



Brought To You By: K. D. Wentworth, Warren & Lana Brown and Simon McCaffery

Special Alien Autopsy Issue • September 1995

*** HELLO OSFW ***

The September meeting will take place at 7:00 P.M. at the Sinor residence, 1127 North Juniper, Broken Arrow. The phone number is 258-0742. Directions: Take the Broken Arrow Expressway to 145th, turn right (south) and then turn right again (east) at 71st St./Kenosha. Pass the Git 'n Go and turn left (north) onto Juniper Pl. Go one block and turn right onto Lansing. Drive one block and turn left onto Juniper Ave.

*** UNLOCAL NEWS ***

John Brunner, author of STAND ON ZANZIBAR and many other noted sf books, died of a stroke while attending the World Science Fiction Convention in Glasgow.

1995 Hugo Results:

Best Novel—MIRROR DANCE by Lois McMaster Bujold

Best Novella—"Seven Views of Olduvai Gorge" by Mike Resnick (FASF)

Best Novelette—"The Martian Child" by David Gerrold (FASF)

Best Short Story—"None So Blind" by Joe Haldeman (ASIMOV'S)

Best Professional Editor: Gardner Dozois

Best Semiprozine: INTERZONE

Best Artist: Jim Burns

Best Dramatic Presentation: STAR TREK: "All

Good Things"

Campbell Award: Jeff Noon (VURT)

SCIENCE FICTION WEEKLY, a new professional electronic publication of science fiction news, reviews and short stories, debuted Aug. 15 on the World Wide Web. Science Fiction Weekly is free to the public and covers movies, games, books, other Web sites, industry news and anything else related to science fiction. Craig E. Engler is Editor. Science Fiction Weekly is available at the URL:

<http://www.mordor.com/sfw>

BLACK DOG MAGAZINE, a new bi-monthly for the culturally deprived has renewed its search for a "sci-fi" columnist.

"You do not need to be super-experienced but you need to have a passion for science fiction books, movies and television. You need to be able to convince non-science fiction lovers to read, see or watch. The column, the Sci-Fi Eye will appear each issue. We would like the first to appear in issue #2 (our halloween themed issue.) You'll have 800 words to work with each month. Payment is negotiable.

"Black Dog magazine is a zine for the culturally deprived...a potpourri of information and ideas..of expression with an edge. Each issue features articles and regular columns on technology, music, the arts, politics and more. We also feature fiction and poetry.

"If you're interested in sci-fi columnist position, please e-mail or snail a letter stating why you're the one for the job. Include a writing sample, published or not published and if you don't have a writing sample then write a 100-word mini column.

Send e-mail to: Lisa Hake, Editor at BlackDogM@aol.com

or snail: Black Dog, 224 Adelaide Place, Munster, IN 46321

*** LOCAL NEWS ***

Ray Lafferty was listed on Gardner Dozois's THE YEAR'S BEST SF 1994 Honorable Mention List for "Holy Woman" (STRANGE PLASMA 7) and "I Don't Care Who Keeps the Crows" (CRANK!, Fall, 1994).

OSFWans Simon McCaffery and Warren Brown will be part of a Tulsa Library program entitled "Science Fact v. Science Fiction" on Thursday night, Sept. 21, 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. in the Aaronson Auditorium, Central Library. OSFWans Barbara Thrower and K.D. Wentworth will participate in another Tulsa Library program on science fiction on Saturday, Sept. 23rd, 1:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M., also in the Aaronson Auditorium. Authors Mercedes Lackey, Larry Dixon, and Mark Shepherd are scheduled to attend as well. They will discuss "the relativity of science fiction and fantasy writing in today's society and its influence on young adults." Books by attending authors will be for sale and the authors will be available for autographs.

Chris Merle's "Early Death Benefits" was accepted for the FUTURE OF FREEDOM anthology. Congratulations, Chris!

