

Produced by Meade Frierson III, 3705 Woodvale Road, Birmingham AL 35223 for the fifth mailing of Esoteric Order of Dagon Mailing No. 6 in May, 1974 and limited distribution thereafter to interested persons.

Interesting letter just in from Brian Lumley, tells of his working on a new Cthulhu Mythos based novel, 100,000 words, fantastic adventures in space and time called (working title anyway) THE TRANSITION OF TITUS CROW. He asks for permission (which will be granted by airmail tomorrow-2/17/74) to use a reference to a husband & wife team of investigators named "the Friersons", who meet a horrible death in Oklahoma at the hands of ...well, let's all just wait for some publisher to bring this forth; shall we? He claims to expect the DAW book, The Burrowers Beneath, any day - did I miss reference to it in GALAXY as forthcoming? I was under the impression that Wollheim has not announced it as just around the corner, or maybe he did not think it appropriate to be plugged in an sf mag? Who knows - if it hasn't appeared by May 10, I'll accost Mr. Wollheim at the convention in Nashville and find out what gives?

LOVECRAFT AND REALITY

by Robert Culp

In his book "The Strength to Dream" Mr. Colin Wilson took the macabre works of H.P. Lovecraft severely to task, categorizing them generally as gloomy, imaginative and atrocious writing. Since then in the prefaces to later works Mr. Wilson's earlier opinion has been modified. Besides explaining his earlier rationalization processes in the preface to "The Mind Parasites", he admits that HPL exercises a hold on his imagination and further that he was an obsessed writer possessing genius. In the preface to "The Philosopher's Stone", HPL's novels are said to be not about ideas but about an emotion indicating violent and total rejection of our civilization. The article, "Order of Assassins", in HPL speaks for itself, except for the point about HPL becoming a cult among the young.

Somewhere in the late 20s or early 30s my own interests switched from a pure science fiction fan to a fascinated fantasy fan with a marked preference for the weird and occult. This fascination developed into a lifelong interest particularly in the occult fields. No student or occult "reader" can go very far without encountering something by or about Aleister Crowley so I have collected and read everything that has come to hand in that connection.

Despite the tendency of a lifelong military career to obliterate any but the most pragmatic interests, this fascination with the "strange and unusual" has persisted and has led as a form of escapism to the exploration of all the arts and sciences related to this peculiarly human psychological supernatural quirk. It has long been a theory of mine that very little separates fantasy and fact insofar as the occult is concerned, primarily because of a deep scepticism toward any proposition that proposes "something for nothing", but the fascination persists, nevertheless. I have never tried to develop this into a thesis, but I feel that this attitude has maintained a healthy perspective and not lessened the speculative possibilities.

What all this has to do with H.P. Lovecraft will be presented with no further mish mosh. (over)

Culp continues:

In 1970 the Marshall Cavendish Corporation published the "Illustrated Encyclopedia of the Supernatural, Man, Myth & Magic", volume 23 of which is almost entirely devoted to what is termed "Frontiers of Belief" and therein is a chapter entitled "Dreaming Out of Space" written by Kenneth Grant. For the benefit of non-occultists, Mr. Grant is the head of Ordo Templi Orientis, a serious and secret order whose aim is the establishment of the Law of Thelema. That organization was planned but only partially implemented initially by Aleister Crowley. To get back to the subject and shorten a lengthy story, the contention is that while there is no record of any reciprocal relationship between Crowley and HPL, their motivations sprang from a common source, i.e., non-terrestrial entities.

It has long been the practice of occultists of various disciplines to disguise the dynamics of occultism as fiction in much the same manner as alchemical writings are allegorically written. Therefore, the logical extension of this rationalization is that the development of the Cthulhu series by Lovecraft had a basis in fact, namely that he was helplessly possessed, but unwillingly resistive. This contention is supported by parallels of other contemporary personalities, some of whom HPL had acknowledged in his correspondence and others who, as was said before, apparently were unknown to him. The article is illustrated with a drawing by Austin O. Spare of HPL's "Dryads and Satyrs in the Woods" and while it is not prepossessing, to properly appreciate it, one has to be familiar with A.O. Spare's works, such as his collection of "Automatic Drawings" or "The Book of Pleasure."

In 1972 Mr. Grant published "The Magical Revival", chapter 11 of which is devoted to Spare and the Zos Kia Cultus and opens with the following sentence: "H.P. Lovecraft, in one of his tales of terror, alludes to certain entities which have their being not in the spaces known to us but between them. They walk calm and primal, of no dimensions and to us unseen."

Then in 1973 Mr. Grant published "Aleister Crowley and the Hidden God", which not only develops in depth that the work of HPL "is the result of a distortion in the subjective lens of his own awareness" and that elsewhere these images emerge, when not so deformed, approximating sometimes Crowley's cult-types.

All this in its detail and entirety is interesting and at the same time disquieting in its implications. Indulge yourself in the supposition that all this time you have been reading the tales of the Cthulhu Mythos for entertainment, there are those who are in fact invoking the same nether world entities for real.

So now, where is the difference between fantasy and reality.

For a piece de resistance, I refer you to the Chapter entitled "The Metaphysics of Lovecraft" in the book of "The Satanic Rituals" by Anton Szandor LaVey: "Ph'nglui mglw'nafh r'lyeh wgab'nagl fhtagn."

Now all that remains to resolve the matter is to locate a legitimate edition of Al Azif or a copy of the Necronomicon, then translate the occult terminology to scientific principles and zap! hyp-

Culp (concluded)

perspace here we come, faster than light travel, transmutation of base metals on a quantitative basis will solve the world's monetary problems, materialization of food for starving peoples of the world and a source of infinite power to end the energy crisis.

That's what I call applied magic...oops, science.

