

VOICE

SENSATION

See Pg 13

BLACK MASS

#22

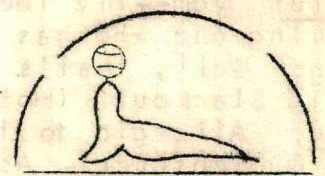
Halloween 42
(april fool!)



Come back here, Billy! You cannot get cream
from the Milky Way!!

Tigrina
1.5

Not genuine
without
this seal



A DYKTAWO PUBLICATION

"C O R N WITH THE W I N D" Chapt. 3, "Acky Gets into Drafting to Avoid Draft, Es-
~~apes~~ Khaki". Vom, like history, is made at hite, now days, since I said farewell
to freelancing & went into defensengineering. I now operate that glorifyd, elec-
trick typer, the Varitype, for the Fluor Corp. No, we do not manufacture Fluores-
cent lites. We dabble with superheated deisobutanizing units; that type of thing.
Methanes-- propane-- insanes. I workt 2 wks--strate thru Sunday & 2 nites over-
time--116 hr total--bfor I got a day off. Ordinary wk is 6 days. With all that
time excerpted from my life, U can bet your wife how much time I've none such of.
Sometimes when I'm free from the workaday world & return to the workisplay world of
stf, I'm too tired to be inspired--or even plain copy. So poddon anything sloppy.
Altho Morojo is doing the stenciling & mimeoing, & I noe we can depend on her to
give the dummy her best efforts. Meaning me or the mag, either way. As for the
future, Vom will be less frequent & smaller, one fears, from now til-?, 'cause I do
have to get in 40 winks from midnite til 5:30, sissy that I am. I'm afraid Vom, as
a mirror, will reflect my general tiredness (no cracks about a crackt mirror if it
reflects me in any way!) There cannot be the attention to detail, the "long-
range" planning, the titeness heretofore possible. But can it be helpt? No. And
so we adopt the watchword of Zenith, the British femme, &, to all complaints based
on the military status woe, we simply'll ansr: Dyktawo? DON'T YOU KNOW THERE'S A
WAR ON?

Finlay Fiasco: U may've heard from another source that this ish we'd
spring a sprise in the form of a Virgillustration. This was not meant as an Apr
Foo joke--at least, not to the extent of no Finlay. Gag was to've been the running
of our bacover on the front, b.c. having been skeded to've been an ad by VF for
"Burn Witch Burn". But, as deadline grew near--& passt--franticommunications were
flying thickenfast backenforth tween FandM & FFM. Where was the Finlay? As Hoff-
man cleverly put it, "We'll be Gnaedinger soon!" Finally: No Finlay. But thru no
fault of nice Nadine's. They've new set of administrators there at Red Star; FFM
is metamorfosizing to a 25c monthly; with old Man Mars on the loose it's just, well
hell, dyktawo? BUT, if no Virgil, we can promise U Varga on the cover! in near fut.
This definitely shoud put a stop to complaints about our punk, nonpro prettys...

Next cover'll repeat the popular foto-litho fan-pix presentation like lastime.
Have Rosenblum, now; also Cunningham. Hope to show U snaps of Connor, Connerley,
Tackett, Shaw, Moffatt, Croutch, Raym & similar less-fotograft fans. Cooperation
solicited from concernd partys. Also rare or gag prints, if any of U've any U can
spare--pix unfortunately cannot be returnd in one piece.

"We,,have deleted here"

indicates, in the coming pgs, an editorial omission, such as in the imaginary exam-
ple mytve read "We, in order to shorten this overlong letter, have deleted here."

Robt the Bravehearted wishes to inform U that the Black Mass may be removed &
used in event of airaids. In that case, U will have an X-Mass.

Happy Easter, Egg.

| | | |
|---|--|----|
| <u>Larry Shaw</u> : | Thinks Tucker offer be the #1 platy-puss--& woud be if it werent for that beaver Weaver! | 3 |
| <u>Tom Wright</u> : | "Beware the concussion!" | 3 |
| <u>LeRoy Tackett</u> : | Now is the time for all good men to remember Pearl Harbor; or, Nippon one, Pearl two | 4 |
| <u>Milton Rothman</u> : | Yerke, a Swiss Belle? | 4 |
| <u>Fred Hurter</u> : | The laziest fan | 4 |
| <u>Harry Warner</u> : | The road to heaven is paved with good retentions; or, did Fortier realize what re-tire meant? | 4 |
| <u>RomoSo</u> : | Lone cyc seeks local stfemme to start cyclone | 5 |
| <u>Len Moffatt</u> : | "Judge not, lest ye be judged" (remember that when U start to pan this ish!) | 5 |
| <u>Raym</u> : | Cleaning up Washington; or, sigh - anti-fun | 6 |
| <u>JL Millard</u> : | Madness in our method | 6 |
| <u>Derek Gardiner</u> : | Vomaid in England | 6 |
| <u>JPRennison</u> : | We certainly will keep up the individual touches (How about 5 bucks, Tuck, or a fin, Finns?) | 6 |
| Love Letter- | - - - - - | 7 |
| 'Sirius Trouble' (cartoon) | A. Donnell----- | 8 |
| <u>ECConnor</u> : | Gave cover the glassy eye | 8 |
| 'The Professor' (Croutch's conception) | ----- | 9 |
| <u>Jack Speer</u> : | His First 2000 Words | 10 |
| "Meet the Reader(s)!" - The Ashleys' | fanografy | 11 |
| <u>Ruja-blu</u> : | Vom--the ideal ersatz for conversing with acquaintances. | 11 |
| Concerning one who has been taken from us- | - - - - - | 12 |
| <u>Tigrina</u> : | Well, that's just Dante! | 13 |
| 'Pacific Blackout' (Hoffman) | ----- | 13 |
| <u>JFBurke</u> : | Allergic to tigress | 14 |
| <u>Tucker & Liebscher</u> : | As Le Zombie said, "Friten the coroner where U are!" | 15 |
| <u>Tucker & Liebscher & Evans</u> : | Can't get a lung wi thout a Voice..... | 16 |

'VOM', APR 42. #22. 10¢ STRATE. FORMERLY A NOVACIOUS PUB, BECOMES A
DYKTAWO PUBLICATION FOR THE DURATION. PUBLISHT APPROXIMATELY. COEDS:
ACKERIMOROJO. ADRES: BX 6475 MET STN, L O S A N G E L E S, C A L I F

