We have word from a reliable, highly-placed source that a new and different filk song may be introduced. Don't miss it!

CON SUITE

As usual, an assortment of tropical treats and beverages will be available to sustain *Fête* members while they chat with each other and with our Guest of Honor.

HOTEL

The Econo-Lodge (South) is located on 34th St. South (aka US 19). Look for it on your right if you arrive via the Sunshine Skyway, or on your left if you head south on US 19 from the Clearwater-Tampa area. Rooms are \$35 a night (plus tax) single through quad. Call (813) 867-1111 to make your reservation while the hotel is still holding rooms for us. Tell them you are with the con.

MOVABLE FEAST

The Saturday night (live!) banquet will be buffet style, featuring a variety of dishes so that you can choose something you like. There will be a cash bar open before the banquet. Tickets are \$18. and can be purchased from the *Fête* Treasurer. Be sure to get a front-row seat for the Guest of Honor speech following the meal.

BOOK REVIEWS

**KARLOFF AND LUGOSI:
THE STORY OF A HAUNTING COLLABORATION**
- Gregory William Mank
McFarland & Company
372 pages \$29.95

While renting a copy of **THE BLACK CAT** (1934) at the local video emporium, I schmoozed with the clerk over the current absence of real star quality in the horror field. Chaney, Karloff, Lugosi, Carradine, Lorre, Atwill... all dead. Price, Lee, Cushing... virtually retired. Naschy remains essentially unknown in the states...

"What about Robert Englund? He has classical training."

Let's see... ENGLUND... Nope, sorry, he just doesn't quite have it yet. Like other up & comers, he just doesn't have the "Presence" to prevent being blown off the screen (literally and figuratively) by the wizardry of the Makeup artists and the pyrotechnics of the FX technicians.

'Fess up gang, they just don't make 'em like Karloff and Lugosi anymore!

They starred in 7 films (9 if you count their "cameos" in 1934's **GIFT OF GAB** and the allegedly suppressed, never completed British collaboration in 1938, **TOWER OF FEAR** *) that range from the sublime (1934's **THE BLACK CAT** & 1945's **THE BODY SNATCHER**) to the ridiculous (1940's **YOU'LL FIND OUT**). Mank focuses on these 7 intersections in the careers of Karloff and Lugosi and supplements this filmography with the candid observations of other significant participants such as David Manners, Alan Napier, Mae Clarke, Curt Siodmak and Carroll Borland. He also refers to the memos and financial ledgers of Universal and RKO Studios. The result is a remarkable study of the decidedly different artistic choices, draconian ploys of the studio brass and the simple whims of fate that resulted in the final career outcomes and public perception of "Dear Boris" and "Poor Bela".

KARLOFF AND LUGOSI is an immensely satisfying, well-researched account of the so-called "rivalry" between these two horror icons as well as a fine glimpse at the heyday of Horror's "Golden Age".
(* with a wink to Ramsey Campbell) - Gerry Adair

**DINOSAUR PLOTS
AND OTHER INTRIGUES IN NATURAL HISTORY**
- Leonard Krishtalka
Avon Books April 1990
316 Pages \$8.95

What's the problem, Bunky? Are you illiterate when it comes to the Natural Sciences? Do your kids laugh at you because you can't tell an *Australopithecus robustus* from a *Homo erectus*? Do you believe that the "Science of Creationism" is a viable alternative science course instead of an oxymoron? Afraid to improve your science IQ because the texts you've read were drier than a Women's Christian Temperance rally? Is that what's bothering you, Bunky?

Well, **DINOSAUR PLOTS**, a collection of some of the best of Leonard Krishtalka's tongue-in-cheek "Missing Link" columns from **CARNEGIE MAGAZINE**, is here to cure those "Don't Know My Pleistocene From My

BOOK REVIEWS

Mesozoic Blues".

The topics include Science vs Creationism ("The singling out of evolution for censorship or 'balanced treatment' with creationism in the public classroom begs a larger question: Will we dismiss all knowledge?"), How species are named ("...Richard Estes, from San Diego State University, revealed his taste in Scotch by naming CUTTYSARKUS, a 70 million-year-old fossil lizard. Too bad the Scotch isn't as aged."), the "Mother Eve" theory ("Heredity is something most parents believe in until their children start acting like fools.") New Age Channeling ("The only spirits worth investigating come in a bottle labeled single malt whiskey.") and scores of others.