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DAUGHTER OF DAGON

by Eldon K. Everett

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I saw her in the park one day. Not much of a park, a few trees where the winos hung out. She couldn't have been more than 20, hair back in bradds and an ankle-length green dress like some of the hippie chicks wear.

"So that's the Daughter of Dagon," I mused.

"That's her!," Eddie said. "Rev. Finley's her old man. You should make it down to their mission some night, Bill. They put on a great feed!"

"The Esoteric Order of Dagon. Who's Dagon?"

"Who cares? You dress up in them funny black robes they give you, stomp your feet and clap your hands while Brother Finley chants - then you get steak, or roast beef, or chicken."

"I heard some funny things, Eddie. Sam Dash and Big Bill and a couple of the other boys disappeared after going over there."

"Hell, Bill, I told ya. Old man Finley gave them the bus fare to go to Sacramento to pick tomatoes."

"Well," I said, "I don't need a meal and I've still got some money - but I sure wish I could get next to that fine-lookin' fox."

"You and everybody else," Eddie said. "You couldn't get close enough to that to smell it. Her heart belongs to Dagon - whoever the hell that is!"

"Okay," I said, "Let's give it a pull."

So I started going to the mission every night. You lined up and they gave you a black wraparound cloak to put on. All the winos and hypes and dirties were there, scratching their fleas and bitching about how they had to go through the damn ritual before they could get their chow.

And Eddie was right about Elaine - you couldn't get near her, but I kept trying. They'd bunch us all together in the Temple, and there was a big cistern, about 4 ft. deep, I guess, and Elaine and the preacher chanted away over the tank and everybody gave the responses and then nothing happened, except everybody filed out and they got fed.

Boy, what a looker she was! Long ebon tresses, milk-white skin and fiery hazel eyes. All the bums called her "Daughter of Dagon," but she was cold, man, never a smile, never anything.

After the chow the old man would pass up and down the tables and try to sign up guys to get baptized. He never said they'd get paid, understand, but the word was out that getting baptized was worth at least twnty big ones.

Even so, he never seemed to get many takers. Some of the guys hadn't touched water since 1936 and weren't about to now. (over)

Daughter of Dagon (continued)

There was something funny about it. Guys would go in maybe once or twice a week to get baptized and they'd be in there alone with Finley and Elaine, and they'd come out looking all funny and after a couple days you didn't see 'em hanging around any more.

Well, the day came when Eddie was tap city and I didn't have enough to help him out, so he decided to take a nosedive for Dagon and I saw him go into the temple with Finley and the daughter.

I hung around outside and waited for him, rain coming down and orange reflections on the black street from the sodium-lamps; and I was getting pretty nervous, as it was a bad neighborhood after dark.

Finally he came out, and he was white as a sheet.

"What happened, old son?" I asked.

"Bill, don't ask me! Promise you won't ever ask me!"

"Okay, pal, if you say so. Did they give you any bread?"

"yeah, I got \$20. Man, how I need a drink. Let's hit the liquor store."

Eddie and I killed off a couple of 5ths of vodka and went out separate ways, and that was the last time I saw Eddie. That was the last time anybody ever saw Eddie.

I guess you can imagine my frustration and curiosity after that. Well, what the hell, I could get myself baptized and find out all about it, couldn't I? But I never could get up enough nerve.

It was just after Christmas I finally couldn't take it any more. They had gotten another volunteer for baptism and after they ran out the feeders and went into the temple, I took a big screw-driver and busted in the lock on the outside door.

I tiptoed through the dining-room and made my way to the temple door. I could hear Elaine and Finley chanting incomprehensible words and I pushed the door open an inch or so and looked in.

There was the old wino, naked except for some dirty shorts, perched on the side of the tank. Then up out of the water came a sight I drink now to forget.

It was Elaine - naked - reaching up from the tank...not with her arms, but with rows of tentacles that grew out under her arms!

She drew the man down into the water, covering him with kisses in an obscene embrace. The look of fear on his face became a look of unbearable ecstasy!

I don't remember how I got out of the mission...I don't even remember setting fire to the building. But sometimes now I see in my dreams that unholy, cold face of the Daughter of Dagon!

-oOo-

Nothing in the field for me to review or even attempt to mention right now. I've obtained a lot of sf that I'd been interested in and have been heavily slanting my reading in that direction. Seems like a couple of them - the reality-trips of Phillip K. Dick and the Rendezvous with Rama of Arthur C. Clarke could have been molded to have Cthulhuvian overtones, but neither of those gents were interested, I suppose.

Penny bought me the Manticore - looks like a dumb book...and another Hitchcock anthology...these to provide relief from my heavy doses of sf.

The 00 (rOgEr) - Good for you - very sorry to hear of Fred's troubles but things do change and we hope to see more from him in August. I vote for a donation of our mailings to Brown U. Library.

Bushwork Inquirer (Beck) - Argh, those scrapbooks!!! Talk about lost opportunity. // I would have also required 50 copies - absolute power, even a near miss, corrupts absolutely.

Untitled (Sherman) - I'm not one to be critical, but I did like the story.

Anchorite (Moudry) - Hey, top drawer cover - you described the technique in person of course but this picture is worth x number of words.// Nice piece of sleuthing there on the misplaced letter - isn't Phyllis supposed to be the mystery fan in the family? // The Russian mistake is quite slight but repeated twice grows more heinous - the middle H should have been K - close enough and it is hard to tell whether the bottom line is there whcih is all the difference between an L and a D (one open bottom and one closed). The script Russian is even more fun - my name appears, to the English observer, to be mud /paepcoh. // Keep these coming even as waitlister zines until you make your snail's pace into our company.