Brad Sinor sold a interview with Robert Picardo to the LAWTON CONSTITUTION and a short story to a DAW anthology titled TIME OF VAMPIRES. His interview with Tim Russ was published in the LAWTON CONSTITUTION. His interview with Karl Edward Wagner was published in BLOODSONGS and his appreciation of Mike McQuay was printed in LOCUS. He had good rejections from THROUGH THE CORRIDOR and WORLDS OF FANTASY AND HORROR.

Barbara Thrower had good rejections from TOMORROW, ASIMOV'S, FANTASTIC WORLDS, SF AGE, and ZERO GRAVITY FREEFALL.

Warren Brown had a good rejection from CENTURY.

KDW sold "Tall One" to FASF and "The Turquoise Horse" to VISION QUESTS. Her fantasy short story "Under the Weather" was published in the October HITCHCOCK'S and her

FASF story "Sacred Ground" has been translated and published in the Russian version of FASF. Her first novel, THE IMPERIUM GAME, made the LOCUS 1994 list of BEST FIRST NOVELS, voted upon earlier this year. Her signing at the B.Dalton's at Eastland Mall has been rescheduled for Sat., Sept. 9th, 2-4 P.M.

*** CONTINUUM ***

By KDW

*August 1995 or
All The Warriors I Loved
Before, The Vampire Lancelot
and
How Green Were My Pigs*

We had ten at the August meeting, which has been about average for attendance throughout the spring and summer. Barbara's parents very kindly loaned us their house, then went out to a movie and didn't even ask us for popcorn money! Chris Merle brought news of his first fiction sale, which was a cause for a celebratory atmosphere. For a change, we were able to read all the work brought, five manuscripts in all, and still had time to catch up on the gossip. Major topic for the night: Who's paid their dues and who has not. Are your ears burning?

Barbara read Chapter Eight of *All the Warriors in Pell*, which takes place after the plague of bats descended upon Pell. Moire, lying in the hospital, sees a person with wings at her bedside, who says he will wait with her as she dies. Denny finds out his aunt knew Moire when Ger was a boy, and now dreams of him. I liked the layered dark images and the revelation that, despite their age differences, the aunt has dreamed of Ger as her lover, attracted to him even when he was a child. They have a connection that goes back more than a single lifetime.

Brad read "Oaths," an Arthurian fantasy in which Lancelot lives on as a vampire, long after the rest of the principals have died. I liked the historical context involving the Inquisition and the Knights Templar, and the irony that Lancelot sacrificed himself to save Guinivere from just the

life he is now condemned to lead.

Warren read Chapter Five of *Underland*, "Powers That Be." The chapter was tantalizingly written from the viewpoint of the "whitefaced" woman encountered in earlier chapters and gives us a hint of what is behind the apparent return of Jack's wife, Pam, from the dead. I liked the slowly unfolding mystery and the sense that there is so much waiting for the reader just beneath the surface of the story.

Greg brought "Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow," Chapter 4 of his novel-in-progress, and "My Last Day as a Human Being," Chapter 5. We see Drew gradually working out his past and the mystery surrounding his present life while an unseen net threatens his freedom. I liked the bewildering flashbacks which hint there is more to his life than he can now remember and the expertly delineated high school band scene at the football game.

KDW read "Tis the Season," set in a near-future where religion is

both illegal and rampantly berserk. Cop Al is beamed on the noggin with a cross by "nuns," who kidnap him to be sacrificed at Father Linnie's warehouse service--FL being a pimply-faced 15-year-old. Gun-toting, opposing factions invade, including Pastor Buck and his 15th Street Methodists, and the murderous Zen Master, but dodging bullets, Al finally prevails. I liked the black humor and manic pacing, and especially Al's dueling Zen-saying contest with the crazed Zen Master. Everything Zen? I don't think so . . .

