



Brought to you by: *K.D. Wentworth, Uncle Guido and Simon McCaffery*

**Special "Back/On/Black" Issue •
November 1999**

***** HELLO, OSFW! *****

The November meeting will be Friday, Nov. 12th, at the Cyber Cafe at McFarlin Library. Michael and Ruby Keller are this month's hosts. Drive down Harvard to Fifth Street and turn west. Ignore the signs and park in the lot at the end of the street. McFarlin will be on your left as you face west. The Cyber Cafe is downstairs. If you arrive after 7:30 P.M., the door will be locked. Use the buzzer to alert us to let you in.

***** UNLOCAL NEWS *****

AlexLit Electronic Publications has bought Mind's Eye, its next biggest competitor. The two services will merge.

***** LOCAL NEWS *****

Brad Sinor will sign MERLIN at the Woodland Hills Waldenbooks, Sat, Nov. 20th, 2-4. Be there or be square!

Brad's nonfiction piece on Jane Yolen was published in the LAWTON CONSTITUTION. His story "Central Park" was

published in MERLIN and the mass market edition of LORD OF THE FANTASTIC was came out with his story "Back in the Real World."

Harold Chester has a story being held for the final cut at FANTASY, FOLKLORE, AND FAIRYTALES.

K.D. Wentworth's story "The Gender Plague: One Man's Story" was published in AGE OF REASON. She sold a proposal for the sequel to BLACK/ON/BLACK to Baen.

Ronda Cooper invites GPIC readers with a bad case of writer's block to check out this URL for helpful tips:
<http://freespace.virgin.net/david.weeks5/map/hurdfram.htm>

***** GOOD REJECTIONS *****

Greg Lower: FASF, TALEBONES, EXCURSIONS, NOT ONE OF US

Harold Chester: PLANET RELISH, TALEBONES

Paul Batteiger: DRAGON

Getting Down (in the Cyber Cafe) Again

by KDW

Sixteen showed up for the October meeting, including Harold Chester, who always gets the prize for having driven the farthest. We had both a visitor and a return member from several years ago and tons of goodies. No dogs though. Maybe we'll sneak Sammie in one of these days.

Harold Chester: Harold brought us "Targeteer," a short story about a young Airforce staff sergeant who's assigned to designate missile targets in an underground facility. Practically his first sight on the job is a screaming airman being dragged out the door and the situation goes downhill from there. The story has a wonderful economy, revealing in very few words the enormity of events taking place outside the facility. I liked the accruing details as the reader is led to put together the whole picture.

Greg Lower: Greg read "Professor Pelham's Potion," a delightful retelling of A Midsummer Night's Dream. Pelham, an organic chemistry professor, has been studying the role of endorphins in the brain and synthesizing pheromones. When his pheromones make an unscheduled appearance at a party intended to woo donations from wealthy alumni, chaos ensues and much pursuit of unwilling lovers. I liked the well drawn characters and the madcap comedy as the professor tries to figure out what's going on and then undo his mistake.

KDW: Read "Cat Call," the chronicle of the second set of adventures of Hudson and Sidley, that devil-may-care crime fighting duo.

by Diana Carolyn Ice

THE WRITER'S DIGEST GUIDE TO MANUSCRIPT FORMATS, by Dian Dincin Buchman and Seli Groves. Cincinnati: Writer's Digest Books, 1987. ISBN 0-89879-293-2. \$16.95.

Do you know how to format anecdote, article, book, filler, greeting card, poem, recipe, screenplay, script, and short story manuscripts for submission? How about the forms for submitting illustrations, proposals, and queries? Or how to present cover letters? Or do you avoid even trying to submit certain things, because you don't know the proper format? If so, then this book is for you.

