



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

**Special "Pirated Copy" Issue •  
October 1999**

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

GPIC was delayed slightly again this month. The meeting was held on Oct. 8th, at the Cyber Cafe at McFarlin Library. Details to follow next month.

**\*\*\* UNLOCAL NEWS \*\*\***

Marion Zimmer Bradley died on September 25th. She was best known for her DARKOVER series and THE MISTS OF AVALON. Word is that a trust exists to support MARION ZIMMER BRADLEY'S FANTASY MAGAZINE so it will continue for the foreseeable future.

BLACKADDER will return to television with the coming of the new year. This installment is a one-time effort entitled BLACKADDER BACK AND FORTH. Blackadder's manservant Baldrick builds a time machine that runs amok, hurling the two of them back and forth through time.

Arnold Schwarzenegger will play Doc Savage in an upcoming film.

Disney is planning a GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE sequel. A sequel to this summer's THE MUMMY is also planned.

SFWA is now offering a junior membership, available to anyone under 21 who has demonstrated a professional talent in writing science fiction or fantasy by either winning or placing in a writing contest organized by a professional or official group or publishing a science fiction or fantasy story in a school or officially sponsored magazine or newspaper. For further information, contact Executive Director Sharon Lee, SFWA, P.O. Box 171, Unity, ME 04988-0171. Specify "Junior

**Membership."**

**\*\*\* LOCAL NEWS \*\*\***

Michael Keller's article "cron: Job Scheduler" appeared in the September '99 issue of LINUX JOURNAL.

Dana had a poem published in EXQUISITE CORPSE.

Warren Brown had his wonderful OMNI story "Last Waltz" published illegitimately in Thailand! It appeared, with striking artwork, in a SF anthology. True, the publishers did so without permission or compensation, but Warren was apparently in very good company (as he should be).

OLD FEARS, by Tulsa writer John Wooley and former Tulsa writer Ron Wolfe, has been reprinted by Hawk Publishing. Wooley will sign at Steve's Sundries, Oct. 9, 2-4 P.M. and Novel Idea (71st St.), Oct. 16, 2-4 P.M. Both authors will be on hand to sign at the 21st St. Borders on Friday, Oct. 29th, 7:00 P.M. The book has recently been reoptioned for a film.

K.D. Wentworth sold reprint rights to her first three novels, THE IMPERIUM GAME, MOONSPEAKER, and HOUSE OF MOONS, to Hawk Publishing. The tentative publication date is Summer, 2000.

**\*\*\* GOOD REJECTIONS \*\*\***

Warren and Lana Brown received a good rejection from the Austin Film Festival for the screenplay "What Happened In Fool-the-Eye?"

**\*\*\* CONTINUUM \*\*\***

September 1999

By Amanda Gannon

12 people showed up for the September meeting at Warren's house on a dark and stormy night. We all really missed the computers at the Cyber Cafe, but, thankfully, there was no surfing for dirty pictures to interrupt the wholesome entertainment. After much banter and some great snacking we had three stories to tide us over until October.

Greg Lower — Greg read "Rubic the Believer," a story about Earth many years after the departure of a spaceship sent to colonize Mars. Meredith is the older woman who remembers life before the riots and the subsequent fall of technology. She runs the only radio receiver near the town where Rubic lives. Together they listen, hoping for a transmission from the starship. I really liked the way that the townpeople thought the starship was only a legend, and I also enjoyed the honest interaction between the characters.

Rob O'Barr (spelling?) — Rob read the first chapter of an as-yet-untitled novel. The content was juicy, as we have come to expect. His interesting and colorful characters inhabit a ripe-for-plunder Tulsa, complete with certain landmark downtown buildings in a slightly altered form. The most memorable character was probably the radio personality with an edifice complex. What will he do with the Golden Driller?

Amanda Gannon - Amanda read the first chapter of "The Fruits of Summer."

### \*\*\* EXPLANATION OF TYPES OF ALTERNATE HISTORY \*\*\*

by Maureen McHugh

(Note: Maureen wrote this lovely and succinct explanation of Alternate History and how it works for the Rio Hondo Writers' Workshop this summer and it is reproduced here by permission.)

For your consideration, I offer the McHugh Analysis of how alternates work--

1) By the cleverness of the juxtaposition. At its crudest form, this is Ghandi with an automatic weapon. At its most astonishing, it is this, where the collision of the historical with fictional illuminates the historical.

2) By leaving the 'alternate decision/event' offstage and following the life of one of Alexander the Great's soldiers as they choose to conquer Germany instead of India.