Eddie, long absent from OSFW meetings, due to rigorous research on his latest epic, PORKER OVER THE RAINBOW, OR HOW GREEN WERE MY PIGS, read chapter two, "One Flew Over the Dungheap," almost a year in the making. We return to the story of Bobb, a world-weary flying pig who forsakes his beloved bimbo in order to flit over the rainbow and seek personal fulfillment in a kinder, gentler land. In our last chapter, sick at heart from the loss of his brother, Donn, to a demented religious cult (as portrayed in Eddie's second blockbuster epic, SILENCE OF THE HAMS), Bobb paints himself green and takes off for Oz, a place where, he is sure, no one ever even mentions the words bacon or ham.

Xenia Xenn frets for a few seconds when he

leaves, but then waxes her legs in the certainty her trusty companion Bobb can never stay away from her for long.

The chapter ends on a savagely tense note when Bobb arrives in Munchkin Land just in time for the annual Munchkin Barbecue/Hog Jowls Eating Contest.

Chapter Two--Bobb touches down in Munchkin Land, wondering what IS that delicious smell? The sound of knives being sharpened catches his attention and he decides to investigate. After all, flying is deuced hard work and he's feeling a bit peckish.

The Munchkins crowd around him in glee, singing high-pitched songs and clapping their nasty, perspiring little hands while measuring him for the here-to-fore empty last spit on the left. Bobb studies them closely. He knew they were supposed to be little, but these guys are absolute runts. On Mars, where he was hatched, runts are fed to their littermates at birth in the interest of producing bigger and better flying piglets for their beloved bimbos to ride on their conquest of the universe. He begins to feel homesick and licks his famished chops.

"Welcome to our barbecue, Oh great and wonderful green pig!" the Munchkins chorus.

"Yeah, right," says Bobb, salivating like crazy. The smell of fresh Munchkin flesh on the hoof reminds him of days gone by, snarfing down midmorning snacks and frolicking in his sty. "Hey, I'm about to pass out from hunger here. You wouldn't happen to have a spare infant around that I could munch on?"

"Well, it is almost time for high tea." The Munchkins steer him toward a long piece of hickory suspended over a steaming pit of coals. The pungent smell of mesquite fills the air and someone breaks out a fresh jar of barbecue sauce. "If you would just take your seat here in the place of honor by the sauna, we'll see that you are SERVED!"

*** PHEW CORNER ***

Herbert: What's in that box?

Sukie: Nothing.

Herbert: Good. You're running around with an empty box. What WAS in it?

Sukie: As a devoted environmentalist, respecter of all forms of life, including you, I can't bring myself to say it.

Herbert: SNAIL BAIT! About time!

Sukie: I can't believe how low I've sunk. First the ants and now the snails. Please, Herbie, start the reviews.

Herbert: I hear this is going to be a bad season for fleas and mosquitoes, too. OK, OK, I'm starting:

SPACE & TIME, Fantasy & Science Fiction. Tom Piccirilli, Fiction Editor, 138 W 70th St., #4B, New York, NY 10023-4432. Bi-annual, digest size, 96 pages. Perfect bound, slick, attractive cover. Single issue \$5 (plus \$1.25). Two-issue sub \$10. Page 48 states: "Space & Time is dedicated to featuring a rich mixture of fiction and poetry in all aspects of the fantasy genre--science fiction, supernatural horror, swords & sorcery, and the unclassifiable."

Sukie: Do you think #85 is a 'rich mixture'?

Herbert: Whether it encompasses all of the above, I'm not sure, but I liked most of what I read. The longest story (about 20,000 words) is "Yavanna's Heir" by Connie Hirsch. I didn't care for the theme at first. I couldn't put my finger on what bothered me, so I read it again, and again, three times in all. And would you believe I ended up liking it?

Sukie: I believe if a story is well written, regardless of the theme, one can't help but admire it. What is it about?