In the section discussing fiction, for example, there are sample cover letters; a list of steps to follow in submitting your novel; a sample proposal including cover sheet, table of contents, novel overview, bio, and outline; and sample manuscript pages with instructions on spacing for your title page, your first text page, succeeding chapters' first pages, and normal text; as well as how to format your novel's acknowledgments, dedication, epigraph(s), foreword, preface, and table of contents. And there is a sample follow-up letter for when you don't hear from the publisher after many moons.

There are similar sections for short stories and other short forms, nonfiction, and scripts that answer nearly every question you could have. The only thing I've found lacking was how to format and submit a side-bar with an article.

Buchman and Groves have also included mailing information, such as when to fold a

manuscript, packaging tips for everything including photos, and a checklist so you don't forget anything.

Also, there are a number of blank checklist and log pages that can be photocopied, including a Book Progress Checklist, Editorial Checklist, Research Correspondence Log, Telephone Expense Log, and Submission Logs to help you track your work.

There are even special sample letters for everything from requesting information from an agent to asking for corrections in reprints and from requesting rights to requesting permission to quote from another's work or to reproduce their graphs or charts.

But the instructions on formatting, typing, and spacing are the heart of the book. If you ever wonder what your margins should be, how to space your lines or arrange your headers, or what should be centered or capitalized, you can find the solution here, and the index is one of the best I've seen, making it easy to find what you need to know quickly. Whether you use a manual typewriter or a computer, this book will help you present your manuscripts in the most professional manner possible.

It's one of my favorite writing reference books, and I highly recommend it.

***** MAYBE I'M NOT
YOUR FATHER *****

(There's going to be an extra scene included in the DVD release of **EMPIRE STRIKES BACK** coming up next year! Basically, it expands on the scene where Vader reveals his fatherhood to Luke, and ties up some loose ends created with the release of Episode 1...)

**The Empire Strikes Back:
Extra-Special Edition**

INT: BESPIN GANTRY - MOMENTS
LATER:

*A furious lightsaber duel is underway.
DARTH VADER is backing LUKE
SKYWALKER towards the end of the gantry.*

*A quick move by Vader, chops off Luke's
hand! It goes spinning off into the
ventilation shaft.*

*Luke backs away. He looks around, but
realizes there's nowhere to go but straight
down.*

Darth Vader: "Obi Wan never told you what happened to your father."

Luke: "He told me enough! He told me you killed him!"

Darth Vader: "No... I am your father!"

Luke: "No, it's not true! It's impossible."

Darth Vader: "Search your feelings... you know it to be true..."

Luke: "NO!"

Darth Vader: "Yes, it is true... and you know what else? You know that brass droid of yours?"

Luke: "Threepio?"

Darth Vader: "Yes... Threepio... I built him... when I was 7 years old..."

Luke: "No..."

Darth Vader: "Seven years old? And what have you done? Look at yourself, no hand, no job, and couldn't even levitate your own

ship out of the swamp..."

Luke: "I destroyed your precious Death Star!"

Darth Vader: "When you were 20! When I was 10, I single-handedly destroyed a Trade Federation Droid Control ship!"

Luke: "Well, it's not my fault..."

Darth Vader: "Oh, here we go... Poor me... my father never gave me what I wanted for my birthday... boo hoo, my daddy's the Dark Lord of the Sith... waahhh wahhh!"

Luke: "Shut up..."

Darth Vader: "You're a slacker! By the time I was you're age, I had exterminated the Jedi knights!"

Luke: "I used to race my T-16 through Beggar's Canyon"

Darth Vader: "Oh, for the love of the Emperor... 10 years old, winner of the Boonta Eve Open... Only human to ever fly a Pod Racer... right here baby!"

Luke looks down the shaft. Takes a step towards it.

Darth Vader: "I was wrong... You're not my kid... I don't know whose you are, but you sure ain't mine..."

Luke takes a step off the platform, hesitates, then plunges down the shaft.

Darth Vader looks after him.

Darth Vader: "Get a haircut!"