3) And the weakest, which is the joke alternate or Ah-Hah Alternate, the 'I am just a washed out painter who had his moment in the sun forty years ago, before being forced to leave Europe by that tyrant, Eichmann, during the war where they executed 20 million in the camps. Why are you interested in an old artist like me, Adolph Hitler?'

Bio: "I was born in 1959 in a small town in southwestern Ohio. I went to college at Ohio University and then got my master's degree in English Literature at New York University. I taught as a part time college instructor for a few years and did temporary office work and basically bummed around New York City a lot, and then I moved to Shijiazhuang, China, for a year. I came back to Ohio, became a technical writer for a medical company, met my husband and got married, and when we were both laid off, he got a job in Cleveland. So now I'm a full time writer. MISSION CHILD will be out in paperback in November, and I'm finishing up my fourth novel, NEKROPOLIS, which will be published sometime in the year 2000."

### \*\*\* THE ICE PICK \*\*\*

by Diana Carolyn Ice

THE WEEKEND NOVELIST by Robert J. Ray. New York : Dell, 1994. ISBN 0-440-50594-1. \$10.95.

If you want to write a novel, but don't have a clue where to start or how to organize your ideas, this book, billed as a "dynamic 52-week program to help you produce a finished novel . . . one weekend at a time," may be just what you need.

It begins with the most basic concepts and then leads you into and through the actual writing of the story. It is, however, not for the faint-hearted, but is a very concentrated and demanding book, requiring strong self-discipline.

The first fourteen lessons are devoted to creating your characters, setting your scenes, and working out your plot. If you already have characters in mind and a story knocking around in your head, you may want to skip these. I'd advise skimming them instead, as there are many terrific hints, bits of advice, and exercises that may help you strengthen your novel or give you ideas.

Ray has you start the actual drafting of your story by writing your key scenes in six lessons or weekends. Then he has you write what he calls the "discovery"

draft in eleven weekends, "the "meditation" draft in fourteen weekends, and the "final" draft in seven weekends. In the discovery, or first draft, you write fast, just getting the story down on paper. With the meditation draft, you reshape, rework, and rewrite--tightening action, fixing dialogue, rebuilding settings, deepening and developing the story. In the final draft, you cut and polish.

It will be helpful to have a paperback copy of the Anne Tyler's ACCIDENTAL TOURIST on hand, since Ray uses that as a model to study, but the relevant parts are quoted in entirety, and it is not a necessity.

Nor is it necessary to confine yourself to working only on weekends, if you have the time. (I didn't, and it took me three years to work my way through the book.)

Ray also advocates keeping a notebook in which to "store your creativity." In this, you do the weekly exercises, keep dialogues, ideas, images, inspiring pictures or quotes, lists, notes to yourself, plot diagrams, and scenes to be written.

The book lacks any kind of an index, which drove me crazy when I wanted to refer to something. But it does have a bibliography of both how-to-write books and classic works for writers to read and study and an excellent glossary of writing terms, as well as tips on how to find a publisher for your novel.

### \*\*\* UPDATED MARKET REPORT \*\*\*

#### CHANGES

AMAZING STORIES is closed until further notice.

DARK REGIONS is closed until March, 2000.

FLESH AND BLOOD is overstocked and closed until mid-December, 1999.

CENTURY is rumored to be rising from the ashes and producing another issue.

#### NEW LISTINGS

DRAGONSCROLL, 6689 Peachtree Blvd., Norcross, GA 30092. Editor: Eric S. Weilnau. An e-zine that wants S&S. Length: no limit mentioned. Payment: 3 cents/word. Buys first electronic rights for two years. E-mail in ASCII or MSWord for Windows to editor@thescroll.com in message or as attachment. Snailmail to above address. Webpage: www.dragonscroll.com.

WHISPERS FROM THE SHATTERED FORUM, 11 San Miguel Drive, Apt. B, St. Charles, MO 63303. Editor: Cullen Bunn. New quarterly digest seeking h/df. Payment: 1/4 cent/word. Length: 4,000 words preferred, occasionally takes longer. Return time: 2-3 weeks. Buys primary first North American Serial Rights, but sometimes takes reprints, if approved in advance. Read guidelines before submitting.

#### SELECTED PRO MARKETS

ABORIGINAL SF MAGAZINE, P.O. Box 2449, Woburn, MA 01888-0849. Editor: Charles C. Ryan. Quarterly. Current needs: Short sf stories, 2,500-4,500 words. Wants strong science content, lively, unique characters, and well designed plots. Poetry, 1-2 pages; 1-panel original cartoons on science or sf, jokes, 25-100 words (must be original). Would like to see more hard sf. Send SASE for writer's or artist's guidelines. Payment rates: stories, \$200; poetry \$20, cartoons \$20; jokes \$5; all on publication. Reporting time: 8-12 weeks.

