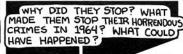




FIRST OF ALL, THE GRUESOME KILLINGS OF SUPER-HEROES, AND COMICS CODE OFFICIALS, AND THE KIDNAPPING OF DOCTOR WARTHAM MAKE IT PREITY OBVIOUS WHO THE KILLERS WERE

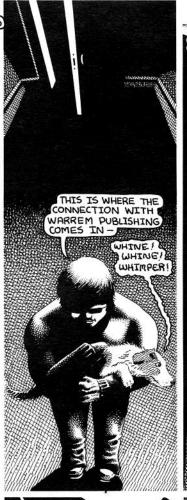
BUT THE QUESTION OF WHY THEY DID IT IS NOT QUITE AS IN-TERESTING AS ANOTHER QUESTION-

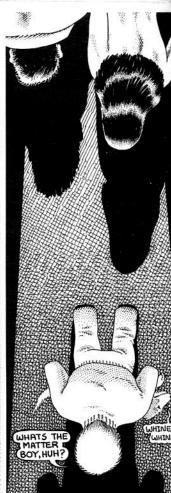




TIT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN THE POLICE OR THE SUPER-HEROES, THEY WERE HELPLESS BEFORE THESE NEFARIOUS KILLERS.













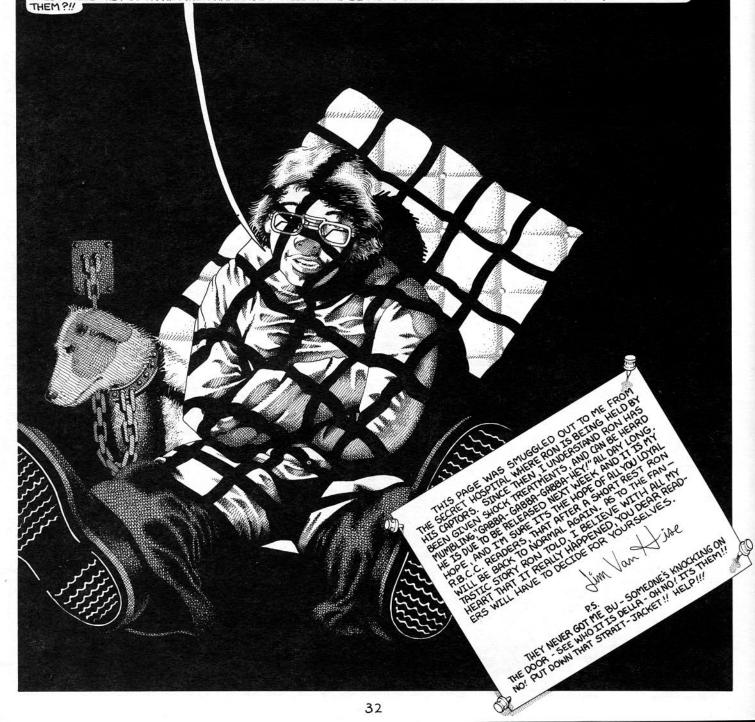


I'M CRAZY.

I'M CRAZY.

YES, THAT'S WHAT THEY WANT YOU TO BELIEVE, THAT I'M CRAZY. WHO WOULD BELIEVE A MADMAN? BUT I'M AS SANE AS ANYONE OF YOU WHO ARE READING THIS. AS YOU KNOW, THESE KILLINGS FIRST BEGAN IN 1955 WITH THE KILLING OF COMICS CODE OFFICIALS, AND THEN SUPER-HEROES. IF THE SUPER-HERO MURDERS SEEMED FAMILIAR; ITS BECAUSE THEY WERE. AS KAPTAIN AMERIKA DISCOVERED THEY WERE ALL FROM E.C. HORROR COMICS! THE SPHINX MONSTER FROM "TOMBS DAY!" IN VAULT OF HORROR "35, THE OCTOPUS KILLER FROM "WHO DOUGHNUT?" IN VAULT OF HORROR "30, WUNNER WOMAN BEING COOKED TO DEATH FROM "THIS LITTLE PIGGY..." IN HAUNT OF FEAR #14, MARBLE GIRL THROWN FROM A ROLLER COASTER FROM "SQUEEZE PLRY" IN SHOCK SUSPENSTORIES*13, STUPORMANS EYES REPLACED WITH THE EYES OF A DOLL FROM "SHOE - BUTTON EYES" IN VAULT OF HORROR "35, AND OF COURSE THE BASEBALL MURDERS FROM "FOUL PLAY" IN HAUNT OF FEAR #19, AND THE TAP IN KAPTAIN AMERIKAS NECK FROM "MIDNIGHT MESS!" IN TALES FROM THE CRYPT "35, AND ALMOST ALL THE OTHER SUPER-HERO MURDERS WERE FROM E.C. HORROR COMICS! WHO DID THE KILLINGS? THE THREE E.C. WITCHES OF COURSE! THE CRYPT KEEPER, THE OLD WITCH, AND THE VAULT KEEPER! WHY DID THEY DO IT? WELL, OBVIOUSLY REVENGE AGAINST THE COMICS CODE, AND DOCTOR WARTHAM, AND PROBABLY ANGER AT THE SUPER-HEROES BECAUSE THEY COULD CONTINUE THEIR ADVENTURES WHILE THE WITCHES WERE CURTAILED.

HOW DOES WARREM PUBLICATIONS FIT IN? IN 1964, AS I SAID IN PART ONE OF THIS EXPOSE THE MURDERS CAME TO A HALT. WHY? BECAUSE THE THREE WITCHES FOUND EMPLOYMENT IN 1964 WITH JIM WARREM AS UNCLE KREEPY, COUSIN ERIE, AND VAMPIRALLA! WARREM BEGAN KREEPY IN 1964 AND SLOWLY INTRODUCED THE OTHERS. SLOWLY MAYBE, TO AVOID SUSPICION BY STARTING ALL THREE AT ONCE. HOW DID THE WITCHES CHANGE APPEARENCE? WELL, THE OLD WITCH IS A VAMPIRE RIGHT, PERHAPS SHE JUST REGAINED HER YOUTH AND BECAME VAMPIRALLA BY DRINKING KAPTAIN AMERIKAS BLOOD, HIS BLOOD HAD BEEN DRAINED AS YOU WILL RECALL. THE OTHERS HAD PLASTIC SURGERY, OR MAYBE MORE LIKELY, SINCE THEY WERE WITCHES, THEY CAST A SPELL CHANGING THEIR APPEARENCE! REMEMBER HOW WARREM SEEMED LIKE IT MIGHT BECOME THE NEW E.C. BY USING THE TALENTS OF FRAZETTA, WILLIAMSON, DAVIS, ORLANDO AND MANY OTHER E.C. ALUMNI? OF COURSE, THIS NEVER CAME TO PASS, AND GRADUALLY OVER THE YEARS WE'VE SEEN LESS AND LESS OF UNCLE KREEPY AND COUSIN ERIE. WHAT I WORRY ABOUT IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THEY BECOME DISSATISFIED WITH THIS? WILL THEY GO ON ANOTHER RAMPAGE? WILL THERE BE MORE SENSELESS KILLINGS? NEXT TIME, WHO WILL STOP



BY R.C.