LARRY SHAW, Editor Leprechaun, "the only femme that comes out two weeks early", asks "Remember me?" from the vicinity of 1301 State St, Schenectady, NY. "I'm the guy who never subscribed to VoM." Continuing in nonstop ranting: "The cover is very nice even if I ain't on it. ((We'll rectify that crime sometime if U'll send us a snap of yourself--stripes, #s & shaved head carefully retouched, please--meanwhile we follow our vogue & present the rogue gallery pic of U, even tho "It is not drawn by me, and neither does it look a heck of a lot like me; I wish I was that good-looking, no foolin'. But a picture of me, any kind of a picture of me, is a very rare thing, so U mite as well print it. (U had betr print it!!!)")) Comment on seeing my first pitcher of Pogo in which I could really see what she looks like: 'Well, no wonder!!' Oops, my mistake. The original comment was followed by three !'s. By the way, ask la Tigrina fer me if she has ever been in Schenectady, er vicinity. She looks, vary, vary, familiar. Other photos very nice. Oh, by the way, I like the regallenth size lots; didn't expect to when I heard about it. " The question seems to concernudes, no? Well, I must put in my two cubes of sugar worth. I do not object to unclad females. I don't see why anyone should. No one will deny thathe NFFF (Nicely Formed Female Figure) is nice to look at, will they? Or will they? ((A certain weretigress will, contending the Nude Fair Feminine Form is enuf either to cause, a., a chill down one's spine, sending the beholder running screaming in horror & repulsion, or, b., is an object to make the owner die laffing. Well, it takes all kines to make a were-horse, & U can lead him to water--but U can't make him say Thank U. And that's no bull. Now, were were wor'r?) But if you're gonna present 'em in a magazine ((NFFFs)), they oughta be fairly good art, at least. That is, they should if U wanto distinguish Ursel from 'The Hobo News'. ((What's the matter with the Hobo News--is it a bum paper?)) And the damsel on page 7 definitely stinks! In a nice sort of a way, Understand. Anyway, wait'll ya see the next Leprechaun. U will resemble a TWS cover for days after. ((Yoikes, it gives libel yet!)) I will present a nude that will be art of the bestype. Done by Leonard Marlow, it will be mimicrayoned --- hey, 4E, stop acting like Silas Marner and pay attention! ((Silas Marner? Misprint? Never heard of the guy. Elder brother of Harry Marner, or somethin'?) "Incidentally, please excuse me if I slip occasionally into Ackermanese. It is quite unintentional, je vous assure. 2J's letter: mayB he is 1 of those fans who ain't crazy!!!! Speaking of nice people (Joe is nice people, I hear by hearsay) Tucker otta be No. 1 Fan. In fact, he otta be higher than that. Don't be offended, Forrest, U r wonderful of course, but Pong is super super super. Just for fun, I won't reveal Y Bob gets all this praise here, but read Leprechaun No. 2 and you will noe all. (cornycornycornyLorny) ((Lorny is I)) (((Sorry, but that is not the last of the LePlugs on my mind.))) (Lorny crost us up & used the double parentheses there, so we revert momentarily to the old system to put evrything on the square.) -- "I am a religious fan. (Well, pretty religious, anyhow.) Stf can be reconciled with religion in most cases. In fact, it's interesting to reconcile them sometimes, also fun. And when they just won't rec; well, the guys that figured out the religion could have made mistakes. I realise that this sounds very silly, but to tell the truth, I haven't got a lot to say about my being religious, and I have everything to say about my interest in Stf. But I sincerely Believe in both. As for feeling it my duty to destroy Tigrina, nope, I couldn't do it. Live and let live, say I, especially if the would-be destroyee is feminine. This is drivell, and I hate to write drivell...Oh yes, I agree with LRC about liquor; I don't drink either but if others enjoy it, and I think they do very much, let 'em. I may be a drunkard in a few years, anyway; I'm young yet. " I love Art Young even if he is wrong on a number of things. I love everybody, too, so we have something in common. Add my Bravo to yours for Bee, please. She sounds like grand people. Very grand. " The remedy ((Tigrina's Remedy)) would not work. not in my case anyway. I change my mind about who I like andis- much 2 ofen. " I think i hav changed my mind about the Pacificon. It shoud not b postpond. Not that i'll be able 2 atend even if it is held. " Tales of Tigrina: i cant get that familiarity out of my mind (out of my mind --- truer word was ne'er spoken). Coud she b famous people mayB? ((U carry on like one of Witch Hazel's familiars. Familiarity breeds --contemplation.))"



TOM WRIGHT, on a postcard to "Farwest Jack Erman", from 3618 Maple Ave, Oakland, Cal, objects to the Sea Gal: "If you must use nudes on your covers (Bradbury's) you should at least see that they're half way decent looking. That hag sure fades in comparison with the photos of Tigrina and Pogo. And by the way, that photo of Tigrina looks a lot more like here than those others you printed. "I agree with your little note on smoking, etc., It sure has done JJFa lot of good since he's quit. " 2j4's letter is interesting--if true. I hope none of my friends are behind that very juvenile pseudonym "The Professor". Of all the disgusting, slovenly, . . ugh. Why do you print such stuff as that pic. ((Same reason we publish what U migt consider a lousy letter, Ryt: To give the author the opportunity to express himerself to the fans.)) " I thought Tigrina's drawing cute, and Chauvenet's letter rather boring. " Just where did that back cover ad spring up from? Mankind United is one of the greatest hoaxes ever perpetrated. Our family, including myself, were caught in it for a while. Take warning, fans! avoid it! They even tried to pass atomic power on some dupes (including me)." ((Our pgs are open to MU's fanation representative, Connerley, for an ansr to your accusations.))

LeRoy Tackett

of Wayside Inn, Fountain, Colo,
puts his 5 senses in on the subjects under
repercussion. Take it, Tackett! "Yeah, I'm in a-
gain, with a little to say about,,,(1) Fandom and the
betterment of world conditions, (2) devil-worship, (3)
Vomaidens. " Widner, Bee Helena Leeds, and several

others, myself included, are of the opinion that Fandom should get together and do something to improve world conditions. Sure, this is all QX, let's do something. Yeah, but what? Widner undoubtedly has ideas. Art Young has ideas. Even I have ideas. So what? So let's do something. Anybody care to make the first move? Suppose someone did start the ball rolling, how many Fans would get behind him? Well Imagi-natives, what are your opinions? What do you think of this idea that seems to have jumped out of thin air and hit several of us at once? " I'll have to pass up devil-worship because my knowledge of the subject is nil. Would Joquel or Tigrina care to toss me some info? " On the subject of Vomaidens I'll remain nudetral. About my reaction to the Vomaiden cover on my first ish of VOM, I was not "affected" by it as LRC says a new reader should have been. Most of the scien-timags have uncladamsels (or partially unclad) on the cover. Said damsels never have anything in common with the interior of the mag, but are merely put there for decoration. So, when I received the Voice I did not base any expectations on the cover and, therefore, was not disappointed. " Rummaging among the other trivia we emerge with the Professor. Could that nude have been drawn by the jerk who so bitterly condemned them a few issues ago? An explanation is needed. Why the change of heart, Prof? " The cartoons in #21 were slightly better than those in the previous ish--slightly. The cover was a very welcome surprise. (That welcome surprise should not run together but this machine must be coaxed into spacing.) Glad to see my old friend F. N. Stein is back in another film. Wonder how he got out of the lava pool? ((Mithiquotations #1: Karloff, when he got the bum's rush into the mush, finale of "Son of Frankenstein": Lava thot I'd die! --Unk kwote.)) That reminds me, why don't some of you Imaginatives drop some of your correspondence in my direction? " Remember Pearl Harbor and all that,"

From Wn/DC our

MILTY rites we: "Dear peoples: Cover of #21 VoM is an improvement over the previous cover in the order of infinity to the infinity power. Would like to have seen Rosenblum, Webster, and Youd among the British group of pix. Pogo looks luscious, while Yerke looks like a cross between Campbell and Swisher. And I look just too goddam pretty! Ugh. You didn't have the nerve to include the Ackerman profile that should have been just to the right. ((Not a matter of nerve, Milty; just no such snap in my picollection. I honestly don't noe what U refer to. Apparently U've a similar pose plus me on it with a silly sideways grin or sumthin? Selp me, the snap from which I snipt U featured no other fizog. --4e))" MAR tells of having been unduly optimistic about the rapidity with which his transfer would go thru; as yet (24 Feb 42) he languishes at the Capital. " In between languishing, he's recovering from 2 blitz-visits from Columbia Camp, as it shuttled to & fro on the Boskone journey. Boskone on Wn's Birthday backfired for Milty, for twas imposs for him to get leave; so with tears in his eyes he watcht the Southern Starsers disapear into the sunset. Return trip, they recupacoffeed with him, dug into his rm for powerful jam session: "Honkey Tonk Train Blues", "Boogie Woogie Stomp", "Tite Like This", etc, rendered by Meade Lux Lewis, Jimmy Yancey, Erle Hines, & brethren. Milty declares his undying love for Lee Eastman, for the awe & admiration he unboundedly exprest after hearing the Shostakovitch for the firsttime --indicating good taste, or something, sez Milty. " "Purity Restaurant" type of anecdote related involving better-class DC red-lite district, a famous fan, a surreptitious stranger & a "small device of hygienic purposes composed of various isoprene polymers." Milty concludes: "I wonder of Ghod will strike me down with thunder and lighting if I say that I don't like the idea of the American Science Fiction War Relief Society. I haven't figured out exactly why, yet. " I go now, but I shall return." -- "P.S. Ireturn! I held this letter up until I bought a stamp, and in the interim came a letter informing me that I move to Phila. March 2" So Milty's new adres, we guess, is 2113 N Franklin.