ABSOLUTE MAGNITUDE, SF Adventure, DNA Publications, Inc., P.O. Box 2988, Radford, VA 24143-2988P. Editor: Warren Lapine. Looking for action/adventure based sf, no humor, h, f, or cyberpunk. He wants to see "tightly plotted stories with memorable characters." Encourages disposable submissions with a stamped #10 envelope for a reply. Length: up to 25,000 words. "Longer stories will probably have a better chance." No religious overtones, time travel, humor, law enforcement agencies, hard-boiled detectives, or present tense. Looking for more space opera. Payment: 1-5 cents/word plus 1 contributor's copy for FNASR upon publication. Reprints: 1 cent/word. Sample: \$5. 1 year: \$14. Reporting time: 3-4 weeks.

ADVENTURES OF SWORD & SORCERY, P.O. Box 807, Xenia, OH 45385. Submissions Editor: Randy Dannenfelser. Quarterly buying sword & sorcery, high fantasy, and heroic fantasy. "We want fiction with an emphasis on action and adventure, but still cognizant of the struggles within as they play against the struggles without. As examples, think of the fiction of J.R.R. Tolkien, Fritz Leiber, and Katherine Kurtz." Looking for fantasy set in other milieus than medieval Europe. Length: 1,000-7,500 words. Payment: 3-6 cents/word upon acceptance. Prefers to have a cover letter. Sample: \$4.50. 1 yr. \$14.50.

ANALOG, 475 Park Avenue South, 11th Floor, New York, New York 10016. Editor: Stanley Schmidt. Currently reading all lengths. "A great many stories

go home not because there is something wrong with them, but simply because I don't see anything special enough to make them stand out from the competition. . . . one of the commonest problems is not having an imagination-catching idea." Payment: 6-8 cents/word up to 7,500 words; \$430-520 for 7,500-12,500 words; 5-6 cents per word for longer material. Wants sf with strong characters in believable future or alien setting. Reporting time: 1 month, often less.

ARTEMIS MAGAZINE, 1380 E. 17th St., STE 201, Brooklyn, NY 11230. Editor: Ian Randal Strock. Buying near-future sf concerning lunar development or life on the moon. Length: up to 20,000 words. Payment: 5-8 cents/word upon acceptance.

ASIMOV'S SF MAGAZINE, 475 Park Ave. South, 11th Flr., New York, NY 10016. Editor: Gardner Dozois. Buying sf and fantasy up to 20,000 words (very few longer). Wants "tight" stories in which every scene, ideally every word, serves to either drive the plot or establish character or setting in some essential way, or perhaps both. He wants to see more hard science and also more good offworld, alien planet, spaceship, or good literate space opera fiction--"something with some color and sweep and action and exoticism." Payment: 6-8 cents/word to 7,500 words; \$450-600 to 12,500 words, 5 cents/word for longer stories. Reporting time: 4-6 weeks up to six months.

CICADA, 315 Fifth St., P.O. Box 300, Peru, IL 61354-0300. Associate Editor: John Allen. A publication from the same group which produces CRICKET, meant for the 14-19 age group. Buying "realistic, gritty, dramatic fiction, sf/f, mystery, adventure, historical, romance. Can be a little rebellious and a little hip, but not too hip. Protag may be teen or adult. Looking for things in the style of Bruce Coville and Phillip Pullman." Will run one story 10,000-15,000 words in each issue. Other stories should be 5,000-7,000 words. Payment: 25 cents/word for one-time rights.

DRAGON MAGAZINE, 1801 Lind Avenue SW, Renton, WA 98055. Editor: Dave Gross. Length: 1,500-8,000 words. Pays 5-8 cents/word on acceptance for First Worldwide Serial Rights in English. 2 contributor's copies. Wants fantasy with interesting characters and strong plots. Would prefer not to receive stories dealing with D&D monsters and characters. "There is an entire genre of fantasy to explore beyond sword and sorcery." Wants stories with strong fantasy elements that move fairly quickly. The editor has no objections to female protagonists, but "can't use stories in which female

sensibilities dominate." Reporting time: 4-6 weeks. Sample: \$4. Guidelines available.

ELLERY QUEEN'S MYSTERY MAGAZINE, 475 Park Avenue South, 11th Floor, New York City, NY 10016. Editor: Janet Hutchins. "All genres of crime and mystery. All well written stories with crime, mystery, or suspense at their core." Length: up to 20,000 words. Payment: 3-8 cents/word on acceptance. Sends 3 copies. Return time: 1-2 months.

FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION, P.O. Box 249, New York City, NY 10159-1806. Editor: Gordon Van Gelder. Current needs: all lengths and types of fantasy/sf--especially sf under 10,000 words. Payment: 5-7 cents/word. Reporting time: 6-12 weeks.

HITCHCOCK'S MYSTERY MAGAZINE, 475 Park Avenue South, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10016. Editor: Cathleen Jordan. Well-plotted, plausible mystery, suspense, detection, and crime stories. Length: up to 14,000 words. "Ghost stories, humor, futuristic, or atmospheric tales are all possible, as long as they contain a crime or the suggestion of one." Payment: 7 cents/word, on acceptance. Guidelines with SASE. Sample: \$3.

HMS BEAGLE, lois@hmsbeagle.com. Editor: Lois Wingerson. Webzine for biological and medical researchers. Soliciting biology related fiction. Payment: \$300, \$350 if the author can provide endlinks (websites relevant to the topic under discussion). Include cover letter. Length: up to 5,000 words.

INTERZONE, 217 Preston Dr., Brighton BN1 6FL, U.K. Editor: David Pringle. Current needs: Innovative sf/f, 2-7,000 words. Hard sf welcome, but not s&s or standard genre horror. Writers outside UK must send 2 IRC's for airmail response. Disposable photocopied ms. welcome. Payment: \$30/1,000 words. Reporting time: 4-12 weeks. Sample: \$5. \$27/6 issues.

MARION ZIMMER BRADLEY'S FANTASY MAGAZINE, Box 249, Berkeley, CA 94701. Editor: Rachel Holmen. Current needs: well-plotted, action or adventure fantasy, 1,500-7,000 words, strongly prefers 3,000-4,000. \*\*Only buys work longer than 4,000 words from established writers to be used for the cover story. No\_dot\_matrix. Does not want more female bandits/thieves. Send SASE for guidelines before sending ms. Payment: 3-10 cents/word.

POCKET BOOKS will be doing another Star Trek



anthology/contest for new writers: STAR TREK: STRANGE NEW WORLDS II. Grand Prize is \$1,000 plus 10 cents/word for publication in the anthology. Rules and guidelines are too long to go into here. See

[www.simonsays.com/startrek/features/strange.html](http://www.simonsays.com/startrek/features/strange.html) or send SASE to Strange New Worlds II, Star Trek Department, Pocket Books, 1230 6th Ave., New York, NY 10020. **\*\*\*\*Open to non-pro writers only.**

REALMS OF FANTASY, P.O. Box 527, Rumson, NJ 07760. Editor: Shawna McCarthy. Full color and full-sized. Open to all types of fantasy, including dark fantasy up to 10,000 words (5,000-8,000 preferred). "I like to see new settings, exotic mythologies, new looks at familiar characters, places, and settings." Please do not send self-addressed postcards with submissions. Payment: 5-8 cents/word. Return time: 2-3 weeks up to 4 months.

SCIENCE FICTION AGE, 11305 Sunset Hills Road, Reston, VA 20190. Editor: Scott Edelman. Length: up to 22,000 words. SF only. No fantasy. Payment: 10 cents/word, but "I am looking for the best." Full color cover and thick glossy paper. Available on newsstands. Return time: 1-2 weeks.

STARLIGHT 3, c/o Patrick Nielsen Hayden, Tor Books, 175 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010. Write STARLIGHT on the envelope. Editor: Patrick Nielsen Hayden. Anthology. Send only one submission at a time, then wait for a response, before sending another. "I'm interested in all kinds of sf and fantasy, definitely including hard sf . . . open to novellas . . . can be very slow to respond." Length: no upper limit. Payment: 7 1/2 cents/word. Open until the end of 1999.

WEIRD TALES (formerly WORLDS OF FANTASY AND HORROR), 123 Crooked Lane, King of Prussia, PA 19406-2570. Editor: Darrell Schweitzer. Quarterly. Needs f/h/ psychic/supernatural/occult. 20,000 words maximum. Pays 3-7 cents/word on acceptance for First NA Serial Rights. Provides 3 contributor's copies. Sample \$5. Fiction guidelines for #10 SASE. Reporting time: 1 month.

### \*\*\* MANY THANKS TO \*\*\*

Maureen McHugh  
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Warren & Lana Brown  
Amanda Gannon  
SF Anthologists of Thailand

### \*\*\* 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](mailto: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 Nov. issue: October 27.