OME FAIRLY horrible artwork clutters the pages of many comics of the Golden Age. But towards the end of that period, some pretty distinguished graphics emerged. Among my favorites was TOM MIX WESTERN.

The TOM MIX books I remember most fondly were tightly drawn: every detail precisely placed and rendered, no looseend sketchy lines. The depiction of action particularly gripped me then--and it does now, as I re-read some of the old books. Mix and his cohorts (but most often just Mix) seem to move more quickly and directly than any other characters in comics. Mix moves without a single wasted motion or false start -- an impression derived probably from the artist's habit of using speed lines lavishly albeit precisely: their sweeping arcs tracing exactly the course of motion (as in the panels on this page). A fight scene in a TOM MIX book is always a flash of visual excitement.

But detailed analysis shows that fight scenes are much more than sweeping speed lines. On the next two pages are reproduced 8 panels from TOM

OLDEN AGE NUGGET

MIX WESTERN #10 (October 1948):

MIX WESTERN #10 (October 1948): 5 panels from the bottom of one page and the first 3 panels of the next page. We find Tom perched on a roof one night, overlooking a neighboring building (a hotel) in which he sees Carol being threatened by Belson and his thugs. You might read the sequence before going on with this.

NE OF THE FIRST impressions we are likely to have of this sequence derives from its essential difference from the fight scenes in today's superhero books: there are no close-ups and most of the

action depicts the charaacters in full figure, or
nearly so. Another impression
likely is that the action progresses with remarkable swiftness, Tom bobbing and whirling
in a maelstrom of flailing
fists and flying objects. The
brevity of the speech balloons
doubtless contributes to that
impression: timed to the speed
of the actions, the speeches
convey no complicated bits of
information that would impede
quick reading.

But the graphics, which
"tell" virtually all of "the
story" of this encounter, also
contribute to the impression
of fast action: careful examination shows that the panels are
artfully composed and arranged
to enhance the swiftness of
the actions as well as to "tell
the story."

Comic book pages, like the pages of all reading matter, are read from left to right, top to bottom. The reading eye, as it moves in its course, can be hastened or slowed in its progress by the composition elements of the page and of the panels. For merely competent comic book art, it is necessary only that the composition not interfere with





reading. But in the finest examples of the art, composition underscores action and story: scenes of fast action, for instance, are designed to be read swiftly; scenes in which action slows or hesitates, to be read slowly.

The composition of the panels on this page hastens reading in keeping with the action by repeating a pronounced diagonal pattern. The direction of the "falling" diagonal in panel 2 (upper left to lower right) is maintained through the next two panels, speeding the eye on its journey as it follows Tom's entry and landing. And as Tom ducks in panel 5, his action is a continuation of the same essentially downward motion.

Similarly, in panels 6-8 on the next page, the repetition of circular forms (the clearly delineated arcs of all blows and the circular lamp shade) hasten eye movement in the same swift tempo as the action.

Other subtle touches within the over-all patterns further enhance the reading experience. The direction of the diagonal changes between panels 1 and 2: in the first panel, the diagonal runs from lower left to upper right; in the second, it reverses itself to run from upper left to lower right. The shift forces the eye to move up to the right in panel 1, then down to the left in panel 2-duplicating Tom's presumed movement as he jumps up off the roof, then falls down towards the next building.

The shadow on the hotel in panel 2 gives added downward impetus to Tom's plunging entry into the room in panel 3. The second point of focus in panel 3 (the first being Tom) is the huddled group, which immediately introduces us to the entire cast of the follow-

ing scene--emphasizing, by his predominance in the picture, the hotel owner Belson, who then becomes (panel 4) the first victim of Tom's onslaught.

The eye is next likely to pick up the swinging fist that breaks the border of panel 5, moving then to Tom and finally to the rest of the scene. In that movement, the eye again duplicates the order of Tom's actions: he presumably sees first the assaulting fist (out of the corner of his eye)—then ducks.

The camera angle shifts dramatically in the next panel (the first on the next page) and then again in the next. In fact, the camera crosses an imaginary "180-degree line" twice in panels 6 and 7 --that is, the camera goes from one "shooting position" to another, directly opposite position, twice.

Some critics of comic art

















The artwork's distinctive style in TOM MIX comics of this period results from the combined efforts of Carl Pfeufer (pencils) and John Jordan (inks), according to Hames Ware (co-editor with Jerry Bails of WHO'S WHO IN AMERICAN COMIC BOOKS, that invaluable compendium). Pfeufer came to comics from a 30s newspaper strip, DON DIXON (a la FLASH GORDON); Jordan worked on the DON WINSLOW strip at one time. Ware, who has studied the work of both men, opines that "neither achieved solo what they managed to do in tandem" on such comics as TOM MIX, MR. SCARLET, and others at Fawcett.

regard this practice with an unforgiving eye, applying to comics those principles of cinematography that maintain that "crossing the 180-degree line" confuses the viewer. (By this reasoning, for example, a film pursuit scene must always show the leader and the follower traveling in the same direction.)

Sensible as the principle seems at first blush, it doesn't apply as strictly to comic art as it must to film. In watching a film, the viewer can be easily distracted by motion (particularly motion in directions that conflict with

allowed much time to orient himself to the scenes as they develop before him.

his expectations), and he isn't

But comic art is static: a panel scene does not change as the reader/viewer sees it, so there is comparatively more viewing time to absorb the key elements in the composition and identify them all.

Not only is applying the 180-degree notion to comics superfluous, it would (if followed) prevent the kind of complete reversal in camera angle that preserves "reading order" in the speech balloons—a consideration in comic art that films needn't bother with. (And "reading order" is a compensating orientation device for the reader, too—one that films don't have.)

N THE PANELS AT HAND, some telling effects are produced by crossing the 180-degree line. In panel 6, reversing the camera angle puts into the more noticeable foreground the thug picking up the lamp that he will toss in the next panel. It's a subtle touch, admittedly: it doesn't distract at all from the main action of panel 6, but it does prepare the way for the action of panel 7.

(Notice that the visuals tell the story: the thug

doesn't say, "Maybe this lamp will stop Mix" or some such. And it's the shift in camera angle that permits the wholly graphic story-telling.)