Fred Hunter

A firstimer in the person of
editor the xlnt Canmag "CENSORED" comments from St
Andrew's College, Aurora, Ontario: "To tell you the

truth, when I opened the first copy and saw a sheaf
of nudes and monsters slide unto my desk I was surprised to say the least. In fact I was moved to say 'What the hell!', and a little later 'somebody is nuts', when I saw a double photo of girl labled Tigrina posturing against a rather senseless background. Please, if you must photograph a girl, photograph the girl. However, I at last got to VOM itself, and thoroughly enjoyed it. I wonder why I didn't buy a copy ages ago. Well, I suppose I can answer that myself. I am I suppose the laziest fan in existance. I like to read fanmags, but am too lazy to send away for them. I like to get mail, but am usually too lazy to answer it. Terrible state of affairs isn't it. " The cover of the latest issue is excellent. Boy, Pogo certainly is good-looking. Tigrina too, now that you can see her passes the grade. Glad to see friend Croutch blathering about his favourite subject again, funny thing, he never seems to get tired of it."

HARRY WARNER, Ed #1 fm

Spaceways, 303 Bryan Pl, Hagerstown, Md: "I vote for retention of the contents page listing--it takes up little space in this issue's arrangement, and few letters of equal size would be as enjoyable. " My objection to nudes on VOM is not what Chauvenet understood it to be, but as Thompson says: scads of nudes can be bought from professional places. But you can't find things that go in and on the covers of fanzines at 'professional places' or anywhere except fanzines. To Medhurst: I'm quite willing to trade The Professor's identity for that of Christopher Blayre! Best in this VOM were RGM, Chauvenet, and Fortier's latest retirement from fandom."

Romero

Esperanto nomo de Kaporalo Robt M Shinn, 1st CA Trans-
port Detachment, San Francisco Port-o-Embrk, N Garrison, Ft
McDowell, Cal: "I have just finished my perusal of the
first edition of VoM ((#21)) following my application for
membership ((in LASFS)). The prime subject of discus-

sion,,,seems to be,,,VoMaidens. I like 'em but they are not
quite as well drawn as my esthetic tastes would require. Having been
in the Army now over a year, I see an awful lot of Petty and Varga as well as the
STF Mac-girl. They kinda spoil my taste for amateur drawings. Seewhatimean? "
(The lights just went out here in the barracks so I am writing this rather in the
dark so I hope that there aren't too many typographical mistakes.) " Illustra-
tions are the joy of a magazine to me. I'd rather look at a few good (or even not
so good) cartoons personalized slightly to people you know of than read a lot of
text. I believe with Confucious, 'A thousand words are not as good as one picture'
(Misquote unquote.) I enjoy all of the letters and agree with Mrs Leeds in wanting
to see a good SF Society spring up in Frisco. Purely for personal reasons, How-
ever. It's kinda unfriendly wandering about by yourself in a town wherein you know
not one soul. Even a soul devoted to Satan. Ah---Tigrina. " " " " The lights hav-
ing come back on this morning, I'll continue this masterpiece. Pardon me, slight
pause for military duties. " " " " That slight pause turned into a whole day's de-
lay. " " Your phonetic spelling and abbreviations are a little confusing at first
but I think that I'll catch on to them before long. " " I can't say anything more
either for or against the fnmg this time because someone has put the evil eye on it
and it has vanished. Well, well. I hope that it makes a new recruit anyway. I
only got to read through it once and there were a lot of things I wanted to read
over. I also wanted to puzzle out who was who on the front cover. I'll send you a
picture of me one of these days. It'll serve to frighten the Sirian Xgrlmp away
from the cookie jar anyway. " " That concludes my mental gymnastics for this week
so I'll throw on the forward jets and stop the cyc for now....."

LEN MOFFATT

the Christian Scientifictionist gives a Penna's worth of his thots from 419 Summit
Ave, Ellwood City, Pa: "I profess Christianity. I am a s-f. & a fantasy fan. And
lrc can't understand it! Well, I believed in and tried to live Christianity be-
fore I became a fan. I still believe in and am still doing my best to live Christi-
anity - and I am a stfan. I find that some of the 'prophecies', etc. found in stfic-
tion novels & fantasyarns coincide with Bible prophecies. (In some cases the authors
base their tale on Bible prophecy!) I admit that 'thar's more as don't (coincide);
but stf. is still my favorite type of reading. (No, I don't love stf. more than the
Bible-it's just that no type of reading can be compared with the Book-it's over and
above all others!) Thus I believe that some of the stfantasy authors' theoris are
possible. The tales I read, that I don't believe in, I read for entertainment. Accord-
ing to my way of believing-enjoying one's self is not a sin, so long as you don't
harm yourself or others by doing so. That's Christianity. Of course there are types
of stfantasy that I don't read because of the above stated belief. It works the same
with all forms of pleasure-movies, radio, other reading matter, etc. There's good &
evil in all of 'em. Enjoy the Good, set a good example for others, don't be a stum-
bling block (head) on the Road to Eternal Peace & Joy! AND OH-YES! So it's my duty
to destroy Tigrina is it? Ah, but it isn't, pal! I can help destroy evil by living a
Christian life, teaching the Gospel, helping to convert others to Christianity. Not
by slaying human beings because they've been led astray-& let themselves be en-
trapped by the wiles of Satan. I wish to help destroy the evil in people, not the peo-
ple themselves! There's all kinds of devil worshipping, you know-but it all leads to
the same place. I, or any Christian, can destroy the evil in Tigrina (if such, is
truly the case) by converting her to Christianity. But if I were to destroy Tigrina
because she professes devil-worshipping, I'd have to destroy a good many people-many
of which have more evil in 'em than the Devil Doll. Your agnosticism has led your
(usually excellent) reasoning astray, as well as your soul, lrc. " " And now I pre-
sume some over-imaginative fan will decide that lrc & ljm are starting a 'feud.'
But 'tis untrue. 'Tho I don't agree with Chauvenet's relegious principles I'd enjoy
meeting him in person. From what I've read of and by him, he's an intelligent, broad-
minded person. As president of our NFFF, he's doing a fine job. It's not for mor-
tals to judge anyone. 'Judge not-that ye be not judged' That's the job of the Big
Three. Therefore I don't say that lrc is a doomed soul, 'tho he disbelieves in both
God & satan. If he'd read & study his Bible more (especially the New Testament) and
keep a good grip on his broadmindedness while doing so-he'd soon see the light and
begin to change his views somewhat. This goes for every other agnost, atheist, etc!
" " And now VOM: XLNT cover-except for the foto of the VOMERMAID. This was the ru-
dest, lewdest, nude yet! I don't object to clean nude-beauty, but when you start ped-
dling pics of naked exhibitionists-it's time to stop! The pic on page 7 was un-
clean, also. I doubt if the Prof drew it. Some practical joker did it-sending it to
you under the Prof's. name, I betcha. Tigrina's cartoon caused ljm to chuckle. Let-
ters in general-most of 'em good or even XLNT, none of 'em below 'fair'. MEET THE
READERS: Cunningham's-interesting. Crutch's-ulgh! Ma'm Clark's letter O.K.-she
sounds like an interesting person, altho' prob'ly older than us younger fans.
Never-the-less I didn't like her idea of dividing fan material into 2 groups-for
the old & younger fans. Fans must keep united. Remember the NFFF! (IT BELONGS TO
US-'KOZ WE BELONG TO IT') " " No, the first VOM I saw had the TOMAIDEN for it's
cover-not a nude VOMAIDEN. However I doubt if I'd have gotten the wrong impression
of VOM-because of an uncover. 'Outside appearances do not tell what lies within a
person or thing.' " " P.S. Please publish the most of this missle in VOM-in origi-
nal or condensed form. Especially the first part of it. Thanks." ((Only half-a-doz
lines deleted.))

PTO for tragicomuniqué from RAYM of Live Oak Fla. "Forry, if
you print this you will be doing a tremendous service to the fanation."