Science hasn't been this much fun since Ben Franklin used a primitive Joy Buzzer on Thomas Jefferson. Enjoy!

- Gerry Adair

THE FALL OF HYPERION

- Dan Simmons

Doubleday March 1990

517 pages \$19.95

Yes, it's every bit as good, if not better, than **HYPERION**.

War has erupted. As CEO Meina Gladstone gathers the leaders and Military Strategists of the Hegemony together in a desperate attempt to halt the Ouster invasion, seven pilgrims watch as the Time Tombs of Hyperion begin to open. Observing & participating in all of these events is a cybrid created by the AI technocore; a living embodiment of poet John Keats. He discovers that the Ouster Invasion is a ruse of the Technocore to create their own God and eliminate all of mankind.

An homage to it's namesake (Keat's epic poem **THE FALL OF HYPERION** described the overthrow of the Titans by the new Olympian Gods) Simmons' **THE FALL OF HYPERION** tells of the battle between the God of Humanity and the ultimate Deus ex Machina.

I haven't been this impressed with the total scope of a work of fiction since I fell headlong into Peake's Gormenghast trilogy.

A 2-in-1 volume, entitled **HYPERION CANTOS**, is available from the Science Fiction Book Club for those looking for a real bargain.

- Gerry Adair

MINE

- Robert R McCammon

POCKET BOOKS May 1990

\$18.95

In **MINE**, McCammon drops the supernatural trappings of his preceding novels and opts for a straight-out suspense thriller, much in the same vein as his novella **BLUE WORLD**. The result is a fast-paced, white-knuckler of a read.

Laura Clayborne experiences every parent's worst nightmare when her baby is kidnapped from the hospital hours after delivery. The kidnapper, Mary Terrell (aka Mary Terror) is a full-blown psychotic who never quite made it out of the 60's. Responding to a secret code in the

BOOK REVIEWS

Personal column in ROLLING STONE, Mary takes the child as a peace offering to her ex-lover and former leader of the radical Storm Front, and heads cross-country to rendezvous with him. When informed by the police that Mary's abandoned apartment contained a closet full of burned and mutilated baby dolls, Laura hits the road in hot pursuit. Also joining the chase is a former FBI agent who retired after being hideously scarred by Mary 20 years ago. His goal: the death of Mary Terror - at any cost.

If you're searching for a riveting suspense thriller this summer, **MINE** easily fits the bill. The hype that this is a soul-searching portrayal of the lost values of the 60's is simply a bit too much to swallow. A better example of what happened to the values of the 60's can be found in George R R Martin's underestimated **THE ARMAGEDDON RAG**. Personally, I've always maintained that those who claim to remember the 60's probably weren't there.

-Gerry Adair

**THE SEAHARP HOTEL:
THE THIRD CHRONICLE OF GREYSTONE BAY**
- Charles L Grant, editor
Tor June 1990
294 pages \$3.95

Strange, unsettling things seem to occur with an eerie regularity in Greystone Bay. In this, the third sojourn into this New England coastal nexus of the weird, Editor Charles L Grant has gathered 15 accomplished horror writers to tell of the strange goings-on at the old SeaHarp Hotel.

In "Blood Lilies", Robert E Vardeman presents a tale of botanical vampirism. Leslie Alan Horvitz reveals the price that must be paid for artistic inspiration in "A Muse For Mr Horvitz". Wendy Webb affords us a quiet, elegant "Interlude" with the ghostly inhabitant of Room 209. Up in room 403, Les Daniels describes how a quest's paranoia increases each time he contacts "Room Service". Over in 301, a former Miss Greystone Bay receives a revealing visit from her sister in Robert R McCammon's "Beauty".

Maybe I'm just partial to quiet old libraries, but Chet Williamson's "Ex-Library", the tale of a ghostly volume of M. R. James's **COLLECTED GHOST STORIES** and the chilling effect that "Oh, Whistle, And I'll Come To You My Lad" has upon it's readers, is the crown jewel in this collection.

With only a few misfires, this moody, atmospheric collection should be enjoyed by those who like their horror on the quiet side.