Yearbook (rOgEr) - Roger, ah, Roger, I always knew somewhere, somehow, someday, someone would take "scholarship" to a greater extreme than I am accusing myself of doing at times. My faith is restored. Many thanks, old son.

inBENDick (himself) - Nice enough comments but the real prize is the HPL/CAS postcard. You guys keep putting through copies of these goodies and I'll never bother to collect the originals of any HPLiana: as it is, my sole collection of HPLiana, as far as personal effects, consists of the generous gift of Stu Schiff for use as a bookmark in HPL (no.1 of the hardcover edition) - an envelope to Barlow in 1932.

The Outer Dark (Wallace) - You mean your piece for HPL was your first? WCW - I'd forgotten that if I ever knew - I still think it's as terrific as when I first read it. // Hmm, I'm a fan of Karem Black's body but that picture has little hope of playing Birmingham. // Good fic there. Getting these mailings replaces my futile search for Peter Haining anthologies (a number of which I seem to have missed).

Submission (Drake) - Great pic of Price; we just located ours (color) taken at my parents' home a week or so before you encountered him. Unfortunately, we did not make recordings or transcriptions of Mr. Price's sagacities and other than the pictures we retain signed copies of HPL, HPL Supplement, and Strange Gateways.

Roger's Revenge (Bryant) - Well, I can't say you're briefer than I am this time.

Litterae Dagonis (Boerem) - Well, the debate is engaged and engaging.

The Miskatonic (Mosig) - Tell me, in what format are LaVey's books available? I'd like to have one or two as curiosa. // I was (am) wondering about E&O #2 - things have been quiet from Minn recently.//

Mosig-continued: Bosco? Didn't I used to have that for breakfast? // "und der verfluchte Niggermensch aufgehangen mein knecht...?" Well, my favorite German is a la Rhymers Mein Grossfader Told - fractured, nicht war? // Usually fine product, Dirk.

Asrar Nama (Bryant) - Obtrusive sort, aren't you? Here again - well, (I'm getting tired of starting all my sentences with "well") the news about the Warlock shop is certainly intriguing - I shall send them a catalog of my own wares. // That is most certainly a meaty letter.

Dee-Arr-Enn (Nathman) - Effective little quickie there! Like I say, I'm attuned to the fiction in this apa and don't need to pay for pro-edited anthologies of slightly better stories.

Whisperings (Schiff) - Re the Mike Scott debate, both of us as publishers have benefitted from Mike's contributions. However, it would seem that the lad has organizational problems - remember way back when he was to come out with a Lovecraft issue of some NFFF publication? It, as the legendary Mathom 6 on HPL, has yet to make an appearance and his apa experience lends strength to the view that the discipline of an apa is not for him. If he intends to reapply, I think we can best do him a favor by increasing the membership to 39. // Hope you're counting on setting up as a dealer at the DeepSouthCon in Atlanta this August.

The Lunch Bag (Williamson) - These reviews were the best of the mailing - really very helpful as I'd seen none of this but WT50.

Poems (Schultz) - Hmm, interesting but not all thematically compatible with the apa, don't you think.

The Outsider (Everts) - Seems I had the pleasure of seeing a long article on Bush by Ken Faig - wonder if it has seen print somewhere? Interesting reading but too much, too late for HPL. // Some sorely missed mailing comments. Regret loss of United Co-operative but can understand your principles. Like I said, though, in Roger's position I would have done the same; can't please all of the people all of the time (but easy to beat Nixon's trackrecord).

Tooth & Nail (Webbert) - "theogonies" is a good word without much currency (at least in my household). // I've noted (yaa, verily, even bought) some of the paperbacks which seem to have flooded out (all with red covers, for deceptive purposes) in the wake of this interest in Von Daniken. I have at hand Frank Edward's Strange World from Bantam (who apparently also carried his Stranger than Science, which I think I might have enjoyed more, and still may); Gods and Spacemen in the Ancient East by W. Raymond Drake from Signet (no pictures); and Not of this World by Peter Kolosimo from Bantam with its most reprehensible and semifraudulent cover notation "From the Publisher of Chariot of the Gods?" - the FTC will stop this shortly, if my letter reaches them in time for the spring selection. I am interested in the mysteries described, not any of the cockeyed theories or explanations; I think writers should use some of these mysteries for good fictional explanations like Colin Wilson is sometimes capable of bringing off. I'll never forget my teenage (or pre-teen) reaction to a story by A. Bertram Chandler which explained a lot of mysteries and myths about Atlantis in palatable fashion.

LUMLEY AT LAST

I doubt if any among us has not obtained a copy of The Burrowers Beneath by Brian Lumley, DAW book #91. It's been a long wait for me because I've had the tantalizing first chapter in hand since before the March, 1972 publication date of HPL. The other two reprints which form a part of this volume (equally uncredited, I peevishly note) were skillfully blended into the whole, in my opinion.

The book gets off to a good start; right from the stands the handsome Tim Kirk cover reaches its tentacles out for a prospective reader. There's another fine Kirk on the flyleaf - where have I seen that one?

The science fictional elements of the Mythos receive their due attention in this book, to which I say "bravo!". Wasn't it Joe Pumilia in the last mailing or two who suggested some sort of scientific approach to the Mythos, tying it into sf closer? Well, this book certainly does that, with its novel approaches to Azathoth and all. Capsuled, the adventure carries us in the wake of Titus Crow and de Marigny investigating the British phenomena, being pursued, finding a secret worldwide organization on a parallel course working to rid the world of scourges, and an ending which leads right into a new adventure and begs for a sequel. The book is a fine experience and you can take my word that its every word was savored last weekend.

One wonders how the long-delayed (what isn't?) Ar^kham House volume which was written and accepted earlier than this one, yclept Beneath the Moors, will fit in with this one. It may well leave things unexplained which are answered in BB, but it is hoped that the Lumley gloss on the Mythos of which we've learned in BB will not diminish our enjoyment of the earlier novel, if AH manages to share it with us in the future.