"I have a message for you tonight. I sincerely hope that you will profit by it, and not make the sad mistake that I did. " A short time ago my room--my den--was cleaned up. That fact led to one of the greatest frustrations of my life. " I don't know much about other fans' dens. Maybe there is some semblance of order in them. I don't know. But here is my story: My den, to all outward appearances, was cluttered and dirty. To most eyes chaos reigned everywhere. Yet out of that chaos I had order. I knew exactly where to look for any given item. To me there was no confusion. " Several letters from LeRoy Tackett, one of my most loyal subscribers ((of Scientifun)), were utterly lost. One of them was a scream. It was so funny it would have floored you. Tackett commented on the first issue of Scientifun, especially on the time-travel article. He spied off with some questions about him going back into time with some arsenic and old lace, feeding the arsenic to grandpa, giving the lace to grandma. Grandpa died before his, LeRoy's, father was born...oh, well. Suffice to say that the letter would have floored you. ((Tackett must be a florist.)) " That isn't the worst of it. Far from it. Everything was disarranged. And here's the crowning frustration: "Raym relates a sad story of destruction of part of dummy of his 2d ish; disappearance of stickers; o, all sorts of stuff." "I feel like sitting down and having a good cry over the whole thing. Because my room was cleaned up I will suffer a set-back. If the second Scientifun is lousy, it'll be the fault of the room-cleaner-upper. Right now I feel like throwing the whole mess of stuff left into the fireplace and then jumping in after it and banging my head against the chimney. "Fans weren't meant to suffer so! " I want to conclude this by saying earnestly: for heaven's sake, fellows, don't let anybody clean your room, until you've moved the really important stuff to an impregnable fortress. Be much better if you cleaned it yourself, but if I know you like I think I do, you'd do rather a messy job of it --or put it off and then not do it at all. ((I noe how it is, pal. I've suferd setbacks from unsolicited tidyingup of my litter desk. Ryt now, I've just caut up to the Great Cleanup of 1929, when all kinds of things were thrown in the crash basket.)) PS: Margulise, or whoever SARGY SATURN happens to be, seems to be a louse also. My letter in April TWS was all wrong--all the 5's changed to 3's. More frustration. ARE WE SLAVES TO THIS CURSED ENVIRONMENT?"

JL MILLARD, whose stationery proclaims him "Science and Fantasy Fan, A member of those intrepid space explorers the GALACTIC ROAMERS located on Tellus temporarily at:" 146 W Euclid, Jackson, Mich, is stationary long enuf to say: "The cover is great, but the method of description is very, very poor... Next time use better method. I havnot read all of it yet, but I will before long. These nudes are terrible, I think you better try something else for change, or get some better artists who know anatomy. " I agree with D.B.Thompson that Fandom would die of old age, without the pros. " Quoting from LeRoy Tackett ' Special to Widner -- In Jan VoM. you stated that you think that the main reason fans are fans is because they are dissatisfied with world conditions and wish to improve said conditions' unquote. If you 'ART' mean WAR by world conditions, I am afraid that you are due for a shock. WAR will always be with us, as long as, there is greed in the world. " I don't think your main reason for fans being fans is quite true. My reason for being a fan is this: I have what I like to call an active brain, a mental Curiosity, I like to delve into things that the average person wouldn't care about because it was too much trouble for his brain. To satisfy this urge I took to reading, anything and everything- fiction, detective fiction, techinal mags and books on Photography, Radio, Antarctic exploration and research. And any thing else new that comes out that make me curious to find out how it works, or how such a thing is possible. Of course this is my own personal view and any body can agree or disagree if he likes. (and shes too)"

Derek W. Gardner. 48 King Edw Ave, Worthing, Sussex, Eng, on 25 Jan 6 mos. bfor, rote re the Annish. It certainly was good, he said. when he saw a copy of Vom for the first time, he found it very confusing; but--the common case--after perusing further issues, began to become familiar with our forumagazine & now thinks it tops, approacht only by Spaceways. "Let me express my admiration of Grace Talbert's magnificent Vomaiden, it is easily the best I have seen, (appart from Tom Wright's effort), and incidently was it a litho'd cover ((yes; lithicrayon process)); the new size certainly does help to make a very impressive cover as it allows added scope for increased height." Derek deplores the war's probable effect on the Pacificon, as he foresaw it at that time; wonders about the pros & the NFFF. "The two reproductions of Tigrina were pretty good, but was it the result of a nifty piece of montage or was she really taken against the background, if the later case I suppose it was amateur theatricals. ((Ryt; it was the "later" case.)) She herself seems a somewhat fearsome lass. ((Rong; she is a fearnone lass.))"

Renny RENNISON rote probly on Dr, Blackburn, Lancs, Eng: the same boat (24 Jan) from 82 Ramsgrave "I'll., try for the cherished position of most frequent British VOMentator (God - your puns (r) are catching). I do really like VOM, and I'm not just soft-soaping you. Once upon a time I disliked it intensely. I don't know why, but I think it was becos I did not like the simplified spelling, and didn't know what the devil half the people were writing about. However I have gradually got used to the spelling, and know what your writers are talking about (as well as knowing a few of them personally). Now I really do enjoy VOM, and am even beginning to appreciate Ackermanese! Some of your puns are unpunndable (ugh! - it's catching), but no matter how corny, they show wit. Some of them are really complicated, and to think them out you must have no small amount of brain. ((Gee, do they really show (w)it? A bird in the brain is worth 2 in the bouche--as the French say.))

Keep up the puns and other individual touches, for without these VOM would be merely another rag. The appearance is another swell feature. Some fmzs are almost unreadable, but should one tiny blot appear on VOM's pages the readers raise hell. Yes, the appearance is super smashing." Doesnt like the reglength, tho; far too unwieldy & bulky. Sez, however, it's entirely up to us, & he has one message for our readers: "If you want to grumble, try producing VOM yourself!" Renny has faith in our doing the best we can & counsels us to ignore complaint. He's on our team. Characterizes the Talbert girl as a tart, a come-&-get-it girl, seminudes always being lewder than wholly unclothed females. And she appeals to him. Shockt to see own name on contents pg again. "My, my, this 17 year old 'new fan' is crashing in quite a bit!" Pleas never to change Vom; sez letters alone woud be lousy - no 4e & Morojo, no real Vom...& a lot more along that line, which is all very fine & encouraging & repaying to ye coeds for their work, but less intresting to U letterreaders. So, on to: "In comparison with the old issues the present VOM is slightly inferior. It's the covers that are doing it. Formerly they were simple, beautifully lettered, and maybe just a small illustration on. Now, however, you have dropped to the level of other 'zines and print pictures on the cover. The pictures may be, and are in most cases, very good, but in using them you came unstuck from the slick heights, and dropped to the level of the average 'zine as far as the cover appearance goes. So I wish you could put the old simple covers back again. Re the nude question. Over here we're one step ahead of you, and on the sex question. However this is my view. Just pop 'em in occasionally, and to hell with the prudes. To my mind VOM cannot be classed as a sfm. mag. at all. It is a general fan's forum. It is a mag. where one and all can have a say, uncensored and freely, on any topic they want. I have no time to spend pages trying to define a sfm. FAN. But in brief to be a fan you have to be active in some way. Not even being a silent member of a fan club will do. Cunningham certainly is a fan. The pics. of Tigrana were swell. It's about time we started getting somewhere in this mysterious situation. Personally, I think she should go and be psycho-analysed, but one can never tell - she might analyse the Doc! Whoopee, tell Tigrana that she can have anything she wants if she'll stick a pin in an image of Smith. Anything at all. Ack, you've got influence, please make her do it. Goodbye DRS, swell! The Professor stinks. He ain't even funny now. Just boring and ridiculous. MEET THE RITER! and nude page 15 ((Annish)) both very good. The nude is well drawn for once. SHANGRI-L'AFFAIRES was really good this time and really amusing ((Halloween Party composed-on-stencil edition)). Makes me look longingly Westwards as if trying to spy the heights of SHANGRI-LA on the horizon."