Notwithstanding the preparation of panel 6, the thrown lamp is likely to come as something of a surprise. The lamp detail in panel 6 is overshadowed by the more spectacular action of Tom's round-house punch, so we are only marginally aware of the lamp; in contrast, the lamp is the first thing likely to be focussed on in panel 7-and it's coming out of the panel, directly towards us!

This kind of surprise is made possible by completely reversing the camera angle-crossing the dread 180-degree line. And it's effective story-telling. Just as Tom was probably just marginally conscious of the lamp in the room, so are we; just as the lamp comes suddenly into his consciousness, so it does for us.

Moreover, as the eye moves from panel 6 to panel 7, we become conscious of events in parallel to Tom's consciousness: first we see the lamp, then Tom ducking--exactly the order of his perception and action. Finally, underscoring our identification with Tom, the lamp seems to be coming at us.

N PANEL 8, Tom's arcing blow takes him from the crouching position of panel 7 to the striking position of panel 8. Still telling the story visually, panels 6 and 7 show looming shadows, dramatically falling away from the light source—the lamp. Then in panel 8, when the lamp has presumably shattered and gone out, we're plunged into sudden darkness, and Tom's



upper body and the crook's are shadowed into near silhouette. With Tom's final remark, words and pictures blend, each enhancing the meaning of the other as the scene concludes.

Meanwhile, Belson, the leader of the baddies, has recovered enough to begin to creep away--his foreground position picking up our attention second in panel 8, as we read down the page (noting first Tom's final blow); and with that, we must begin to anticipate the next panel and the rest of the story.

The entire scene is carefully staged--choreographed even: the bad guys move in on Tom from probable locations, given their initial positioning as established in panels 3 and 4. The shifting camera keeps us always informed as to where most of them are all the time--and where they are coming from.

One serious error: the scene is so consistently staged that we know that the window in back of the clobbered crook in panel 8 is a physical impossibility. That guy came at Tom from the interior

of the room, and Tom was between this fellow and the window throughout the action except for this panel. The partly silhouetted broken window, which frames the brighter night outside (brighter now that the lamp is shattered within; a nicely authentic detail), is a dramatic way of closing the sequence. But it upsets the otherwise plausible consistency of movement that has thus far prevailed throughout.

OME ADDITIONAL nice touches: panel 4 contains some shards of still falling broken glass from the window and one thug takes care to keep the girl quiet (showinga fine sense of story consistency); panels 5 and 7 show the feet of fallen foes, toes turning up as they fall out of the action, out of the panel.

This is, as I said, a different kind of fight scene from those we find in the current crop of superhero books. It looks different, and its objectives are doubtless different. Major concerns in these panels seem to be (1) to make

 WHAT WITH the PRICE GUIDE cover story on Torchy, it's obvious that no list of cartoonists acclaimed for their girls can avoid mentioning BILL WARD. Don Rosa calls him "the headlight king" -with good reason: in Ward's wanton women, the exaggerative aspect of cartooning is carried to its ultimate, and female anatomy assumes the unreal dimensions of erotic fantasy run rampant. In the 50s, Ward's panel cartoons were elaborately shaded with conti crayon (left), but in recent years, he has relied entirely on pen and brush. The gags rely chiefly on puns and double entendre, and the humor is often heavy handed. Perhaps for that reason, the most typical of his work these days usually appears in magazines of little sophisti-

cation (except for CRACKED, on whose pages Ward is a regular) and in paperbacks of questionable taste. But in his rendering of girls, Ward has created an unforgettable gallery of voluptuous (and often lascivious) females.

eye movement exciting and swift, in time with the action itself, and (2) to achieve panel-to-panel action continuity in exclusively visual terms. The impression of swiftness is encouraged by the repetition of patterns (first diagonals, then circles), and continuity of action is accomplished through careful staging. The resulting visuals seem as continuous as the key drawings in animation -- an impression underscored here by the sweeping, arcing speed lines that suggest not only the sure and direct course of blows but the points of origin for each movement.

The personal drama of a fight for one of the combatants is doubtless emphasized by close-ups that focus on furrowed brows or clenched teeth or flexed neck muscles and other signs of anger, anguish, or pain. Here, in contrast, we have only the action itself as source for excitement and drama. Insofar as that defines the objective of this sequence. the artistry by which that objective is accomplished is considerable--even exemplary of its kind.

But I don't offer these panels as an example of what a fight scene ought to be; I offer them and my accompanying analysis as examples of accomplished comic art and of the kind of criticism that's possible for such art.

After all, in yesterday's comics, the fight scene was usually just the high point of the story--not its whole point. And when a fight is the chief business of a story (as it is in many of Marvel's books, for instance), it must, of necessity, depict personal drama and individual agonies. Otherwise, there'd be little "story" at all: no character portrayal or development -- only victory or loss as outcome of a fight. So in Marvel books. we have personality crises and sub-plots infiltrating the fight scenes; in DC, we have science fiction dialog--explanations of the physical and chemical phenomona that make

possible the seemingly impossible accomplishments of the super fighters. In TOM MIX's day, when the fight came at the end of a story, the fight and its outcome were our only worries—during the fight. Today, we have other concerns that hover over every pugalistic encounter.

As those other concerns get attended to (by means of an assortment of verbal as well as visual devices), the fight itself--as a scene of continuous and consistently staged movement and action in wholly visual terms--is somewhat slighted. That's not at all bad, by any means--but it is inevitable. And consequently, for those startling nuggets of comic art that rely almost entirely on graphic devices to show panel-to-panel continuity. we must (more often than not) mine in the Golden Age.

Geory of COMICE

AS A FOOTNOTE to the foregoing, let me point out a couple of ways in which the discussion incorporates principles that I believe are important in a consideration of comic art.

Strips can be evaluated on purely literary grounds, concentrating on such things as character portrayal, tone and style of language, verisimilitude of personality and incident, resolution of conflict. unit, and themes. While literary analysis contributes to an understanding of a strip, to employ this method exclusively ignores the essential character of the medium by overlooking its visual elements. The medium is better served by criticism that considers the ways in which the graphics and the story are interrelated.

Although the creative processes of the cartoonist weave the visual elements into whole cloth in which each thread's significance is bound together with all the others, we can nonetheless identify some of the elements that can prove useful for analysis. Four such elements are: narrative breakdown, layout, panel composi-

tion, and style. A cartoonist is not likely to think of any of these aspects of his work as wholly separable from the others, but he probably follows a procedure in which each is associated with an individual operation. He doubtless begins with narrative breakdown, dividing his story into narrative units (into daily strips and then into panels); then he positions panels in relation to each other, allotting to each a tentative size and shape (layout); next, he decides the arrangement within each panel of its various graphic elements as well as the distance and angle of the camera (composition); and finally, he draws, and his style -- the highly individual and therefore characteristic way he uses pen and brush--emerges.