*** UPDATED MARKET REPORT ***

CHANGES

AMAZING STORIES now says they are closed to novice writers, due to an overwhelming slushpile, but any writer "with substantial credits" is still welcome to submit work.

EXCURSIONS is dead.

CENTURY has yet again risen from the ashes and produced another issue, which premiered at World Fantasy Con. No word yet on when, if ever, it will be okay to send submissions.

WIZARDS OF THE COAST will consolidate all its material under that name. The TSR name will disappear.

REMINDER

STARLIGHT 3 will close Dec. 31, 1999.

NEW LISTINGS

ETOILES VIVES, 245/247 rue Paul Bert, 69003, Lyon, France. Editor: Andre-Francois Ruaud. E-mail: aeff.easynet.fr. A book-magazine buying one time publication rights for sf/f "upbeat fictions, sense of wonder, adventure, humanism, dreams, exoticism, humour." Payment: \$100.

REALITIES ESCAPE, 7-Realms Publishing Corporation, P.O. Box 1629, Pearl River, LA 70452. Editor: Celia L. Badon. New magazine buying f/sf/df/h. The first issue will appear in March, 2000. Send a cover letter with credits. Length: up to 10,000 words. Also looks at novels. Payment: 3 cents/word. E-mail: realms@fastband.com.

SKULL FULL OF SPURS, PMB 117, 2519 S. Shields, Fort Collins, CO 80256. Editors:

Jason Bovberg, Kirk Whitham, Darin Sanders. Want "western landscapes, icons, and themes, infused with liberally strange doses of h, noir, sf, or erotica." Likes "wildly humorous as well as crushingly dark."

*****Deadline: Dec. 31, 1999. Payment: 6 cents/word.**

WINEDARK SEA, P.O. Box 367,
Southgate, Sylvania NSW 2224, Australia.
Editor: None listed. New Australian journal of "the surreal, the fantastic, the magically real." Length: up to 10,000 words. Multiple subs and e-mail subs accepted, but send for guidelines first. No simultaneous subs. Payment: about \$10 Australian/1,000 words for First Australian rights and nonexclusive electronic rights. E-mail: editors@winedark.com. Webpage: www.winedark.com.

***** MANY THANKS TO *****

KDW & Guido
Diana Carolyn Ice
Warren & Lana Brown
Ronda Cooper
Chris Merle

***** SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION *****

A subscription to *Son of GPIC*, the official newsletter of the Oklahoma Science Fiction Writers, may be obtained by mailing a check or money order in the amount of \$13.00 (\$18 per household), prorated by quarter, to:

K.D. Wentworth, Treasurer
6915 New Haven
Tulsa, OK
(Checks should be made out to K.D. Wentworth)

Please note: An "X" on your mailing label

indicates OSFW has no record of either 1999 dues or GPIC subscription renewal. This GPIC will be your last.

***** OSFW INFORMATION *****

The OSFW meets at members' homes the second Friday of every month to read, critique, and promote in general SF, Fantasy, and Horror writing. All willing to contribute and (after a couple of trial meetings) pay their dues are welcome. **There is no age limit but parents should understand that material with adult themes and language is read and discussed.** Membership dues are \$13.00 per year, adjusted by nearest quarter, which includes a subscription to GPIC. Checks should be made out to K.D. Wentworth, and may be sent to K.D. at the address above.

***** GPIC NEWS AND ARTICLES *****

GPIC solicits news and articles from OSFW members. We prefer they be on disk or sent via e-mail. Pseudonyms are OK. We accept files on either a 3-inch Mac or PC disk. We like RTF files but we can convert most Word and Word Perfect files; always include a separate ASCII file just in case.

Otherwise, arrange to send them by e-mail to Simon at: simon.mccaffery@wilcom.com.

You retain copyright on material. If this is of special concern you might let us know who you really are along with your pseudonym. We reserve the right to edit (although we try not to).

***** NEXT GPIC DEADLINE *****

Pesky deadline for December. issue: December 1.