NOTE

U are about to read a letter submitted to Joe Gilbert for publication in Sound!Off, the forumagazine of the Fantasy Amateur Press Assn. Originating in Los Angeles, it seems to have been rcvd too late for inclusion in the March mailing of S!Q; &, at any rate, it developing the publisher was a true friend of the person attackt, the article in question was forwarded to the criticized party, presumably to request with-holding of same if so desired. The author's feeling on the matter was that it was entirely out of his hands; publication of the article by Gilbert in no wise woud have been considerd an "unfriendly act". While comparatively timely, permission has been askt & granted to publish the piece here, where (being in the nature of an exposé) it can reach a far greater audience & do much more good. "AN OPEN LETTER TO ACKYFAN NO. ONE" 'Dear Acky; At last you have made your fatal mistake. ((Mistake referd to was publishing of Open Letter to Anglofans.)) If any of the 'British Boys', as you so endearingly term them, are t ken in by that philanthropic phooey of yours, a copy of which you were so generous as to toss us in the last F.A.P.A. mailing(thus, we note, avoiding publishing anything specifically for the purpose), if any of those Englishmen are taken in by your 'ltruisim,' they sure must be blitz-batty, or else its true about the fog in that country. " Good old Glory Grabber Acky, still the world's great private press-agent. But you've revelaed your true aims, Acky. They're as plain to br seen as the B.E.M. on a T.W.S., and they smell like an Amazing Quaterly. Not content with being No.1 U.S. fan, you have to hog the show from honest, hard-working fans like Rosenblum. You MUST have international acclaim. You want 'em to dedicate magazines to you, don't you? Next they'll be naming babies after you (the poor, defenseless kids!) For a few cents investment, you'll get dozens of books back from the poor saps, and charge suckers over here probably four or fives times what they're worth, as has long been known to be your notorious racket. " Why irritate people with simp-plified spelling, and then appologize for it? Why can't you act like an ordinary fan? Climb down of your high horse, before you fall off, Foo-jak! " And how much more of th t phoney hand-writing do you have to show off? Sure, so its pretty. If anybody could read it, maybe it'd be all right. Isn't that sort of fresh, sending kisses (we take those xxxx's to be kisses) to another man's wife in print? Carnell, why don't you smack him down? Or appoint a proxy. There are a number of us to whom it would be a pleasure. " We can't see nything wrong with Ackerman, why he should be deferred for 'physical deficiencies.' You would be keeping something from us, would you, Acky old kid-der. Sure it wasn't MENTAL? " Last of all, is that paragraph, about a trip to Bonnie Oldde England. Boy, if that doesn't jerk a tear and throb a heart sob! It is evdient to us, that for some reason or other, Ackyboy wants to take a trip to England. And if this isn't a suble way to start a campaign of English subscriptions to Bring Acky to England, I'll eat your baloon pants! " ENGLAND TAKE HIM -- WE DON'T WANT HIM. " (P.S. This is the opinion of several people, although we donnot all belong to the F.A.P.A.). " This being a hi-ly personal matter, I have no intention of filling up forthcoming Voms with bombs from cynics saying "Clever tactical move of Ackerman's to print the letter himself--but you notice he didn't answer any of the charges" or condolences from friends in the nature of "such yellow Japangelenos should join their ancestors." My simple statement is: I am innocent. --Forry.



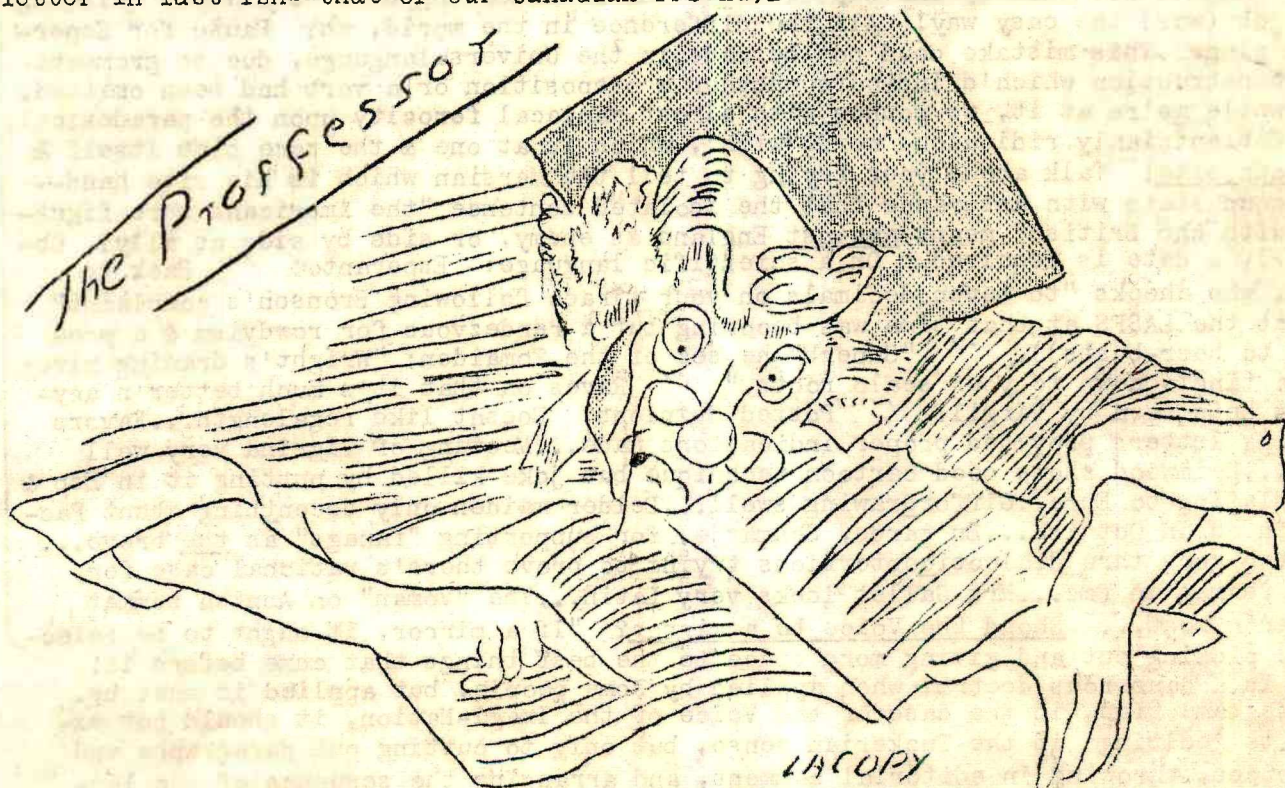
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bug eye?!"

(U'd be worryd too
if U were a Sirian
XGRLMPH!)

929 Butler St, Peoria, Ill: "Hi-ho frenz~~ The contents of the Feb. Vom were so varied that I hardly know where to begin my criticism. The beginning of the mag seems as good a place as any. (If I thought the issue was bad I could have said that the beginning was as bad a place as any, but I thought it was good.) " First of all, I've been using a magnifying glass. I used it only occasionally as I scanned ingenious cover of the 21th Vom. Fans who criticise nudes

will--at first glance, anyway--think that since Vom has reached 21 it has become of age. Of course, that nude in the Southeast corner is just a gag, isn't it? " Oh, goodygoody!--Tigrina gets number 13! And look at Thompson and Joquel--with Daugherty's heatray and Tigrina next to them they haven't much of a chance. Ho-hum! Now to get down to business. " Seriously, I was only joking, if such a foul thing is possible, about the magnifying glass. You have done a superb job in getting so many exlnt fotos together in such an appealing manner. " Unfortunately for me, I don't like the idea of the 'sideline' to indicate summarized portions of letters. I don't mind saying that after I got started I didn't pay the slightest attention to them. I'm making this criticism because I actually think they're unnecessary. I mean the letters read all right without any such special marking--including of course the underlining variation. I think It can all be done with words. " The contents page, as usual, is highly oxhilerating, although somewhat sparse --- for obvious reasons. " I see that Milty mentions the nudes also. (My god, to think that I can now discuss nudes as if they were a common thing, while only six months ago I was an innocent by-stander, among other things.) The details of some of the nudes you've been featuring have not been up to par, of course. " I was highly interested in the comments of Morojo on smoking, drinking, etc., as those are my sentiments exactly. " Tigrina's drawing on pages 8-9 was good. " Concerning a comment of mine last ish--I meant that if you decided to cut a letter because of space, etc., you should; I didn't mean that you should correct spellings mistakes, etc., i.e.--'streamlining' the letters. " Concerning the 'Professor'---where does