These graphic aspects of a strip are so integrated in execution that any extended discussion of one of them is sure to lead to the others. The preceding analysis of TOM MIX pages, for example, seems to deal mostly in matters of composition. But insofar as one panel's composition is determined by its relation to panels coming before and after it, we're talking about layout too. And narrative breakdown figures in the final assessment also.

The selection of narrative units here results not just in depicting each of Tom's most dramatic moves in the fight (his entry, connecting punches, ducking and dodging): it also shows those moves in virtually continuous motion. And because the rendering of speed lines is highly characteristic of the artist's work, even style contributes something to the final analysis.

Although my consideration of these 8 panels concentrates on one or another of these visual elements as it goes along, the over-all effort has been to show how graphic treatment enhances the story-here, a portion of a story, that portion that shows how Tom Mix won a fight.



COVER GALLERY

ZIFF-DAVIS

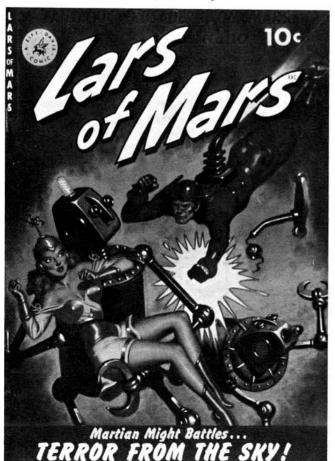
Instead of a certain theme this issue like covers with moose scenes or such, I'm gonna' show you the output of a particular obscure publisher...this time we'll examine all of the SF/fantasy/horror/adventure comics put out by Ziff-Davis, a company whose main activities were in the pulp field. In fact, as some of these beautiful covers indicate, their comic line utilized left-over pulp paintings as covers, and often it seemed obvious that the interior strips were built around the previously-done cover. Have a look...

There were a few one-shots which were numbered as #10 with no #1-9 (despite what Overstreet lists), such as WEIRD ADVENTURES #10, and LARS OF MARS #10 (and #11...a two-shot?)

In reference to the innards, these were quite decent, and often resembled the Golden Age of D.C.'s science fiction comics with work by Murphy Anderson, Joe Kubert, Giunta, Sachs, Greene, etc. AMAZING AD-VENTURES #1 featured a nice nine-page strip by a young Wallace Wood. Ziff-Davis featured many other noteworthy artists including Krigstein, Kinstler, Toth and Powell, to name but a few.

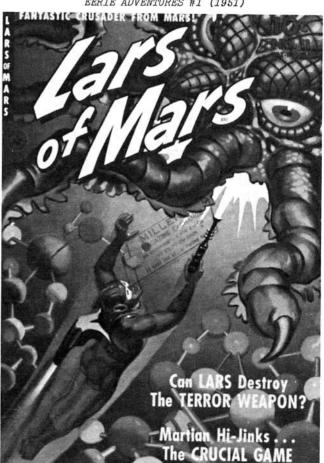
What do you think of this feature? Do you have any ideas for future installments? Send us your thoughts and ideas c/o DON ROSA

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EERIE ADVENTURES #1 (1951)

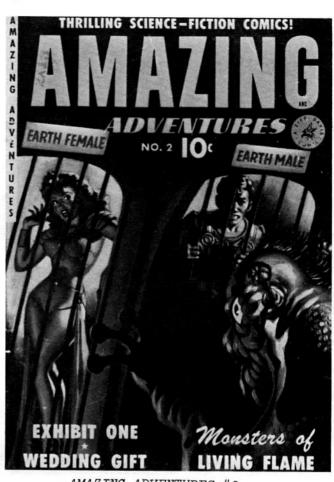




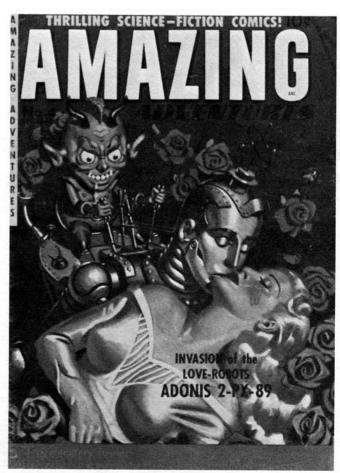
AMAZING ADVENTURES #1 (1950)



AMAZING ADVENTURES #3



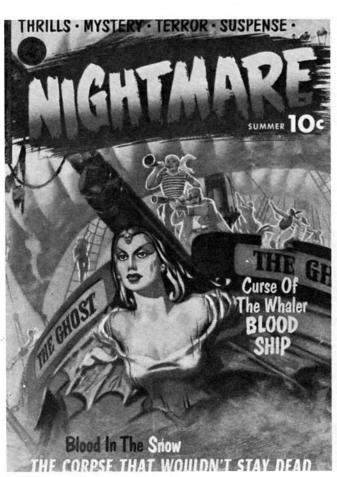
AMAZING ADVENTURES #2



AMAZING ADVENTURES #4



AMAZING ADVENTURES #5



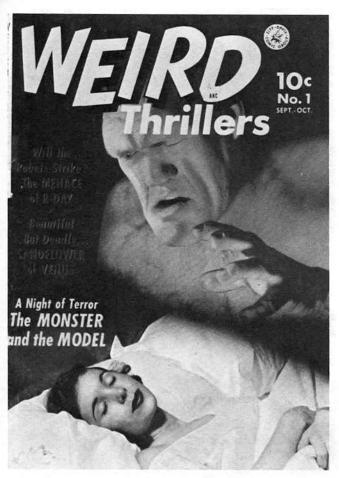
NIGHTMARE #1 (1952)



AMAZING ADVENTURES #6



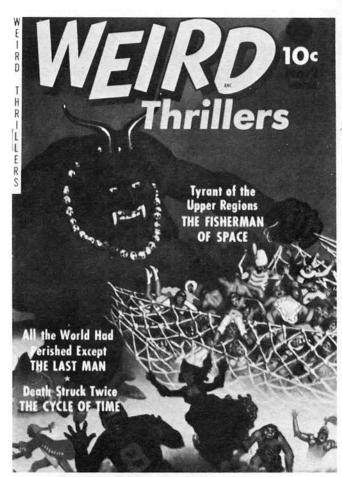
NIGHTMARE #2



WEIRD THRILLERS #1 (1951)



WEIRD THRILLERS #3



WEIRD THRILLERS #2



WEIRD THRILLERS #4



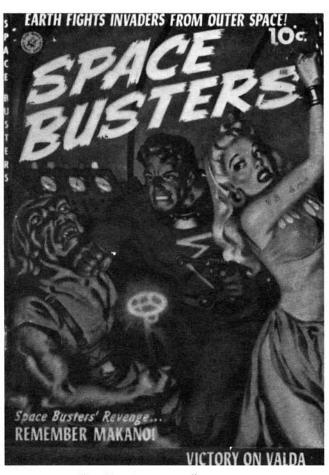
SPACE PATROL #1 (1952)