Brian writes that he is actively at work on the sequel and confids that, unless slashed by an editorial razor, there would be a flattering reference to us as a minor part of the story.

DAW brought the book to press in relatively swift fashion and, without regard to monetary arrangements, I nurse the selfish hope that they will be impressed enough with the success of this volume to manage to grab the sequel and rush it into print.

A grand book; let's all scoff up a couple of copies, one for reading and sharing and another mintly preserved for one's collection.

-oOo-

E. Paul Berglund writes, from his new editorial offices of the Silver Scatab Publishing Empire (West Coast Division), that The Reader's Guide to the Cthulhu Mythos will appear shortly in a one-to-a-customer double deal with From Beyond the Dark Gateway for \$4 pre-pub or \$5 regularly (separately the first item will be \$4 and the second \$1.25). The Guide is 80 pages offset and FB3 is 40 (35,000 words of Mythos fiction).

(continued)

Berglund has suggested that I consider trying to extend the round robin he started. It is composed of "The Shadow from Yith" by Alan Gullette in Nyct 8; the "Horror from Yith" by Walt DeBill in Nyct 9; Beneath the Dunes by Ted Pons, and the fourth installment is being written by Llewellyn M. Cabos. Since it would be a commitment for some distant time when all four are in print, I'll do just that - consider it. Present commitments are unmercifully bad.

Anyway, in case it's not on the roster Paul's address is Ssgt Edward P. Berglund, 472-46-7335, Box 67, CoA DLIWC, Pres/Monterey CA 93940.

Cthulhu's influence on Comics Continues

Horripilate Host in the comic from Red Circle called Chilling Adventures in Sorcery #4 (Dec. 1973) features the Demonomicon given to a TV horror show host by a fired employee with the results which the Necronomicon would produce. Fairly weak.

Well, I thought there were more or I would not have started such a section, but I don't have any more to report on. Blech, that's dumb.

I've been reading all the Von Daniken type books I can find. I've said that before; in fact, looking back I find that I've repeated myself on other things as well. This is very bad indeed. I think I'd better let some inspiration increase and do some slavish typing on HPL Supplement No. 3.

LETTERS LOVECRAFTIAN - Here is a fine new publication from Gerry de la Ree, 7 Cedarwood Lane, Saddle River, N.J. 07458, for \$5 in a limited first edition of 400 numbered copies. Each page contains a Steve Fabian illustration of a theme or story around a letter of the alphabet. These are "illustrated letters" once popular as chapter introductions (my own first recollection was of the OZ books). Gerry has printed these full size (about 4" x 4") and underneath appears an extract from the story to which Fabian was relating in his artwork.

It's hard to pick favorites among these letters but I'd briefly comment on these as follows: an insect-like creature based on Colour Out of Space is "J"; Lovecraft himself for "L"; very effective rats from Rats in the Walls; Lavinia (a rare subject) from The Dunwich Horror for "V"; these are just a few, of course. The cover itself is an eerie interpretation of The Writer at work (not a great likeness but an interesting and moody interpretation).

With his covers for Whispers and Witchcraft & Sorcery and these drawings, Fabian has followed the line of Hannes Bok in inextricably binding his name for all future times to the field of Lovecraftian fantasy.

-oOo-

Ron Miller (3104 Wayne Road, Falls Church VA 22042) provided me with an interesting quote from a book I've not seen - "Graven Images" by Allan I. Ludwig, Wesleyan University Press 1966, at pages 296-99:

"The use of Dagons on Puritan gravestones is puzzling in the light

Graven Images Extract (continued)

of the fact that they were associated with paganism and the evil doings of Thomas Morton and his merry men. Mount Dagon was apparently the third name given to a town originally called Mount Wollaston. It was at this site that Morton and his rowdy crowd disported themselves in such an extraordinarily lewd manner. It became common knowledge that they danced lasciviously around a Maypole and frisked about with the Indian women. Such naughtiness enraged both the Pilgrims and the Puritans and Morton was soon sent packing. Yet pagan Dagon remained to grace the stones of many a proper Boston family in the late 17th century in spite of the Mount Dagon incident some years before. The redoubtable William Bradford humorlessly intoned:

After this they fell to great licentiousness and led a dissolute life, powering out themselves into all profaneness. And Morton became lord of misrule, and maintained (as it were) a school of [unintelligible]... They also set up a Maypole, drinking and dancing about it many days together, inviting the Indian women, for their consorts, dancing and frisking together (like so many fairies, or furies rather) and worse practices... As if they had anew revived and celebrated... the beastly practices of the mad Bacchinalians. Morton likewise... composed sundry rimes and verses, some tending to lasciviousness, and others to the detraction of and scandal of some persons, which he affixed to this... idol Maypole.. so they now, or others, changed the name of their place again, and called it Mount-Dagon...

One always wonders just how much of this information we come across nowadays did Lovecraft likewise have access to?

Dick Tierney writes

Emil Petaja's book SHOWCASE OF FANTASY ART commemorating Hannes Bok appeared this month displaying work by three of the local MinnCon artists - Tim Miske, Joe West and Jim Faulkenberg. It's really a nice-looking book, large format, good reproduction on good quality paper. \$10.50 from Emil Petaja, Box 14126, San Francisco CA 94101.

I liked BURROWS a lot - like you, especially for its science fiction aspects. I think having Azathoth turn out to be the "Big Bang" that generated the expanding universe was a real stroke of inspiration. Derleth had Azathoth portrayed as just another "Old One", even "imprisoned" by the Elder Gods along with the rest - which is so nonsensical as to make me wonder seriously whether Derleth ever read Lovecraft more than once-over-lightly. Lumley's concept brings Azathoth back to something far closer to the original Lovecraftian conception - as "the vast Lord of All", the monstrous, mindless "nuclear chaos" that randomly generated the entire Universe.