this droop live! And even if he did appear in Spaceways first, that doesn't mean you might not know who he is. Who is he? This can't go on forever, you know. ((It probly can't, Ecco, in the "nothing sacred" stfield. Yeds noe who The Prof is--but even to say where he lives would be a big clue to his identity, which we shall continue to regard as an editorial confidence. Don't U think that's the rything to do?)) " Louis Russell Chauvenet's letter was highly interesting. However, I differ with him slightly on one or two points. " I don't think any intelligent (are there any unintelligent?) fan would, upon picking up his first copy of Vom--with a nude woman on the cover--and never having seen a fanzine before (Or even if they have), assume that the contents followed the pattern which might be suggested by the illustration adorning the facade of the publication. Get the picture--he is a science-fiction fan, having presumably read a professional scientific fiction or fantasy magazine--he has read a review of Vom, or simply read of it, or possibly had a friend who invigled him into sampling same. QX, the sucker trains his innocent optics on Vom. He sees the nude. Well, so what?--He sees the nude--but is he going to think that the contents of the fanzine are composed of literature and pictures in keeping with the exterior? ---1, no! He'll be so anxious to actually see the interior that the cover goes by the boards quite as much as a near-nude on the cover of a prozine might. Actually, such circumstances coincide with my own experience; I firmly believe that they would hold true with the majority of others--disregarding people who don't like nudes, and who might feel disposed to take extra notice and make more vigorous complaints because of that fact." Concerning Elarcy's disbelief in supernatural things, Ecco's opinion is that all talk of such monstrositys as devils & spirits is drivel. Unwilling to concede such foolish objects actually exist, ever did, ever will. Thinks man'll attain immortality, but slowly & simply in a material manner, by progressive improvement in his evryday life: Perfection of diet, medical science, etc. Ecco's belief is fostered by fact man has always made progress from time's beginning. Life span is being lengthend considerably alredy, since science finally has come into its own, & we noe results have been astounding. Well, what if same rate of increase merely is maintaind in future--say for just insignificant period of next 1000 yrs--woudnt m.k. be well on way to immortality? "---1, yes!" While always is poss of step-up in the process. Startling discoverys will be forthcoming, he is sure. Cites article in paper stating average life-span among Eskimos on certain Alaskan island is today only 21 yrs-male, 13-1/2 for female! Eskimos, Ecco concludes, evidently are just at point where white men were back in medieval days--which woud seem to be argument in favor of science. " His point: If science was able to lift our life-span to over 60 yrs, why not hi-er--& hi-er--&--? " But back to "supernatural" beings: Blievs some ungodly force must hold sway over all existence--how else coud anything have been created in the first place? Mortals cannot possibly comprehend either Creation or evrything's always having been. That way lies madness--tis best to discard such unsolvable paradoxes. Good reason Ecco doesnt think any supernats are plying their nefarious trades: Nothing immaterial can produce thot; if it is merely invisible, yet material, it is not supernatural. Ununderstandable things may be termd supernatural, as radio or aeroplane woudve seemd to a person of last century. But if it's material it's natural beuz it must conform to nature's laws. Even if immaterial things coud exist they woud have to be natural. "Confusing, whatr?:" " If one means not human, ie superhuman, then quite diff story & one on which much coud be ritten. -- "Chauvenet is sensible, he doesn't drink. Anyone who will refuse to touch liquor is sensible, and is a friend of mine. However, I am willing to concede that people who drink cannot be blamed for what they do; the human will is always open to temptation, and certainly anyone who 'falls by the way-side' is not in the minority. " Arthur Young,..evidently has not seen many other fanzines or he would realize the mimeoing in Vom is unsurpassable. Of course, inferior products are not your fault if they don't produce the best results. " Best letter in last ish--that of our Canadian friend, Leslie Crutch."



Juffus giffus 4800 words! covering the Novacious pubs of the past 6 mos. We combine quotation with compression. (Newcomers: "Juffus" equals Jack Foo Speer of 3416 Northampton NW, Chevy Chase, DC.) Re the Denventionnumber: "The cover pic of Odd Jno repeld me at first, but since then I've read a little of the book while at Milty's (spent most of the time on chapter 'Scandalous Adolescence', shame on me), and it looks like a very good drawing of what John was supposed to look like. Certainly holds the interest better than 9/10 of your Vomaidens. Back cover, re the Vulcon, very punny and funny. Remember the line in Convention of 1960: 'And from Vulcan, if there's such a place?' " Correction to DBThompson in the Junumber: tilde n ((frixample Angeleño)) is a simple consonantal sound; it's an n pronounced at about the place on the palate where the consonantal part of y is done, and because it's unfamiliar to us, we tend to pronounce it ny-. " In the ToC ((July)), notice a pun, 'Choked on what was inVogt'. Milt,,,thinks it's pronounced simply Voat. Anybody here know any Dutch? ((Mynhaar Spaar, I since have learnd the proper pronunciation--according to a born-in-Hollander--is Voghkt...or is that any clearer? Tennyrate, the "g" in Vogt, rather'n being silent, has the guttural h sound of the Scottish loch or Esperanto ĥ. --Van Ackerman)) " Art ((Widner)) thinks incompletely. A 4-dimensional candle would have no more ends than a 3-d one, since a 3-d one has no more than would have a 2-d or 1-d. " Is Renobasion a Mexican Esperanto organ? ((Renovation is a periodical devoted to popularizing simplifd Spanish spelling, with material of inter-nat'l intrest being presented in Esp also.)) " To Doc: Esperanto isn't future fiction, no, but neither are the articles on the Coronavisor and the Klystron and Fuel for the Future that Campbell publishes; but they help one to forecast the future." Jack imagines Molesworth got over his mood shortly after his blistering letter. Incorrect in saying Amerifans can't resist buying & reading all stf mags monthly. Also off-beam in describing all-out fan activity on part of most in this portion of the imagi-nation (ie, USA). Seems to be a stage in most fans' fanness--the super activity--but usually there are changes made bfor long. Acky goes on forever, but Gilbert, frinstance, Speer blievs, will be retrenching shortly. Other commentable thing: Vomoswoth's attitude about USA's participation in the war. Jack fails to follow his reasoning. " Doesnt agree with the theory of Evans of Australia that Biblical prophets & stf riters draw from essentially same source. Has idea the lucid prophets were just good commonsense psychology students & by their predictions to a great extent helpt to make the predictions come true. Sez Warner understates in saying with a lil practice the inter-nat'l fonetic alfabet shoud be easier to read than shorthand: any intelligent & decently educated person can pick up Le Maître Phonétique & read it ryt off--& much faster'n one can read shorthand. " "Pooey to phoney slans like Warner," with only chestendrils; Jack at will can squeeze out of most any place on his face a lil whitendrill with a black head! "Ugh." " Bagrack to Class re Aug un-cover was pretty raw, sez Speer, but confesses he'd intended to say something similar about its pointlessness, "Phrasing it to comprehend the double entendre." " Truly catching the convention spirit, Vom's Denvention rite-up was the "best of the accounts." Tho he does object to 4e's illiterate spelling "excaped" ((twas only done in fun, Jack, having run across it in Tuckeritings.)) Tells of visiting the Library of Amateur Journalism in '38 & Smith's then being far behind on filing, "so one might not find the fmz on file yet in the Franklin Institute." Suggestion about fanzine finale issues sounds good." " Jack wishes I coudve told all that went on in the committee proceedings on the Denvention Award. He quotes my mention of a fan who considerd "quitting the job the easy way", & underlines easy, stating the frase "has a particularly ominous sound to it." Now, there is a damnable thing. 4e speaking. When I rote that line originally, it never ocured to me it coud have another meaning--& an utterly opposite one! Jack interpreted it to mean that the fan considerd quitting the job (in) the easy way, ie just not show up one day; whereas the true meaning was: Considerd quitting the job (was) the easy way! All the difference in the world, eh? Pause for Esperanto plug: This mistake coud not be made in the Universalanguage, due to grammatical construction which'd indicate whether a preposition or a verb had been omitted. And while we're at it, we pounce with almost maniacal ferocity upon the paradoxical, the Coblentzianly ridiculous word "with", which is at one & the same time itself & its opposite! Talk about your trying to tell the Marsian which is his rite hand--who coud state with assurance that the isolated sentence "the Americans were fighting with the British" meant against England as enemy, or side by side as ally? Obviously a date is required. Or a scientific language: Esperanto! " Back to Jack, who checks "to seven decimals on your tirade following Bronson's complaint" ((that the LASFS at that time was becoming but a rendezvous for rowdyism & a prelude to beer-busts)). " "Superb" he sez of the Tomaiden; "Wright's drawing gives you a tingle down to your scalp roots." " Raves on that it's much better'n anything he's seen by Virgil! " Potted Opinions: Doesnt like regalength...Favors outting letters provided proper indications made...Meeting of Tigrina very well told...Dainwood shows good cartoon technique but joke killed by putting it in Esp & translating to Eng...Giffordrawing swell...Delder maiden only decenthing about Pacificon ad in Oct ish...En garde, Schmarje, for supporting "fanags" as the breve... Croutch goes thru dialecticontortions trying to prove there's rational case for nude femmes in fmz...Mrs Gallet looks very Latin...The "Voman" on Annish summat better'n most... Shoud the Voice be a mirror? "If a mirror, it ought to be selective, picking out and giving more space to the best things that come before it. This is a dangerous doctrine when applied by some people, but applied it must be. At the same time, in the case of the Voice of the Imagi-Nation, it should not extend to 'editing' in the Tuckerian sense, but only to cutting out paragraphs and sentences, throwing in editorial comment, and arranging the sequence of the letters." " Forry's French is Fowl--not Frog! " Jack questions statement no fan ever's crost a nat'l boundary to attend a stfvention. Kučera told me (4e) the mysterious Nycanadian was with him in '39, & was not a fan; & I don't recall any Chi-