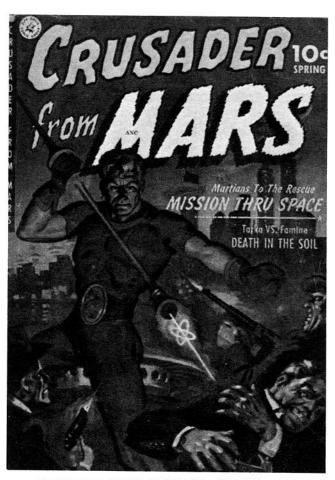
SPACE BUSTERS #1 (1952)



SPACE PATROL #2



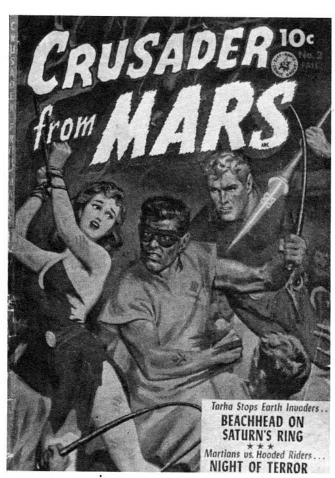
SPACE BUSTERS #2



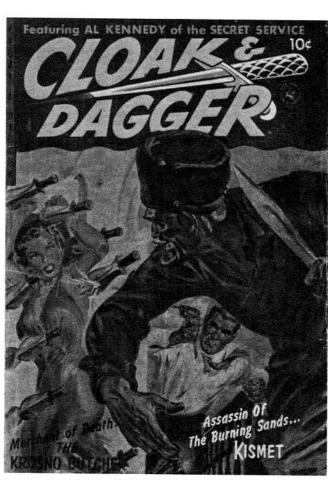
CRUSADER FROM MARS #1 (1952)



WEIRD ADVENTURES #10 (1951)



CRUSADER FROM MARS #2



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SCIENCE FANTASY FILM CLASSICS #1 = \$4.00 - Slick newsstand mag published in Fall of '77. 72 pages. Lots of color. Long features on STAR WARS, 2001, and FORBIDDEN PLANET. SCIENCE FANTASY FILM CLASSICS #2 = \$2.50 - 72 pages, lots of color. Long features on CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND, also SILENT RUNNING and WAR OF THE WORLDS. WAR OF THE WORLDS.

SCIENCE FANTASY FILM CLASSICS #3 = \$2.50 - 72 pages, lots of color. Long features on STAR TREK, THIS ISLAND EARTH and LASERBLAST.

FUTURE #1 = \$3.50 - 80 pages, lots of color. Features on the early, unused STAR WARS posters. Long article with lots of color repro of S.F. art by Chesley Bonestell. Interview with Fred Pohl and with Douglas Trumbull. Also articles on Rick Baker as well as THE MAN FROM PLANET X.

SCIENCE FICTION HORROR & FANTASY #2 = \$2.50 - Not a province and much SCIENCE FICTION HORROR & FANTASY #2 = \$2.50 - Not a newsstand pub ROR & FANTASY #2 = \$2.50 - Not a newsstand pub but just as slick and well produced. Features include articles on STAR WARS, THE MANITOU, METEOR, SUPERMAN, QUARK, INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS, RAY BRADBURY, CHRISTOPHER LEE and more including a long interview with DOUGLAS TRUMBULL which includes all of the excellent photos (in color and black & white) which were NFW photos (in color and black & white) which were in the now out-of-print January 1978 issue of the AMERICAN CINEMATOGRAPHER which covered in depth CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND!

Also an interview with MARK HAMILL.

THE STAR WARS ALBUM = . \$6.00 - The slick 80 page book published by Ballantine which covers the making of STAR WARS with lots of pics, many in color. Front and back covers by Greg and Tim Hildebrandt.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND Souvenir book = \$5.00 - This slick booklet was available in a few thestment

slick booklet was available in a few theatres which CE3K was released in December 1977. Has cast, credits, lots of stills with many in color. Nice.

THE STAR WARS WEEKLY #1-6 = \$1.00 each - British oversized weekly comic which reprints the Marvel STAR WARS comic in black & white (Weekly #1&2 = Marvel's STAR WARS #1) plus SF back up strips. These won't last long

CAPTAIN GEORGE'S WHIZZBANG #16 = \$1.00 - Excellent nine page article on the special effects wizardry of the Lydecker brothers (many behind the scenes stills); G-8 AND HIS BATTLE ACES article; "Favorite Films Of 1944"; old comic strips & ads plus reviews of recent books and films and more.

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ROBERT KLINE SWORD & SORCERY POSTER = 65¢ - Two color poster on

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EERIE #2 = \$5.00 - Mint condition. I have a limited number of copies of this. Frazetta cover. Excellent early Warren mag.

GOLDEN AGE COLLECTOR #1 = \$1.25 - Stormy Foster by Reed Crandall; the only two METEOR MARTIN strips by Basil Wolverton; also The Web and Steel Sterling. All are original Golden Age strips reprinted with beautiful halftone reproduction.

with beautiful halftone reproduction.

GOLDEN AGE COLLECTOR #2 = \$2.00 - Color cover of Blue Bolt by Don Newton and no less than six Golden Age strips including the Green Lama by Mac Raboy (from GREEN LAMA #1), Blue Bolt by Simon & Kirby, Spacehawk by Basil Wolverton (from TARGET #7), the Twister, the Claw, and a little known classic Dr. Drew story printed from the original art (this is done in a very pronounced Will Figner style by Grandenetti). Will Eisner style by Grandenetti).

GOLDEN AGE COLLECTOR #3 = \$2.50 - Color cover of Firebrand by Don Newton and five long Golden Age strips. Features Firebrand by Reed Crandall, The Green Lama by Mac Raboy, Space Patrol by Basil Wolverton, Captain Daring by Reed Crandall (printed from the original art), and The Fighting Yank. Back cover is the excellent Mac Raboy cover of GREEN LAMA #2.

GOLDEN AGE #3 = \$1.50 - Front and back cover by Don Newton (front in color); EC war comics article by Tom Fagan, seven page article on serials and more.

GOLDEN AGE #4 = \$1.25 - Front cover by Don Newton, centerspread by Newton of Spy Smasher, portfolio of pages and covers from EC science fiction comics, Jim Jones drawing of Ming the Merciless, articles on JUNGLE COMICS, Landon Chesney and more.