Cacodaemoniacally /s/ Dick

BRIAN LUMLEY WRITES:

Tim Kirk's artwork: beautiful, isn't it? I'm really delighted with the cover and interior.

BENEATH THE MOORS: cover by Herb Arnold, plus an intro - it will run about 45,000 words. Due in May from Arkham House; they've just confirmed that.

It shouldn't alter any old thing that I've done to the Mythos, but have a look at BURROWS p.143. There's another typo there "Confusion" in line 14 should be "confusing". The paragraph in which that typo occurs is a direct reference to BENEATH THE MOORS. Yes, BTM is also "scientific mythos".

BORN OF THE WINDS, my Mythos novella-novelette of about 20,000 words will be in Fantasy & Science Fiction late summer/early fall. I'm now working on a novel developing out of that story. I intend this to go to about 60,000 words. Hope to have it done by summer.

About HOUSE OF CTHULHU - that was a short that appeared in Whispers #1. If things work right though, it may also be the title of a book of shorts at some later date.

My agent now has a novel of all new stuff, the sequel to BURROWS, of over 100,000 words.

Best, as always /s/ Brian Lumley

-oOo-

MONSTER TIMES #32 has a review of the Exorcist which I extract here:

Freidkin exploits both the terrors of immediate shock and those unlimited, insidious ones accessible only through the mind's eye. All of this is produced under his guidance

(a) by Linda Blair's incredible performance, and (b) through the efforts of the technical craftsmen involved - sound, music, dubbing, special effects and make-up - all of it superb. I believe that H.P. Lovecraft would have adored the film as much as he would have detested those made from his own works. All the horror sequences are as thought-provoking as they are hideous.

We've heard Vernon Shea's thoughts on Lovecraft and cinema - this man may be right, though.

-oOo-

I quoted the above before reading much about the movie or seeing it myself - now I have done both and, although I don't necessarily agree with what was said above, I applaud the writer for taking so favorable a position. It is stylish among fans, it appears, to deplore the movie (and the book) on the basis that anything that popular has to be trash. I deplore such snobbery.

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Key: Articles appear in quotation marks; story titles are underlined.

A "LCC" is a letter of comment. HPL is the basic 144 page tribute; S1, S2 and S#3 refer to the supplements; U 1,2,3,4, and 5 refer to the quarterly zines for the apa, Esoteric Order of Dagon. H8 is the genzine Huitloxopetl 8 which contained sf, comics and Lovecraftian materials.

Artists and poets (except for longer works by people already in the index) have been omitted because of ~~xxxxxx/xx/xx~~ laziness on our part

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HPL Supplement No. 3 (\$1) is in circulation and bears the same 2/ page index as above to commemorate our two-year venture into the world of Lovecraftia. Read me waxing nostalgic in Supp 3; I'll resist the impulse in present company. 54 pages mimeo'd, no art, the last one.

Likewise in circulation (huzzah) is a long overdue tribute to Lee Brown Coye. I refer, of course, to the splendid Third issue of Whispers (Stuart Schiff, 5508 Dodge Drive, Fayetteville NC 28303, \$1.50 the copy or 4/\$5.50). It may be a long time between Supps, Nycts, Etchings & Oddyseys, and the like but Stu adheres to a schedule and gets an excellent professional product out. As well as a newsy supplement which covers the field better than any I know of. Richly illustrated with works of Coye, there is a fictionalized semi-factual account of Coye's hang-up on "Stöcks", so entitled, from the pen of Karl Wagner of CARCOA. Stu and Gahan Wilson each do a tribute ("Appreciation") of Coye. Books are reviewed and shorter fiction by Dave Drake and G.E. Symonds introduced. To the few of my readers who may not be in possession of these products, time's a-wasting. #4 will feature the holographic Lovecraft ms of The White Ship, a real coup!!

Sampling here and there from amid the wealth of forthcoming-books info in Stu's pub, I am attracted to Weinberg-edited Far Below and Other Horrors scheduled from FAX Books, \$6 in July...oh, there are far too many things to mention here which are of interest. If Stu doesn't circulate the fax sheet through E*O*D, most of you have it from ordering Whispers.

-oOo-

Those of you lucky (I josh) enough to get a personal letter from me will note (I hope) that I have a new el-cheapo-printed letterhead as an alternative to the HPL one. "Dark They Were and Golden Eyed" is a phrase which has always appealed to me and there was a strikingly good allo in some ad somewhere for a British bookshop so the larcenous one (that's me) lifted same, stuck in some other goodies and created a collage which should serve not only as letterhead for correspondence but hopefully as cover pages for a series of informal little pubs and apazines. Don't be surprised to find one in E*O*D before long (if I can manage to get to the printer - have not for four days now).

Oh, I forgot to mention what attracted me to Far Below was that I had considered reprinting it in HPL myself and had the author's permission before time caught me short.

I had long been planning to index my collection (excuse me, accumulation) and thereby develop some material for apazines in the way of comments on re-viewing items stashed away, maybe not forgotten but hardly consulted on a daily or even yearly basis. As I am in such a mood at present (to present those random thoughts, I mean), despite the hour, I shall at least begin (perhaps to be continued next issue) to inspect the accumulation which reposes in a corner of the room thereof 'neath a Lovecraft portrait adapted by Penny from the HPL as 18th century gentleman portrait by Virgil Finlay which was on the 1937 "HPL" as well as the Selected Letters volumes' djs and according to Derleth, numerous other places as well.

A GUIDE TO FRIERSON LOVECRAFTIANA AND ASSOCIATED MATERIALS

(Being as well an Exercise in Page Cluttering, Wool Gathering and Diverse Other Innocent Peccadillos)

Inasmuch as this is an accumulation (no false modesty there, folks), I present the following in as random an order as the material comes to hand and eye.