live fan had crosst a nat'l border to attend, more woudve been made of it then & thereafter. "Tigrina looks to be a swell girl. Something, perhaps, to take your mind off of ((off of? Jack?)) too excessive absorption with your VoMaidens. Ted's report of their open air s-f meeting was good reading; I didn't care for Chapman's sketch of Ted and himself, tho it gave some new dope. "I have a sneaking suspicion that The Professor is somebody like Doc Lowndes or Cy Kornbluth in disguise." Nyx' VoMaiden "looks like something a fifteen-year-old girl trying to copy Russ Westover's style might turn out in a daring moment." "The Jan cover attracted this fan not. "The woman is ill-proportioned and the girl poorly poised, and the whole idea of the scene is so foggily put forth that without Janus it wouldn't make sence at all." "Objects to the plural "yngvii". Sez the "men who make dictionaries say to anglicize words when you naturalize them, and certainly Yngvi ought to be naturalized by now. ((Never; that louse is a dorm furriner!)) "Ten to one the 'genuine Black Mass' is a picture of a gob of blackness. ((U are a smart feller, Jack! But a better definition of a gob of blackness might be: Joe Louis as a sailor.))" We tank we save the last half of Jack's letter til nextime.

M E E T T H E R E A D E R (S)! Presenting this ish AL ASHLEY & that red-headed dish, Ruja-blu (ABBY LU) (his favorite wife). This increasingly active & popular Michifan marryd couple favors us with the following fanography: "In keeping with the best mammalian tradition, we were born alive! Our birth certificates say so. 3E wants to bet about it, but we look askance at this opinion. "We went through High School together. We sat one behind the other. It was a great fight. We're glad we won. If we could only figure out who did! "We battled so well that it was almost a foregone conclusion that we should be married. We were. And darned if that didn't stop the fight. "We have a daughter and a son. Our son will someday become a fan -- we think. But our daughter -- Oh! She won't even read. Shades of Mendel! What messed up mutation of an ancestor is responsible for this tragedy? "We read Burroughs. We read the old Science & Invention. Hugo Gernsbach sent us an announcement of the forthcoming Amazing Stories. We bought a copy. We got the next one. It became a vicious habit. Magazines piled up. Two or three times we disposed of huge quantities of them. We are still black and blue from kicking ourselves for this lame-brained act. "We heard about Fandom. It sounded like fun. It was. It is. Fans is nice people. We love 'em. "Abby Lu is 32 and looks 23. Her hair is very red. She is Chief Communications Officer of the Galactic Roamers, member of Michigan FFF, Mid-West FFF, NFFF, FAPA, 4th WS-FCS, Science Fictioneers, and Wierd Tales Club. She is FemmEditor of NOVA. "Al is 33. He is a sign-painter by trade. He would prefer to be one of the idle rich, but has been unable to develop the knack. "Last summer, in July just after the Denvention, he was working on a low roof. Came time to return to earth. Seemed silly to wait for the ladder. He just switched on his anti-gravity gadget -- and jumped. He floated gently down -- at the usual speed of falling bodies. Whereupon, he suddenly developed much in common with Achilles. Not meaning that he became insufferable. He merely found himself afflicted with a 'comminuted fracture of the oscalcis'. To you, he broke his heel. This condition not being conducive to carrying on the practice of his profession, he hied himself to his bed and proceeded to enjoy that 'time on your hands feeling'. But all things pall in time. So was born the idea of a fanzine. He conceived a startling idea. Something utterly new. He would advocate that fandom try being SCIENCE FICTION FANS. Was that not a daring thought? He would urge that they co-operate in every way possible with the pro-eds and the prozines. Thus was born NOVA'S policy. That plus what entertainment can be dug up and offered. "Our living room is the editorial office and publishing house of NOVA. For months at a time the floor is practically hidden by reams of paper, the mimeo, the lino-block press and other accessories to publishing a fanzine. "Once or twice a month, we push things into corners, under chairs, and out the window. That is when Doc Smith drops in. Others of the gang make their appearance. Doc gets down on his hands and knees and spreads his charts and diagrams on the floor. We drape ourselves in sundry unorthodox positions. We all then go to town on Doc's latest story. We offer ideas. Lots of them. Doc takes what he wants of them, but when he gets through we can scarcely recognize them. It's Astounding the adventures Kim and Clarissa have around our house, that never see print." Ruja-blu continues with a bit of comment on Vom: "It's the best substitute I've found for being able to talk with friends. -- I'm very, very surprised and disappointed, however, at the attitude they seem to take toward nudes. Oh, I admit I may be prejudiced about Jack's Mother Time but I can't understand the way the boys claim to feel about her. I'm not going into much detail about it this time. I'm using it for my FAPA. It gave me an idea of which I was badly in need. "Now for a bit of heresy. I'm not really unhappy about the fact that you are running out of green ink. I like to read black much better. "I'm glad D.B. Thompson expressed so cogently my own ideas on the Pro-Fan situation. Now I wont have to. We spent about four hours going over the pros and cons of the subject at Doc Smith's house the night after the Michiconference. Very vehement we became too. Mark Reinsberg's comment afterwards (he's against reading Pro mags) was 'Oh, this is so stimulating!' "I enjoyed the pics on the cover very much this time. I do like to see pictures of people to whom I've been writing. It seems as if I'm better acquainted with them. Incidentally, isn't that Pogo the loveliest thing?" Banish your war jitters..! (Pd Ad) Read DON FRANKEL'S ORIGINAL GAG & JOKE BK #1. New gags, comedys, skits, jokes. Modern, streamlined humor, no ancient, creaking wheezes--no horse-&-buggy humor. Modern as a dive bomber - but a trifle safer. Comic paper cover--48 exciting pgs. Convenient pocket size. Everybody's reading & quoting from it--even Bradbury. Price only one tigrina (13c) ppd. Order direct from Don Frankel Publico, Dep WPN, 3623 W Dickens, Chicago, Illinois

Stickin' stencil in typewriter & startin' another extemporaneous Shangri-L'Affs. One guess who's riting this. We're here at the Club tonite--221st meeting--to bid farewell to Charlie Hornig. CDH heads for Hood River, Ore, --under gov'tal instructions-- Mar 28, to meet his fate in the wartime set up. He is leaving various imperishable valuables with Bruce Yerke, including such perishable unvaluables as his neck ties. In other words, he is leaving all his ties behind him... Carry on, curious! Finn speaking. Goodbye Charlie. Consider yourself wept upon. Also don't forget to send me your hand for a souvenir.

Willmorth on the line. Charlie is heading for my Vaterland. This apple-knocker has traveled through Hood river several times on his way to the pear orchards thereabouts. We hope him luck on his camp site by the dam site.