GOLDEN AGE #5 = \$1.25 - Excellent front cover by Don Newton of SF hero in hand to jaw combat with monster, back cover by John Adkins Richardson of Hawkman, articles on TOP NOTCH comics, Cary Bates, Forrest Ackerman and others.

Numerous illustrations by Don Newton. GOLDEN AGE #6 = \$1.25 - Centerspread by John Adkins Richardson of the Fantastic Four, three page portfolio by Robert Kline of heroes from CLUE COMICS. reprints of excellent art from Spanish comics, "Tyzor The Prehistoric Man" strip by Jim

Chase and more. GOLDEN AGE #7 = \$2.00 - Wraparound color cover of Tarzan by Don Newton, fantastic six page Richard Corben portfolio "The World Of Conan", in-depth interview with John Adkins Richardson, "Mnemo, Son Of Little Nemo, In Nostalgi" is a beautiful nine page strip by John Richardson featuring all of the Golden Age greats, serial article on "Rocketman" by Earl Blair, more art by Newton, Mason, Richardson, etc.

ILLUSTRATED COMIC COLLECTORS HANDBOOK Vol. 2 = \$1.25, Vol. 3 = \$1.50, Vol. 4 = \$1.25 - Capsule histories and illustrations of Golden Age heroes, both thewell known and the very obscure. The first two volumes include art by Fantucchio, and the final volume has art by Newton and Richardson as well as cover reproductions.

TARZAN = \$1.25 - Full color poster by Don Newton, 11 X 17.

SHAZAM 1973 SUMMER EDITION = \$2.50 - Life magazine size, 80 pages, all full color. Features six Golden Age classics with the entire Marvel Family together and in individual stories. Also a behind the scenes talk with C.C. Beck, special section on "How To Draw The Shazam Family", a diorama featuring Captain Marvel, a double page poster and more.

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Federation ships by Paul Govern, inside front

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Bloopers, The Star Trek Archives, The Star Trek
Review and more!

ENTERPRISE INCIDENTS #5 = \$2.50 - Full color covers, "Behind-The-Scenes of STAR TREK" photo feature, "The Banned Episodes of STAR TREK", a report on why the announced new STAR TREK tv series was scrapped, "STAR TREK tv. STAR WARS", an 11 page recap of "This Side of Paradise", 3 pages of STAR TREK BLOOPERS, "The STAR TREK Archives", "The Star Trek Review" and more.

CINEFANTASTIQUE Vol. 5 #4 = \$3.00 - Special WAR OF THE WORLDS issue with 29 pages devoted to this film and seven of those pages are in full color including the beautiful cover painting of a Martian. Many behind the scenes stills and information. A lot of choice, rare photos! Also reviews of the STAR WARS book and more. Interview with Jim Danforth in which he explains why he resigned from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences over their awarding a special Oscar to the new KONG (the story involves more than you might think!)

NEWTON PORTFOLIO = \$1.00 - A collection of great Don Newton art! Remember his classic renderings of Hangman, Thor, Solomon Grundy, the Dweller..?

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STAR TREK GIANT POSTER BOOK = \$1.00 each - #4-7 - #4 (Klingons, Romulans and "Journey to Babel"), #5 (Spock interview, inside a Vulcan mind, Planet Vulcan revisited), #6 ("Amok Time" critique, The Art of Star Trek, Phasers, Tricorders, etc), #7 ("The Enemy Within" critique, analysis of Captain Kirk, and more).
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available are: DAREDEVILS OF THE RED CIRCLE,
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ART FANTASTIQUE #1 = \$2.50 - Color cover and complete issue devoted to reprints of old Virgil Finlay pulp art. Includes much of the long out of print "Best of Virgil Finlay" published a few years

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EC REPRINTS = \$1.50 each - FULL COLOR, virtually exact reprints of classic issues of EC comics. Art by the greats: Al Williamson, Reed Crandall, Graham Ingels, Wally Wood, Jack Davis and others. Issues presently available from us are: WEIRD SCIENCE #15, SHOCK SUSPENSTORIES #6 & #12, HAUNT OF FEAR #12, WEIRD FANTASY #13, CRIME SUSPENSTORIES #25, VAULT OF HORROR #26 and the first issue of WEIRD SCIENCE (#12).

LONG TOM'S AMERICANA COMIX - \$4.25 - This large 12 1/2 X 17 1/2 book reprints four classic Golden Age strips in a large attractive poster size format. These are prime Golden Age from 1940-41 and include two SPACEHAWK by Basil Wolverton, the famous Daredevil battles the Claw story from SILVER STREAK COMICS #7 and the Blue Bolt origin story by Joe Simon. Forty pages from the forties!!

MARVEL COLLECTORS HANDBOOK #1 = \$1.25 - Complete index to the FANTASTIC FOUR comics, illustrated with cover reproductions, pin-up pages by Kirby of the Sub-Mariner, Dr. Doom, Silver Surfer, etc, as well as a two page interview with Jack Kirby, the like of which you'll never see in FOOM!

INSIDE COMICS #2 = \$1.00 - This is fandom's magazine of investigative reporting. This issue features an article on the Disney Studios and what they have become since Walt's death (written by a man who had an important job at the studios), an excellent interview with the very articulate and creative Harvey Kurtzman, Southern Calif. mini-cons, viewpoints by Steve Ditko and C.C. Beck and much fascinating news.

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#20 = \$1.00 [Three complete strips by Frazetta: "The Monsters From The Mists" and "When The Earth Shook" from THUN'DA #1 and a beautiful White Indian strip "Sleep of Death"] #23 = 75¢ ["Variations" by John Adkins Richardson. This strip is the sequel to MAXOR OF CIROD which appeared in the now sold out FANTASTIC EXPLOITS #21. Maxor and Onu-Mra join in alliance against demons from another world. Excellent science-fantasy]

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SPIRIT SECTIONS = 50¢ each - Actual size black & white reproductions of original Spirit section strips. All from 1940: June 2 [the origin],June 9, June 30, July 7, July 14, July 21, July 28, August 4, August 11.

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"DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL" COLOR PHOTOGRAPH = \$1.00, 2/\$1.508 1/2 X 11 still in full color shows Gort and Klaatu standing on the flying saucer.

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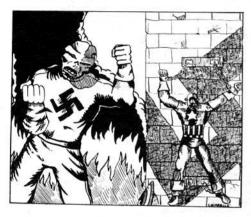
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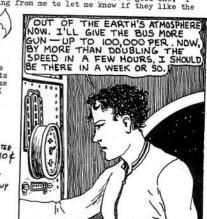
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This is a very early piece of work by Basil Wolverton. It is from around 1930, and only hints at the greatness that would come from this very creative man. I own the original art of this panel. It was the start of a newspaper strip, but was never used.