1. A Mint copy of February 1936 Astounding Stories - cover by Howard V. Brown illustrates "At the Mountains of Madness" by somebody. Editor says "Beginning one of the most vivid science-fiction word pictures we have ever had the pleasure of reading...Lovecraft comes back to science fiction." The interior illos and the cover are unexceptional.
2. A fine copy of June 1936 Astounding with Howard V. Brown's cover for "The Shadow Out of Time". Three interesting interior illos.
3. Stanley McNail's "Something Breathing" (Arkham House 1965) - Lottie May is a classic; much of these little ditties make one jaded, however.
4. Maurice Levy's "Lovecraft" (Union Generale d'Editions 1972), 189 pages of French words I once was able to decipher and could again with dictionary and time, neither of which are available for the near future. Mint paperback.
5. Good copy of Weird Tales, May 1936 for the purposes of Robert Bloch's The Facelss God and Virgil Finlay's excellent illo on p.565.
6. Coverless copy of Weird Tales, January 1937 for Finlay illo of "Thing on the Doorstep" and Hank Kuttner's "The Eater of Souls"
7. Coverless copy of Weird Tales, October 1939 for Ferman's illo In the Walls of Eryx" and Finlay's "The Hashish-Eater". As a bonus, I note it contains Howard's "Worms of the Earth", unillo'd.
8. Fair copy of Weird Tales, December 1936 for Finlay illo of The Hunter of the Dark but its loaded: Howard, Bloch, Price/Kline, Derleth/Schorer, Long, Wellman, Kuttner anddeBalzac??
9. Near mint copy of Amazing, September 1927 - enroneously purchased for an illo of "Colour Out of Space" which was inferior. Gernsback's comments on the tale are interesting...or maybe he was always this enthusiastic?

10. Whispers #2, inscribed by editor Schiff and sporting that superb Fabian gravescene as a cover; a beautiful job, credit to the force,&c.
11. WT50 - fine, fine publication. Actually contains the first two pieces of fiction by Robert E. Howard I ever took time to read. Those great cover repros from books I'll never see...**sigh** 3 copies
12. Ambrosia II - fine Spurgin cover, good looking product - no plugs for me (boo!)
13. Bound in ~~W/44/~~ ~~S/44/~~ tooled leather is No. 1 of the 35 hardbound copies of HPL - as bookmark it contains a gift from Stu of a Sept 22, 1932 envelope from HPL to RH Barlow.
14. Autographed first edition of HPL - signed by Bill Guy, Herb Arnold, E. Hoffman Price (thrice), Richard Corben, Walt Shedlofsky, Dany Frolich, Don Walsh, Joe Pumilia, J.A. Richardson, and I will tote this around with me till I catch the rest of them, too. They sign at each place something of theirs appears (poor hand-sore Herb!!)
15. "Lovecraftian Letters" 62/400 - no "P" and 74/400 (complete) with an Extra unpunched "p" page. These are beautiful - hurrah for illuminated letters' return.
16. "Al Azif", mint (very mint, unread, unopened - I'm no dummy) 283/248.
17. "Wyrd", 32 pp. mimeo'd. Fan fiction.
18. "The Normal Lovecraft", 29/600 and 30/600, a fine de la Ree publication previously reviewed
19. "Etchings & Oddyseys #1", 85/250, fine format, great material - a truly marvelous and entertaining publication. Also 86/250.
20. "CAS- Nyctalops", Harry Morris's giant (100 pp) and impressive tribute to a writer I care very little for at present, but certainly there is much for the nonfan to admire in this book. 3 copies.
21. "Is #4", the 84 page tribute to Derleth by Tom Collins which gave impetus to many projects, including HPL. He certainly heard from a lot of people about AD and AH.
22. A set of four Marvel comics: Tower of Shadows 3 (Jan 1970) with "The Terrible Old Man" drawn in unexceptional style by Barry Smith (he wuz young when he did it); Chamber of Darkness 5 (June 1970) with "The Music of Erich Zann" called "The Music from Beyond" competently drawn by Johnny Craig; Tower of Shadows 9 (January 1971) with "Pickman's Model", cover art by Berni Wrightson is a silly view but well executed and the story by Tom Palmer is beautifully drawn but cramped by the Comics Code; Journey into Mystery 4 (April 1972) with "The Hunter of the Dark" scripted by Ron Goulart and drawn by Gene Colan, both of whom are capable of better work. Cover is laughable but good illo regardless of subject matter.
23. Whispers #1 (5 copies) - what started an exciting line of publications which will become legendary in the field.