- Gerry Adair

REBORN
- F. Paul Wilson
Jove edition/ June 1990
344 pages \$4.95

Billed as the "long-awaited sequel to the New York Times Bestseller

BOOK REVIEWS

THE KEEP", **REBORN** promises much more than it is able to deliver. I don't mean to imply that this is a bad novel, quite the contrary. As a product of years of Catholic education (14) as well as a brief stint in the seminary of the Oblates of St Francis de Sales, I'm a pre-ordained (sorry) sucker for works of horror with a strong religious theme. In **REBORN**, Wilson spends most of the novel preparing the reader to accept a fascinating theological premise. (Revealing that premise could destroy your enjoyment of the story. Let's just say certain scientific advances are used to create a human who lacks what Catholicism teaches is the primary component in making us superior to the angels.) By the time the premise is clearly established, the novel ends but the implications and the initial effects of the climax have just begun.

I'm hooked. When's the next installment due?

How is this a sequel to **THE KEEP**? Well, that primal force of evil mistaken for an angel in **THE KEEP** appears to be about to return to the world two decades later. A group of extremely sensitive catholics led by a Brother Martin Spano sense his arrival and attempt to destroy him. They're deluded into thinking he's the anticipated Antichrist.

They're wrong... He's much worse.

And what of Glaeken, the guardian of The Keep? Could he be the mysterious Mr Veilleur who now seems content to passively watch as the cycle of evil begins anew?

REBORN is like a light sherbert, ideal for cleansing the palate and, hopefully, the prologue to a sumptuous meal. Bring on the beef!

- Gerry Adair

WEIRD TALES

Published Quarterly by Terminus Publishing Co., Inc.

Editors & Publishers: John Betancourt, George H. Scithers
and Darrell Schweitzer

\$4.00

I wanted to wait for awhile and be sure. Sam Moskowitz tried to bring it back in 1973 but his efforts produced only four issues. Lin Carter tried putting out a paperback edition that folded. Gil Lamont was able to produce one issue in 1984 (featuring Stephen King's first and, so far, only appearance under the **WEIRD TALES** banner) and another in 1985 that relatively few have ever seen. I was skeptical. I really didn't think that anyone could successfully resurrect **WEIRD TALES** again.

Hot Damn, was I ever wrong!

WEIRD TALES "The Unique Magazine" is back with a vengeance! This new incarnation (volume 50 #1, Whole # 290) hit the stands in early '88 and has consistently lived up to the tradition established by the best of WT's editors, Edwin Baird, Farnsworth Wright and Dorothy McIlwraith.

Each issue showcases the work of a specific writer and artist and backs them up with a solid representation of fiction, prose, interviews, commentary and reviews. Those authors profiled thus far include Gene Wolfe, Tanith Lee, Karl Edward Wagner, David Schow, and Brian Lumley. J.K. Potter, Vincent di Fate, Stephen Fabian, George Barr, and Janet Aulisio, among others, have each provided all the artwork for specific issues. Other contributors include F. Paul Wilson, Ramsey Campbell, Harry Turtledove, T.E.D. Klein, Jonathan Carroll....

I think you get the drift.

BOOK REVIEWS

Subscribe! Subscribe, now! Don't let **WEIRD TALES** join the ranks of **TWILIGHT ZONE**, **NIGHT CRY**, **THE HORROR SHOW** and other now defunct genre magazines. Here is Dark Fantasy at it's best.

- Gerry Adair

AUTHOR'S CHOICE MONTHLY

Pulphouse Publishing

\$4.95

Issue # 2 Karl Edward Wagner. "Unthreatened By The Morning Light"

November 1989

Issue # 7 Edward Bryant. "Neon Twilight"

April 1990

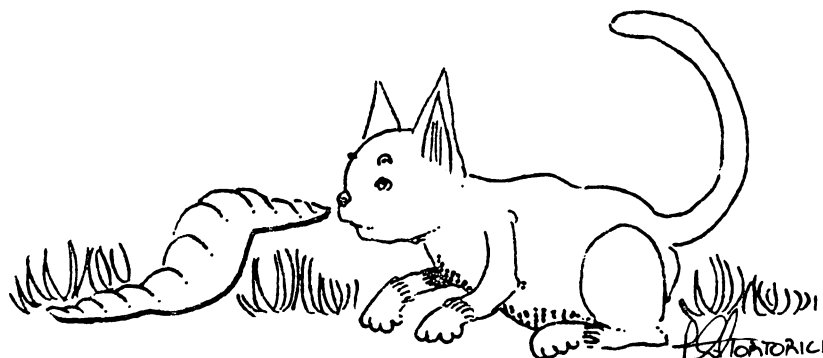
Speaking of quality publications worthy of your support, the wonderful folks at Pulphouse Publishing (more about them next month) have produced a digest sized publication that spotlights a different author every month. It is entitled, appropriately enough, **AUTHOR'S CHOICE MONTHLY**, and, if the two issues I picked up are any indication, the series will provide authors with an ideal forum to showcase some of their favorite lesser known works.