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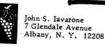
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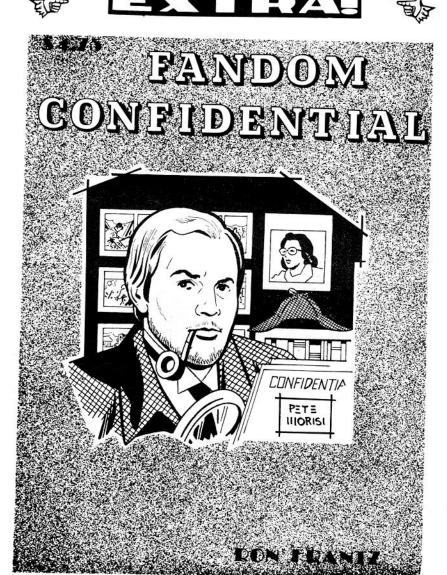
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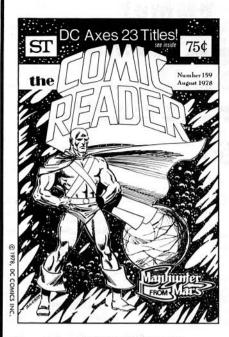
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The COMIC READER

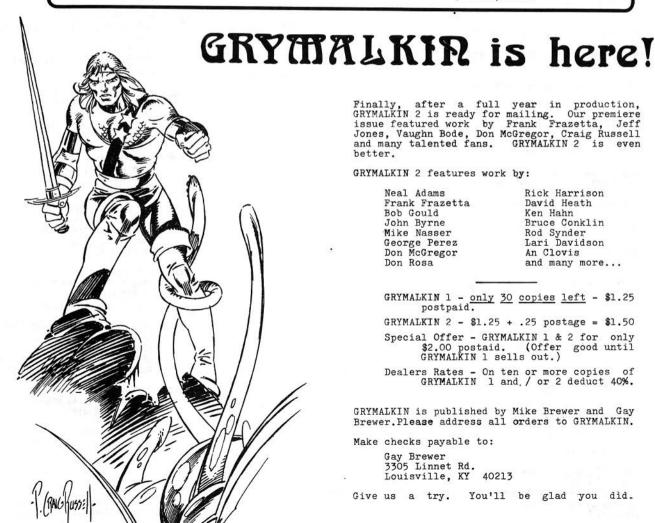
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- #87R THE WHISTLER
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 X-MINUS ONE
 "Dwellers in Silence"
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 "The Man Insects Hated"
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 "The Outcasts"
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 Glen Gray "Here's To Vets"
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 "Sub Basement" 8/24/43
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 "The House in Cypress Canyon"
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 "The Coming Out Party"
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 BURNS AND ALLEN 9/30/48
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 "Escaped Convicts" 5/30/39
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 "Christmas Show" 12/20/44
- 106R THE MILTON BERLE SHOW 3/2/48 (Philip Morris) THE LIFE OF RILEY "Riley's sister wants to marry a bookie"

107R -

- 107R JACK BENNY SHOW guest Ingrid Bergman (Lucky Strike) MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER "Last Survivor"
- 108R COMMAND PERFORMAN
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- 109R THE SHADOW (2 shows)
 "Valley Of Living Terror"
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 "The Ruby Of Caval"
- 110R EDGAR BERGEN & CHARLIE McCARTHY guest Kennan. 9/9/45 SONGS BY MORTON DOWNEY 12/14/48 (Coca-Cola)
- 111R GUNSMOKE

 "Ramirez Daughter"

 HARRY LIME, THE THIRD MAN

 starring Orson Wells

 "Murder On The Riviera"

- 112R ESCAPE

 "North of Polaris"
 THE SHADOW

 "Traffic in Death"
- 113R EDGAR BERGEN & CHARLIE McCARTHY guest Margaret O'Brien 11/18/45 THE RALEIGH SHOW with Tommy Dorsey. Guests Jack Benny and Bing Crosby. (Raleigh & Kool)
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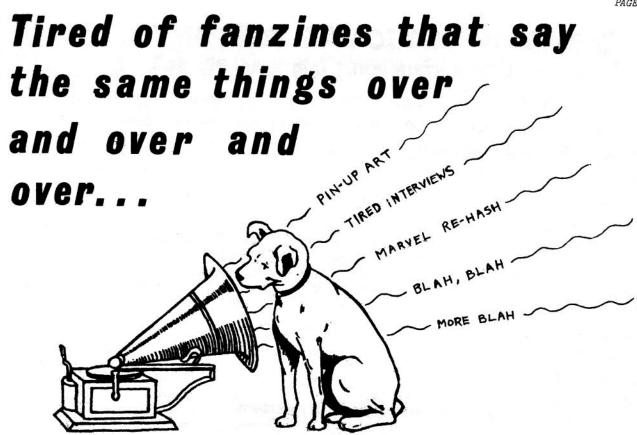
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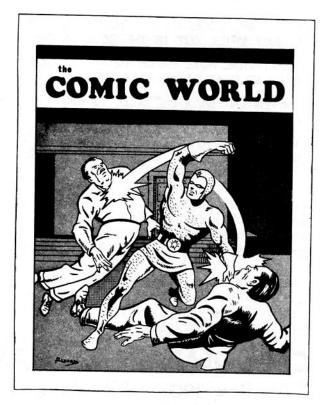
THE COMIC WORID is a comics slanted fanzine devoted to the principle that any subject worth writing about is worth covering in depth, and detail. You'll find no two and three page shortic articles in COMIC WORID, nor will you find our pages cluttered up with amateur comic strips, fan fiction, or pin-up pages. What you will find is good substantial writing, well illustrated well laid out, and well researched.

THE COMIC WORLD #18 is now out, featuring a close look at the original Blue Beetle and the company which produced him, the only complete analysis of this subject ever attempted, along with Edwin Murray's followup to his forty page ACG coverage in our previous issue, plus new departments, Clay Kimball's free wheeling column and much more.