24. Three copies of Nyctalops 8, fine photos and artwork, interesting material. Harry Morris, I advocate, "founded" the current wave of HPL fandom with his publications.
25. From Beyond the Dark Gateway #2 (two copies) with fiction by Koblas, Scott Home (with beautiful illo by Steve Riley), Dick Tierney, Gullette, de Bill, Klein (excellent). A fine product from Harry Morris and editor Paul Berglund.
26. Tamlacht 12, the Lovecraft tribute from Vic Boruta with Ken Faig's invaluable guide to HPL's Providence (with fantastic Kirk illos), Bryant's Necromomicon piece, a Robert Bloch appreciation, Eddy Bertin on Colin Wilson, Attanasio's HPLish tale, Jacob on Commonplace Book, Morris' Kadath index.
27. Shadow 14, macabrezine from England featuring James Wade's thots on HPL/Machen parallels, Ramsey Campbell on Derleth, fine British fantasy illustrator, Bräan Frost, gives his thots on other fantasy illustrators of the past (Maggie Brundage in particular), letters.
28. Bibliotheca: H.P. Lovecraft is another British mimeo'd production; updated the then (July 1971) indexes available on HPL. 64/100.
29. Weirdbook 5 from early 1972 - Paul Ganley's neatly done; offset pubs were the only weird tales markets when he started them, to my knowledge. I hope it's not a contradiction in terms but I think Paul's an old pro at being a fan.
30. Ec'h-Pi-El Speaks, de la Ree's first of the series, 37/500. The color work by Finlay, printing job, all bespeak a quality, tasteful product of interest.
31. Mirage 10 (3 copies), Jack Chalker's 82 page tribute to HPL-CAS-&c. Items of real value are the exceptional HPLish cover by David Prosser, Petaja's 'he Man in hhe Mist, Faig's Glossary of the Lovecraft circle, some CAS letters, a long poem to CAS. Print run was much too low for the demand for this item.
32. From Beyond the Dark Gateway #1 (April 1972) brought us quite a number of entertaining HPLish stories - Jacob, Koblas, deBill, Matthews, Pryor, Berglund/Weinberg and David Riley. Fine job, fascinating and well-repro'd artwork too..
33. Set of three of Roy Squire's excellent catalogs - June 1968 Bibliographic Catalog of CAS and HPL with Jan 1969 supplement, Cat II of CAS, HPL and RHB, Cat 5 of SF&F "Scarce Books and Rare Ephemerae".
34. Two copies of Bob Weinberg's 1969 mimeo'd "Reader's Guide to the Cthulhu Mythos" which was invaluable when it appeared but the very necessary revision of which is expected momentarily (with great eagerness of my part)
34. Shadow 17 - fine Pitts cover, reviews mostly, including Caller of the Black, and fanzines.
35. Weirdbook Six - another fine issue from Ganley. WS Home story!!

36. Tamlachts 11,13,14,15 - not all that much on HPL; Letters and reviews, material on Crowley, magic, occult and drugs.

37. Shadow 16, 18 - more letters and reviews, neatly produced with fine fantasy artwork.

38. Ambrosia I - Bierce issue but contains fiction and article (part 1) on astronomy and the Mythos.

39. Set of polaroid photos of a grouping of the artwork which had arrived for HPL in Dec-January prior to printing in an attempt to interest other artists to join the company of these masterpieces. (I believe it was effective too). My co-eds, Schiff and Arnold, liked them, anyway.

40. Dark Brotherhood File - Newsletters 3/71, 4/71, 5/71, 6/71, 7/71, 8/71, supp-mid8/71, 1/72, 3/72, 4/73, 5-6/73, 7/73. These are interesting memorabilia for a fine concept with poor execution; Journal #1 (6/71) - an exceptional Tiani cover but relatively minor piece. Journal #3 (July 73) - more balanced, more professional issue. Membership directory 1972, 1973-4 - helpful tool.

and xeroxes

41. A file of miscellaneous notes/donated by others - Paradox 4 (Bruce Robbins' fanzine which reprinted "Shadows Over Lovecraft" by Dr. Keller from the 1948 Fantasy Commentator); Lovecraft review from TIME, June 11, 1973, pp.99-100; Stuart M. Boland's article "Interlude with Lovecraft"; Castle of Frankenstein #18 with Haywood P. Norton's article panning HPL in films; Feb. 1972 issue of Rhode Island History with Barton St. Armand's article "Facts in the Case of H. P. Lovecraft"; "Genesis of the Cthulhu Mythos" by George Wetzel (from Inside on Lovecraft?); "HPL:Memoirs, Critiques & Bibliographies" edited by George Wetzel (SSR Publications 1955); Herb Arnold's unpublished article, "Stories of the Cthulhu Mythos: an alphabetical listing of Tales by Author, with Publication Dates and Magazine Titles - A comprehensive listing from 1920-1971"; Index to the Weird Fiction Magazines (by author) (2nd edition November 1967); tear pages of Wetzel's material from FRESCO:ON LOVECRAFT; TV Guide, Nov. 27, 1971 on Pickman's Model for Night Gallery; numerous xeroxes of poetry of Ira A. Cole including "A Dream of the Golden Age" published by HPL in The Conservative (July, 1915); xeroxes of some pages of "The Necronomicon: A Study" by Mark Owings (1967); xerox of unpublished(?) article by Ken Faig "Some Thoughts on Lovecraft as a Revisionist"; from Mirage on Lovecraft: HPL's "Notes on the writing of weird fiction", Autobiography - some notes on a nonentity (annotated by Derleth), Notes on Lovecraft by David Keller, some notes on interplanetary fiction; complete ms version of "The Events at Poroth Farm" by T.E.D. Klein.

42. Weirdbook file - in addition to copies mentioned elsewhere, a complete set of 1-7 and supplement to no.1 are in this file. Beginning in 1968 when there were no markets for weird fiction, Paul is responsible for bringing George Wetzel out of gafia and maintaining a flow of material from H. Warner Munn of the WT days as well as Robert E. Howard shorts.

43. Nyctalops file - #1-8 and CAS issue in addition to what's reported elsewhere. Off to a slow start in May, 1970, this magazine grew to its present position as the longest running HPL fanzine, with a plethora of great material in these pages.