Herbert: As High-Priest Yavanna's child-bearing years were coming to an end, she was depressed she had not been blessed with a female heir. Her son Lorin and her half-brother Petrian wish her to accept her niece Cynthya as her successor. Yavanna is opposed; she is certain the Lady will provide. The Lady's provision is a bloodthirsty monster, the like of which has never been imagined. There is considerable blood sacrifice and killing, but it progresses in a logical fashion, according to the dictates of Yavanna's religion.

Sukie: Sounds interesting. You know what? I think we're getting too accustomed to all this blood-letting. Isn't there anything less harrowing?

Herbert: Well, why don't you comment on "Assistance" by Mario Milosevic?

Sukie: All right. This story, about body parts passing through parallel worlds, is considerably shorter--about 6500 words. Hugh, to his surprise, suddenly finds himself with a new set of teeth that have grown in behind his own. He is even more surprised when the owner, a woman from the

parallel world, comes through to claim them and search for the rest of herself.

Herbert: Don't you just love the weirdness? "Creature of the Strip" by Judy Klass (1500 words), portrays an interesting alien, genetically altered to look like a terran, who works in a nightclub. The alien's services are unusual.

Sukie: I know, I read that one. Made you feel sorry for the alien. Frank Ward's "Birdy" (14,000 words), set in a Louisville, KY, high-crime slum area, brings us back to Earth with a thud. Paul moves next door to an eccentric old woman who likes to feed the birds in her backyard. She is picked on by a neighborhood teenage tough, and Paul takes it upon himself to get involved. Nasty, surprise ending.

Herbert: Kent Johnson's story of the Chernobyl nuclear power station meltdown (15,000 words) is also a contemporary tale, this time about a heroic Russian fireman who even in death is true to his duty.

Sukie: The last story, "Jupiter Dust" by K.B. Winship, is a short-short that says a lot. Deaf Amanda knows that with the aid of magic comet dust from Jupiter she will be able to fly.

Herbert: Round out the whole package with Ruth Berman's wonderful translation of a 19th Century tale, plus poems, quizzes, puzzles, and articles, and you have a lot of entertainment. What are the awards?

Sukie: Thanks to Mr. Frank Ward, a rich mixture of four- and twenty blackbirds baked in a pie. Good night, Herbert. Good night folks.

*** MARKET UPDATE ***

NEW LISTINGS

ABYSS MAGAZINE, Ragnorak Press, P.O. Box 140333, Austin, TX 78714. Editor: David Nalle. Quarterly gaming magazine buying one or two stories per issue. "Query first . . . looking mostly for df and heroic fantasy in the tradition of Ted White's FANTASTIC of the mid-70's. This could be best described as grim, realistic, and original fiction with a heroic, fantastic, or adventure theme . . . do not expect a rapid response." No length limits listed.

CHRONICLES OF THE HOLY GRAIL, 4 Thistlebank, Walderslade, Chatham, Kent ME5 8AD, UK. Editor: Mike Ashley. Buying a few

more stories "set in the Arthurian world and featuring aspects of the Holy Grail. Do not submit stories on spec without discussions with the editor." Send SAE with an IRC for guidelines. Length: 5,000-7,500 words. Payment: 3 cents/word. Deadline: Nov. 15th, 1995.

DARK ASYLUM, Asylum Publications, 119 Rodsley Ave., Shipcote, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear UK NE8 4LA. Magazine buying horror whose "pledge is to publish dark and disturbing fiction that pushes the boundaries of conventional horror to the very limits." Length: 200-20,000 words, prefers 2,000-5,000 words. Payment: £10/1,000 words upon publication for 1st British Serial Rights. Reprints okay, if notified about them. Return time: 2-3 months. (Send SAE and 2 IRC's.)

EULOGY, 2130 Brown St., Napa, CA 94559. Editor: Timothy G. Libby. Quarterly buying h/sf/crime/westerns/mystery. "We like edgy, over-the-top material. The majority of work in EULOGY is horror-based. Generally for horror, we lean toward the 'subtle horror' side of the fence." Length: 400-4,000 words. Payment: 1/2 cent/word for FNASR. Sample: \$4.95. \$18/yr.