THE COMIC WORLD #18, h0 full sized pages, photo offset cover to cover, all copies sent flat, in a mailing envelope. Single copies \$1.50 each, a six issue subscription \$6.00. Notice the big difference there? That's because it costs 53¢ to mail out singly ordered copies, whereas sub copies, mailed all at one time on a special permit go for lots less, and we pass the savings along. Subscribe and save, big. Order from—

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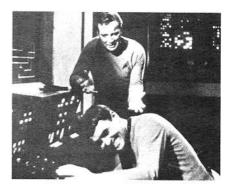
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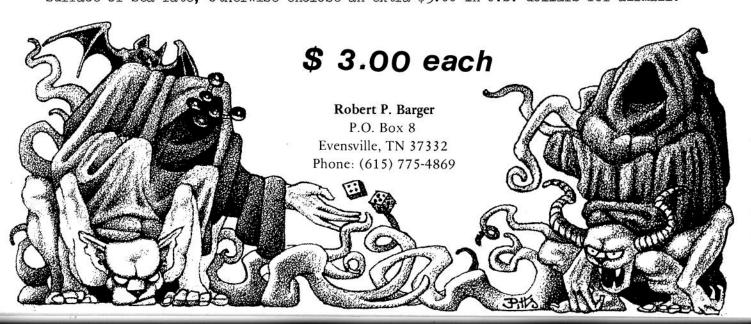
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And if you don't want to take these folks'word for it, here are the contents: a cover by TIM KIRK, interior full page illustrations by HERB ARNOLD, JIM PITTS, GENE DAY, JOHN MAYER, and MARTHA FISCHER. Plus spot illos by JIM PITTS, LIZ DANFORTH, and GENE DAY....articles include "Address to the Lankhmar Literary Guild" by KARL EDWARD WAGNER, "I, the Grey Mouser and the Game" by HARRY OTTO FISCHER (co-creator of Fafhrd and the Mouser), a short interview with FRITZ LEIBER, as well as other articles and a complete, illustrated bibliography of the entire series.

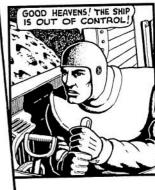
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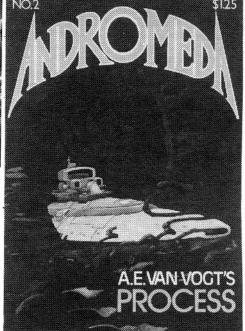
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76 PAGES! PLUS FAN FICTION

Why the change in ENTERPRISE INCIDENTS? Because as pleased as we have been with what we have accomplished in E.I., we always seemed to run out of pages before we could present all we wanted to. Plus, we felt it was time for the magazine to grow and expand its horizons to include a very active and vibrant sector of STAR TREK fandom which we have been ignoring. What I'm speaking of is the fan fiction zines. There are some very exciting and creative things being done in them which are far more inventive, entertaining and well written than the fiction being published by Bantam, etc. Fan fiction is not afraid to experiment and try new ideas outside of the rigorous action/adventure format required by the major companies publishing ST fiction. Our expanded format will attempt to begin exploring all of them.

For instance:

"ALTERNATIVE THOUGHTS" by Gerry Downes: Gerry discusses and analyzes this landmark story of hers which sent ripples from one end of ST fandom to the other!

"FAN FICTION: IS IT LEGAL OR MERELY TOLERATED?" - We will attempt

to set the record straight on exactly what the situation is.
"THE FAN FICTION ZINES" - In which we discuss and
analyze the many different types of zines currently
being published.

ZINE EDITORS TAKE NOTE!

The column "THE STAR TREK REVIEW" will now concern itself primarily with famzines, as opposed to prozines and newsstand publications. SEND US YOUR ZINE FOR REVIEW! Due to the fluctuating nature of zine publishing we don't know about everyone who's out there.

Other features will include:

"K/S FICTION: SYNDROME OR SERIOUS WRITING?" which discusses a rather volatile area of fan fiction that is rapidly growing in popularity and acceptance, despite the rather touchy nature of the concept. A lot of research is going into this and it will include comments by one of the writers most identified with it: Leslie Fish.

We will also be stepping up our use of fan art as well as interviewing notable fan writers. Plus, we will be presenting fan fiction ourselves, such as:

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from "THE MENAGERIE". A fourteen page recap of "The Menagerie" using over 50 stills. A feature on JEFFREY HUNTER. "How Those STAR TREK Devices Really Work". An article on GENE RODDENBERRY. "THE STAR TREK BLOOPERS", "THE STAR TREK ARCHIVES", 3 pages of Ralph Fowler art and more!

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Some of the fan fiction we present will be staff written, but we are also interested in submissions from you the reader (please include return postage).

But what about the features which have made ENTER-PRISE INCIDENTS so popular thus far? We're keeping them! E.I. isn't changing its format so much as it's expanding it. E.I. #6 will still feature a photo-recap of "Balance of Terror". It will still present the fantastically popular features "THE STAR TREK BLOOPERS", "THE STAR TREK ARCHIVES" (which presents old and obscure magazine articles on ST) and all the rest including full color covers by RALPH FOWLER and more. And all in the same type of high quality format as TREK.

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Artwork by Kerry Gammill, Ralph Fowler (RBCC) (ENTERPRISE INCIDENTS), Al Zequeira (ENTERPRISE INCIDENTS)

THE GIFT Christopher Randolph

What would you do if you suddenly discovered you had been given the gift of immortality? Who would you share it with? Or would you dare impose such an item on another? What would you do, and how would you feel when you were still young, and your friends were old? What if you could share it with only one person in the entire galaxy? Who would you choose. . . and what if that person refused? A Trek story.

STELLAR GAS is a new Trekzine which will deal with general Star Trek fiction. Each issue will be approximately 80 pages, printed offset and permanently bound. Most of the material will be reduced and typed in columns, so each page will be equal to almost three full pages of normal-printed material. In other words, folks, there's more for your money! Issue number one is due out around the end of November or the first part of December, 1978. We are extremely interested in receiving contributions of stories, poetry, vignettes, articles (Trek related), artwork, and just about anything else that is concerned with Star Trek. Please be sure to include return postage on all manuscripts, artwork, poetry, etc. STELLAR GAS will deal primarily with general Trek stories, and all adult material will be published in a separate zine, THE NAKED TIMES.

No age statement is required to purchase $\overline{\text{STELLAR}}$ $\overline{\text{GAS}}$, however, some of the stories in our first issue $\underline{\text{do}}$ contain specific ideas. There is absolutely no sexually "explicit" material within STELLAR GAS, but the story LOST IN THOUGHT does have one "love scene." If you are easily offended by ideas and broad generalities, STELLAR GAS may not be the zine for you. Please read at your own discretion.

In addition to the stories mentioned above, there will be other short stories, as well as poetry by: JEANNE POWERS

ARTHORY BY ARTHURY BY ARTH

MARILYNN LEBO
CHRISTOPHER RANDOLPH
and others. . . .

ARTWORK BY BEV ZUK, AL ZEQUEIRA, KERRY GAMMILL, RALPH FOWLER, SCOTT GILBERT and others!!!!!!!!

We are still accepting contributions for the first issue, but it <u>must</u> be received by September 30, 1978 at the absolute latest in order to be considered for STELLAR GAS #1. Other material will be held for issue #2 (hopefully six months following #1)

<u>OTHER PROJECTS</u>

At the present time, we also have another zine, (Primarily adult) in the works. Send SASE for more info.

ORDER INFORMATION

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