The Wagner edition "Unthreatened By The Morning Light" collects three stories that were inspired by dreams. "Endless Night" is the most dreamlike with it's rapidly shifting surreal landscapes and situations. "Neither Brute Nor Human" tells of the vampiric relationship between a successful author, Trevor Nordgen (who Wagner claims is based on a specific real-life author as he appeared in a dream) and his legion of fans. In "The River Of Night's Dreaming" a psychotic woman experiences dreams generated by a reading of the infamous **THE KING IN YELLOW**.

In "Neon Dreams" Bryant not only returns to returns to space opera science fiction, but acknowledges the influence of "the wondrously creative and most adventurous librarian of our time, Andre Norton" upon his career. This influence is particularly evident in "Pilots Of The Twilight"; a story written in 1984 for Fred Saberhagen's Berserker universe. "Neon", a new story written for this collection, is a return to that universe and focuses on the granddaughter of the protagonists of "Pilots". The remaining tale "Waiting In Crouched Halls" is the only Cinnabar story that wasn't included in **CINNABAR** (1976).

AUTHOR'S CHOICE MONTHLY will provide an ideal vehicle for readers to sample some of the best short works of a veritable smorgasbord of authors each year.

- Gerry Adair





- Edie Stern
Boca Raton, Fl

May 5, 1990

Dear Gerry,

Shuttle Issue 62 arrived today. Congratulations - it's big, and for the most part, interesting.

I must take issue with you in regards to some of the comments in your editorial. For example, you imply that it is not uncommon for professional guests to behave in a very unprofessional manner at regional conventions. I have been working on small, medium, and large conventions for about 10 years, and have never had a problem with pros being drunk or disorderly when they were supposed to be "on" program. Certainly, people being people, incidents occur. However, in my experience, Guests act like guests.

As for financial reimbursement, small conventions traditionally don't offer honorariums. "The usual" arrangement is that Guests Of Honor receive expenses. Other guests receive a complimentary membership. For example, Tropicon has never paid a fee to a Guest. (It's hard enough to break even.)

Ray Bradbury's FAU talk was interesting, but uneven. I enjoyed his anecdotes, but lost interest in some of his commentary. Having read a lot of Joseph Campbell lately, I keep hearing echoes of Campbell's favorite advice to "follow your bliss". Bradbury caught me right and proper, though, when he described the wonderful blow out celebration of space he would have orchestrated at Cape Kennedy. That one felt just like one of his stories.

Bill Wilson's review of the "druid serial babynapper" movie, **THE GUARDIAN**, was entertaining. The phrase "druid serial babynapper" is very evocative, and the spectre of a tree absorbing one's soul is interesting. I suspect the blood and gore make the review much more pleasant than the movie. Maybe we should run it for Arbor Day?

Gerry, if I didn't know better I'd complain about the fact that all your reviews are in the horror subgenre. But then if I did, you'd only say something about writing one myself. So forget it.

Did thoroughly enjoy your review of **TALES FROM THE CRYPT**. Dear Dr Wertham indeed. So perish all censors (or at least they ought to). Updates on work in progress are always interesting. Thanks for the good mix of stuff in this zine. And if anyone else writes in claiming to be Anastasia, let me know.

(Your points are well taken. As to professional behavior, your experience at Cons is much more extensive, and probably more valid, than mine. I based my comment on somewhat limited experience but tempered it with the observations & recollections expressed by quite a few fans who usually preface their stories with "This is confidential, but..." or "Don't write this, but..."

As to Science Fiction reviews, right and right again!

On the continuing Anastasia controversy, read on... - Gerry)

- Haversack Revsham

(Obviously from a galaxy far, far away... - Gerry)

Dear Mission Commander,

I have just finished reading the May '90 **Shuttle** and I must say I resent this Anastasia crap. First of all Adair, you know damn well that you are Anastasia and, for that matter, so was I, and Edie Stern, not to mention that poor, deluded Cicely Neville, Manuel Noriega and most of 2 Live Crew along with various others.