CHANGES

PULP FICTION MAGAZINE is overstocked and closed until Jan. 1996. (*Break out the harps, folks.* — Simon)

EDGE DETECTOR is closed until further notice. (*Hey, they're holding one of my stories!* — Simon)

EXPANSE MAGAZINE may only be on hiatus. Watch for further information.

DRAGON MAGAZINE has a new editor: Tony Bryant.

MANIFEST DESTINY has folded.

ZERO GRAVITY FREEFALL has a new address:

Lake Retreat Publishing, 10530 128th Ave. N.E., Kirkland, WA 98033.

Editor Lou Aronica is moving to Avon.

SIRIUS VISIONS has ceased publication.

DEAD OF NIGHT horror magazine is taking a "4-issue hiatus to reorganize. Will be paying kill fees, refunding prorated subscriptions, and remaining closed until further notice."

HOT MARKETING TIPS (YOUCHIE!!)

The next reading period for **TALES OF THE UNANTICIPATED** (Box 8036, Minneapolis, MN 55408, Editor: Eric M. Heideman) will be Oct. 1-31, 1995. (** I highly recommend this market for the professional product it produces, the professional way it treats all submissions, and the perceptive insights of its editor. — K.D.)

Warren Lapine of **ABSOLUTE MAGNITUDE** is actively seeking sf action-adventure stories up to 25,000 words for future issues, as his backlog is low. He is negotiating with a New York publisher for an **ABSOLUTE MAGNITUDE** anthology.

CENTURY is looking for "more good science fiction that fits the style and flavor of the maga-

BIZARRO By Dan Piraro

BY ORDER OF THE CAPTAIN, "PEG-LEG BILL" WILL NOW BE CALLED "TAP DANCE-CHALLENGED BILL"... "ONE-EYED JAKE" IS NOW "WINK-INHIBITED JAKE"... CAPTAIN HOOK HIMSELF WILL BE CALLED "THE NON-JUGGLING CAPTAIN"... AND THE REST OF YOU SCURVY KNAVES WILL BE REFERRED TO AS THE "VITAMIN C DISADVANTAGED."



zine. Fantasy and horror stories come in regularly, but appropriate sf is always rare. The writing on a good number of the stories needs to be tighter. One of the most common reasons stories don't work is because they're too loose, unfocused, and long-winded to hold my interest."

Shawna McCarthy, editor of REALMS OF FANTASY, recently clarified what kind of fantasy she is looking for: "What I like is the unusual. It doesn't have to be a new idea--god knows there are few enough of them--but I do prefer that it be a new look at a familiar idea or setting. That's why I'm not too fond of 'standard' fantasy, since much of it seems to be the same stock characters with different names setting off on slightly different quests. I like to see new settings, exotic mythologies, new looks at familiar characters, places, and settings. I'm not into 'joke' stories, where puns are the main thrust of the action, and I'm not crazy about horror, though I do like a good ghost story now and again. But when I say I'm not crazy about horror, that doesn't mean I won't take any--it just has to be different from either your sexy, tortured vampire, your tormented werewolf, or your gibbering horrors from beyond the known world."

*** MANY THANKS TO ***

Warren
Lana
K.D.
Alma Garcia
Barbara
Eddy

*** SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION ***

One year's 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 \$10.00 (\$15 per household) to:

K.D. Wentworth, Treasurer
10804 E. 27th Street
Tulsa, OK 74129
(Checks should be made out to K.D. Wentworth)

Please note: An "X" on your mailing label indicates OSFW has no record of either 1995 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 \$10.00 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, or to 1223 S. Evanston Ave, Tulsa OK 74104.

*** 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 DOS disk (720k or 1.4 meg. — no 2.8 meg). 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 internet:73172.2054@compuserve.com. (or 73172,2054 if you have a CompuServe account). 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 July issue: June 26
We look forward to seeing you all!