44. Anubis file - duplicate copies of #2-4, Spring 1967 to Autumn 1968 with promises of very pertinent material for a #5 which never appeared. The Fortean society mentioned in its pages seems to have become the editor's obsession to exclusion of the worthy addition of Anubis to the field.
45. 3 Tales of Horror (Arkham House 1967) with marvellous L.B. Coye art
46. Dagon (AH 1965) - reading copy and mint copy
47. At the Mountains of Madness - AH 1964 2 copies
48. Dunwich Horror (AH 1963) - 2 copies
49. The Dark Brotherhood (AH 1966) - 2 copies
50. Collected Poems (AH 1963) with fabulous Utpatel illos
51. The Survivor & Others (AH 1957) - reading copy
52. The Horror in the Museum (AH 1970)
53. The Lurker at the Threshold (Gollancz 1969)
54. 2 copies - The Abominations of Yondo (AH 1960)
55. The Horror from the Hills (AH 1963) - beautiful Taylor dj 2 copies
56. The Hounds of Tindalos (AH 1946) (no dj & with dj)
57. Tales of the Cthulhu Mythos (AH 1969)
58. The Mask of Cthulhu (AH 1958)
59. The Trail of Cthulhu (AH 1962)
60. Something about Cats (AH 1949)
61. The Philosopher's Stone by Colin Wilson (Crown 1971)
62. The Mind Parasites (AH 1967)
63. SELECTED LETTERS- Vol. 1(1965), Vol.2(1968), Vol.3(1971)
64. Dark Things (AH 1971)
65. ARKHAM COLLECTOR: Nos. 1-6, 2 copies Nos. 7-10
66. H.P. Lovecraft: A Symposium (recorded at IASFS, Oct.24, 1963 with Fritz Leiber, Robert Bloch, Sam Russell, Arthur Jean Cox and Leland Sapiro (annotations by August Derleth and published by Sapiro)
67. Other Dimensions (AH 1970)
68. Who Fears the Devil (AH 1963)
69. Eight Tales (AH 1971) (no dj)
70. Tales from Underwood (AH 1952)
71. Night's Yawning Peal (AH 1952)
72. Over the Edge (AH 1964)
73. The Throne of Saturn (AH 1949)
74. The Caller of the Black (AH 1971) - 2 copies
75. Dream Quest of Unknown Kadath (Shroud 1955) -658/1500, paperback
76. Garden of Fear by R.E. Howard (Crawford 1945) - yellow & blue covs
77. The Weird Shadow Over Innsmouth & Others (Bart House 1944)
78. The Dunwich Horror (Bart House 1945) -1 mint, 1 fine
79. The Dunwich Horror and Other Weird Tales (Armed Forces Edition)
80. The Lurking Fear & Others (Avon 1947) -fair, great cover / 2 fine
81. Cry Horror! (Avon undated from 1950s) - same content as 80 -2 copies
82. The Dunwich Horror & Others (Lancer) -1963 1st ed, 1969 2d ed
83. The Case of Charles Dexter Ward - Belmont 2-65, Belmont 12-69, and Beagle #9 (8/71)
84. The Trail of Cthulhu (Beagle #8, 7/71) - 4 copies
85. Lurker at the Threshold (Beagle 3/71) - 2 copies
86. The Lurking Fear & Others (Beagle 1/71)
87. Tales of Cthulhu Mythos I (Beagle #5, 5/71) - 2 copies
88. Tales of Cthulhu Mythos II (Beagle #10, 8/71) - 2 copies
89. The Colour of Space (Lancer) - 1967. R964, 3/89 (2 copies)
90. Lovecraft: A Look Behind the Mythos by Lin Carter (BB 2/72) -2 copies
91. Fantastic Science Fiction Stories, May, 1960-The Challenge from Beyond by H.P.L. and Moskowitz's article on HPL.

92. Out of Space & Time by CAS (Spearman 1971) - reading copy
93. Poems in Prose by CAS (AH 1964)
94. The Inhabitant of the Lake... (AH 1964)
95. Demons by Daylight (AH 1973)
96. Dark Mind, Dark Heart (AH 1962)
97. Strange Harvest (AH 1965)
98. The Rim of the Unknown (AH 1972)
99. The Lurker at the Threshold (AH 1945)
100. Some Notes on H.P. Lovecraft by Derleth (AH 1959)
101. HPL: A Memoir (Abramson 1945) - with pasted in HPL portrait
102. Supernatural Horror in Literature (Abramson 1945) - no dj or pic
103. At the Mountains of Madness - Beagle 1/71 and 5 copies Panther '68
104. The Tomb - Beagle 12/70 and 5 copies Panther 1969
105. Dagon - 6 copies Panther edition 1969
106. Dream Quest of Unknown Kadath (Ballantine 5/70)
107. The Survivor & Others (Ballantine 2/71)
108. The Shuttered Room (Beagle #6, 4/71)
109. The Spawn of Cthulhu (Ballantine 10/71)
110. The Mask of Cthulhu (Beagle #7, 7/71) - 2 copies
111. The Doom That Came to Sarnath (Ballantine 2/71) - 2 copies
112. The Fungi from Yuggoth (Ballantine 2/71) - 3 copies

Now, that is all that is in the corner but there are of course in addition my own publications, much of the original artwork for HPL, files of correspondence with many fine folk, the underground comics adapting HPL, the mainstream comics adapting associated material like The Shambler from the Stars and comics referring to Cthulhu. Then there is a shelf of macabre not associated with Lovecraft, random Weird Tales issues in disrepair, the revived Weird Tales, Coven 13, Witchcraft & Sorcery, Beyond Fantasy Fiction, Avon Fantasy Readers, the taped adaptations of Lovecraft's materials including the Roddy McDowell record, the EC comics which stole Lovecraft's story ideas - these are all grouped not so much in accordance with their HPL relationships as because of their broader categorization. I may not even have all fanzines on HPL in that corner. Ah well, so I said it was an accumulation - what do you expect? Order out of Chaos? Never! Azathoth burbles supreme. Burrowers Beneath & Whispers 3 not there yet

-oOo-

I must admit that the foregoing exercise (and I do mean that, hopping up from this chair to walk 20 feet to a bookshelf and back again several times) has piqued my interest in (1) getting cozied up with some of those books which have not been examined for two or more years and reincubating my fascination with them and (2) feeling semi-creative, perhaps taking the parodiocal pen in hand for a pastiche or two.

I have fun reviewing things in this haphazard (or should I say, hapHazred) fashion and the last such was a trip through some pulp duplicates in about 17 pages with a review of the movie Clones thrown in the middle for the hell of it. If I locate enough copies, I may chunk these at Roger to see what happens.

-oOo-

endit

mf3