That's right, Anastasia had a split personality.

As any fool knows, split personalities occur when more than one soul is reincarnated in one person. Remember what it was like in there gang? Think back real hard and you will remember.

As to your wimpola readership, I heard more insidious grousing about too many horror reviews by the Mission Commander. Come on folks, you all know that Adair is demented; that's all he can read! If you want to see more S.F. reviews, then put your printed word where your mouth is and write some! Heh, heh, heh! (The Heh's are mine, not Adair's).

As to **CLASSICS ILLUSTRATED**, I used them as a fun adjunct to the books after I read the book first. They were too concentrated to give me the meat my mind needed to survive the 50's & 60's (although I was teased into reading some books by the **CLASSICS** cover art. Remember the cover for **WAR OF THE WORLDS** or **A TALE OF TWO CITIES**?).

Hey, How about them Orlando folk? Con Violence! Drinking Beer in front of children! Giant Hotels spread out over miles! Lewd Women! And don't forget the giant concrete citrus fruit! Wow, how stylish! They sure know how to party!

- Phil Tortorici

Lake Worth, FL

May 24th

Gerry,

It's going to be a Dark August.

(Phil - The Bird is on the Wing while all of Venice weeps... Seriously, I have high hopes for the August issue. Your contributions and support are appreciated. Keep'em comin'. - Gerry)

SHORT FICTION

Once upon a time in the future, the very first humanoid robot was released into society. All went well, but soon problems arose. For within a week, it was found, battery completely dead, standing in the shower holding an empty bottle of shampoo. And the label read "Lather. Rinse. Repeat."

- with apologies to Communication Week

- Edie Stern

IT CAME IN THE MAIL!

BCSFAzine # 204

British Columbia Science Fiction Association
Editor: R Graeme Cameron
- Stan G Hyde's "The Light-Hearted Vituperator & Jolly Reviler continues to be a favorite of mine. Anyone who has fond memories of those great Star Spangled War Comics dinosaur stories as well as an obvious reverence for Hammer Films is okay in my book!

De Profundis # 219 Monthly Newsletter of The Los Angeles Area Science Fiction Association

THE INSIDER # 159 Newsletter of the St Louis Science Fiction League. Editor: Deb Roe

OASFIS EVENT HORIZON # 36
Special Convention issue
Newsletter of the Orlando Area Science Fiction Society.
Editor: Ray Herz.
Some great art by C. L. Swann, Ray Van Tilbergh, Phil Tortorici, Mary Hanson-Roberts and Peggy Ranson, to mention just a few. Peggy Ranson's cover is particularly impressive.
Nice work, Ray.

OSFS STATEMENT # 155 Editor: Lionel Wagner. Monthly Newsletter of The Ottawa Science Fiction Society.

JULY SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE

All material must be in my hot little hands no later than **June 23rd**. I'll be out of town most of June so a deluge of contributions would be not only appreciated but integral if I hope to get the July issue out on time. - Gerry

BIRTHDAYS

Michael McDowell 6/1/50; Marquis de Sade 6/2/1740; Elizabeth Bowen 6/7/99; Lin Carter 6/9/30;
Dorothy L Sayers 6/13/1893;
Whitley Streiber 6/13/45; Leonid Andreyev 6/18/1871;
H Rider Haggard 6/22/1856;
Ambrose Bierce 6/24/1842; Colin Wilson 6/26/31; Lafcadio Hearn 6/27/1850; Robert Aickman 6/29/?

THANK YOU AND GOODNIGHT

Jim Henson - Creator of The Muppets. From The Junior Morning Show in 1953 to designing the Live-action Ninja Turtles for the recent blockbuster film, Jim Henson's contributions to the field of fantasy were simply immeasurable.

For a delightful (albeit slightly dated) overview of his career, hunt down Judith P Harris's "Of Precocious Pigs, Singing Cabbages, And A Little Green Frog Named Kermit" in **CINEFANTASTIQUE** vol 13 # 4, April-May 1983.

Jack Gilford - The pixie-faced character actor died on June 4th of stomach cancer. He was 82. Genre Films included: **THEY MIGHT BE GIANTS** (1971); **CAVEMAN** (1981); **ANNA TO THE INFINITE POWER** (1982); **COCOON** (1985); **COCOON: THE RETURN** (1988).

On stage he created the roles of The Mute King in **ONCE UPON A MATTRESS** (a musical version of The Princess & The Pea) and Hyseterium in **A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM**.

He last appeared on stage in Florida as Mr Jordan in the Burt Reynolds Dinner Theater production of **HEAVEN CAN WAIT** in the early 80's.

CON-siderations

VULCON June 8-10
Ft Lauderdale Airport Hilton
GOH: Denise Crosby
Memb: \$25 at the door.
Hotel info: 305 - 290-3300

The New Orleans Science Fiction and Fantasy Festival June 15-17
Bayou Plaza Hotel 4040 Tulane Ave
New Orleans, La 70119
GOH: Roger Zelazny
TM: Edward Bryant
FanGOH: Frank & Cece Terry
also George R R Martin, George
Alec Effinger, Ellen Datlow,
Melinda M Snodgrass, J K Potter
and more!
MEMB: \$25 at the door

TRAVELLING FETE III Jul 27- 29
Econo Lodge/South Central
St Petersburg, Fl
A laid-back Relax-a-con.
GOH: Charles L Fontenay
MEMB: \$15 until 6/15/90
INFO: SFSFS Secretary
P.O. Box 70143
Ft Lauderdale, Fl 33307
Get those memberships
and reservations in now!

ConFiction: 48th World Science Fiction Convention Aug 23-27
Netherland Congress Centre
The Hague, Holland
GOH's: Joe Haldeman, Wolfgang
Jeschke and Harry Harrison
FanGOH: Andrew Porter
TM: Chelsea Quinn Yarbro
MEMB: Supporting US \$28
Attending US \$70
INFO: ConFiction Worldcon 1990
P.O. Box 95370
2509 CJ
The Hague, Holland
Don't wait 'till the last minute,
make your reservations now!

WORLD HORROR CONVENTION UPDATE

The 1st World Horror Convention is slated for February 28 - March 3, 1991 at the Nashville Hyatt Regency in Nashville Tennessee.

A Supporting membership of \$25 entitles you to copies of the Progress Reports and the Souvenir Program book as well as the Registration packet and any follow-up info. You can trade up to an attending membership for an additional \$25 until 6/30/90 or \$40 afterwards.

An Attending membership is \$50 until 6/30/90 and \$65 afterwards. Membership will be limited to 1,000 paid attendees.

Clive Barker has withdrawn as GOH, due to the possibility of a schedule conflict, but has expressed his intent to attend if at all possible. Chelsea Quinn Yarbro has graciously consented to attend as Guest of Honor. Toastmaster Duties will be shared by David Schow, John Skipp, Craig Spector and Richard Christian Matheson.

The Artist Guest Of Honor will be Jill Bauman. The Grand Master has yet to be announced.

The World Horror Convention is for people who take horror seriously and want to discuss and learn more with others that share their interests. Therefore, there will be no gaming, masquerade, hall costumes, weapons or similar trappings of a "fannish" convention.

For further info, write to:
WORLD HORROR CONVENTION
P.O. BOX 22817
NASHVILLE, TN, 37202

or, call: (615) 226-6172
(This is a machine. Please leave your message and address and a postcard with your answer will be in the next mail.



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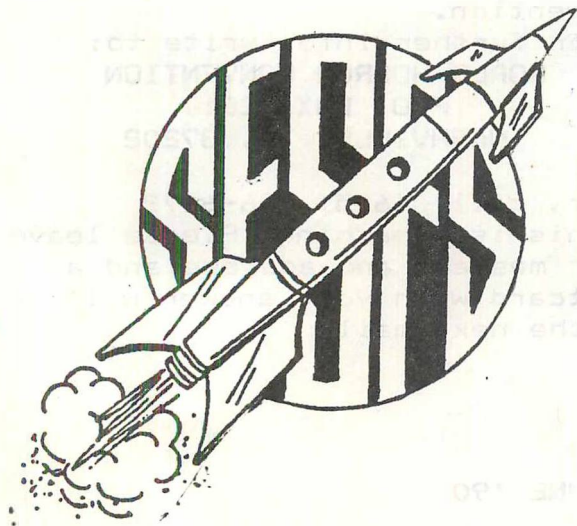
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