Charlie Hornig--saying good-bye to the L. A. gang for the ninth time. Date March 26, 1942. One day of freedom remains. As of Saturday, I will belong to Uncle Sam--with reservations as to servicability. (Yeah, I'am a C. O.). I'll be stationed up on the Columbia River, 1200 miles north of here--and by the mess of work clothes I'll have to bring with me, looks like I'm slated for muscle-building. CPS Camp No. 21, Cascade Locks, Oregon (Fans, please drop me a line!) under the U. S. Forestry. Everytime I chop down a tree I'll make believe that it's destined to become the next Astounding, or something.

Oh, well, it's an ill wind--I just love to travel, and ~~XXX~~ for the first time in my life, I'm gonna get a nice long ride absolutely free--even if it is up the river (Columbia). This CPS Camp (Civilian Public Service) will solve one of my problems. I won't have to pay any 1942 income tax. We get \$2.50 per month! We are going to miss Charlie's bright and smiling pun, (or do I mean pan?) Sez Peggy Finn, forgetting to indent.

The very best of luck, Charlie, may the big blow-up soon blow out. Rocklynne.

Here's to you, Charles. Let's hope you find the Oregon mists less Luciferian than the Wah!

This is Russ Hodgkins saying so long and happy landings to Charlie, from, not only myself, but also from Fred Shroyer (now based at March Field), and Hank and Catherine Kuttner. Take care of yourself Charlie, and console yourself with the thought that such a situation could not possibly occur in the Technate of North America. Again, Happy Landings in the New America!

This is Yerke, saying not Good Bye to Hornig, but Auf Wiedersehen, since I will probably end up at Hood River within the next two years.

The Rgt. Honourable Purveyour of Bagatelle, Carlton J. Fassbeinder, D.K.T., who has just finishing administered (hey, something is wrong there) the lolling out of the diquids, sits down to the rypetitter to say: Tonight we are serving Bock Beer, and wondering when you will be coming Bock again, Charlie.

Rus Wood doin' the talkin'. -- and Pogo too. It won't do any good to say goodbye, cause you always come back, so all we can say is that we hope you have a nice trip.

"To be - or not to be....." Charlie has just finished giving away the climaxes (or is it climices?) of the current movie. Whether 'tis nobler to take up more room here seems to be the question, so I'll (RAHoffman speaking) just say something is rotten in the state of Orego--no, Hasse said that. Anyway, goodbye, Charlie; be sure to right (hey, something is wrong there) us the phenomena of your outrageous fortune.

a m e n .

This is Walt Daugherty adding my word of farewell on Saturday as I was not able to make it to the meeting Thursday. Hope to be hearing from you real soon, and who knows charlie, maybe they'll make enough of a man out of you that you can write those those Super-Man scripts from actual experience. EH? But seriously Charlie all the best of luck from Eleanor and I.

That last goes double for me, too. -- Paul Freehafer.

Voice of the Explanation: The above uggy mess was skeded, as U see, for an edition of Shangri-L'Affaires. But due to the rusht conditions of publishing this ish of Vom, yecoeds suddenly found themselves with the mag nrly completed--& no pg 12! There never had been a pg 12! Yoicks & double yoicks! Casting about for something to fill 'er up with, Morajo's eyes espied this incomplete stencil still lying in the typewriter where it'd been inserted on the 26th. Aha! So I foned Helen Finn to see if we could get a release on the thing. Figuring the candid comments woud in this manner have 3 times the circulation & reach its intended audience sooner, Director all-xt the idea. And--guess that takes care of that.....

Tigrina; No. 1, Left Hand
Path; Deville; Demonshire; Helland;
casts a brim stone at her critics:
 "There is always much foul propaganda invented by different religious parties against each other, created especially for the purpose of disgusting and discouraging those interested and turning their interests elsewhere. And some people are bound to go to the extreme. Of course, I am definitely against this sort of thing. Christians (and all good-will advocates) naturally attribute all of the opposite of good to the Devil. But all Devil worshippers do not go to these extremes any more than all christians deny themselves the joys of life and live exaggeratedly strict, pure lives in order to be 'good'. To be able to retain the powers of performing spells, reciting incantations, etc. one must be possessed of a strong will. In dissipation, the will is steadily weakened so that it can easily be dominated by others. So students of the occult should not indulge in harmful practices. "I am interested in Devil worship and Black Magic purely for revenge, power, love of mystery and just 'puro devilishness', but no further than that. I know

AT GREAT PERSONAL
 RISK to life &
 limb (& we're
 sure U'll agree we
 aint kiddin) RAH
 (of hoffmania
 fame) came to us
 with this expose
 of a genuine

BLACK MASS

don't believe she is 13 yet. Maybe her mental development has been held up. This sort of childishness --her fatuous nonsense about witchcraft and so on--seems out of place in this world; and I'm no Wollheim or Youd. Then, again, the wench cannot have got far in the study of music if she perpetrates such rubbish as that so-called song ((Hymn to Satan)) with its absurd words. Sarcastic articles like that famous one in 'Time' are justifiable when fandom includes such adolescent idiots. It looks as though I don't like the lady!"

TUCKER & LIEBSCHER: "Cheerio Coeds, I definitely do not like the regal size of Vom no matter how legal it may be. The cover on the January issue evoked open-mouthed ~~appalling~~ admiration. Where, I wondered, had that clever Wiedenbeck procured the atomical or anatomical assistance so vitally necessary for so faithful a reproduction of the two-headed shield held by the older woman? Such verve! " The person or persons responsible for the spreading of the bat woman on pages 12-13 should be hung, drawn and quartered into at least six pieces. " Surprise, surprise this is Liebscher horning in on Tuckers' letter. Am I elated, dashing out a missive to Vom on the famous Pong typewriter that has been the instrument for so many famous letters, articles and stories. Contrary to Tuck I like the legal size, in fact we just had a terrific battle over this very question. We became so wrathful with each other that I wrenched the wart off Tucker's big toe and he is bleeding profusely right now.

also, that my interest in the Black Arts is, to a certain extent, a rebellion from the exceedingly 'straight and narrow' path that I have sometimes been forced to tread. " I was glad to see that there were not so many of those horrid ((dressless)) pictures this time. " I feel that I must, however, express my extreme disapproval of the damnsel in this edition of your magazine. Why, she is not even pretty! If all women appeared thusly, I think that they should be exterminated. Ugh, she is positively repulsive! And the title of the picture makes it doubly so. ((Doubletendre created by my underlining. --Foojack)) I can readily see how one might call the small picture on the cover of your magazine 'art', that is, if you like that sort of thing. (Said 'art' does not include the monster, creature, or oversized balloon that she holds in her hands) ((referring to Bradbury)) But how can you even for an instant think that there is anything artistic or beautiful, or fantastic about that horrific caricature on page seven."

57, Beauclair
Dr. Liverpool

15, England-- "A couple of weeks ago came the fourth anniversary issue of VoM and a revolting collection of nudes. Until American fans learn to draw like Harry Turner they had better steer clear of nudes - and, judging from many fanmag covers, from a lot of other things besides. "The large size VoM is clumsy, but I can understand its advantages. " This Tigrina creature annoys me. Frankly, I

In fact he is thinking of changing the name of his den to the Pool of Blood in my memory. "Thought I had old man 4e stumped with that last vice crack but he came back with a better one. " After several bottles of stuff last night the conversation between Tuck and I went something like this. " Tuck: Did you read the cover on Amazing Stories last night." We carry on in condensst form. Lieb: Yes, I think it was the best staples Lez ever put out. Tuck: I liked that story in Ast where the spaceship had tendrils & really wasn't a bad man after all. Lieb: You said it keed I'm going to frame it & hang it in my den. L: Did you get the latest ish of the Damn Thin? T: Yes, can you imagine such an article on a convention? Dammit, man, all they did was drink. L: That really wash bad, wasn't it, we never drink that much do we, well hardly ever anyway. T (glancing at bottle): If you paid more'n 50c for this rotgut you were stung. L: Oh no I wasn't I get a nickel back on the bottle. Not to change the subject, but did you hear about the fellow who got up one morning & it looked so nice out he left it out?" Airmailletter--speciallivery & registerd--arrives last minute from the Dippy Duo, plus 3E. Said Tripoli: "Here's two-bits. The old dog returns to its VOM. It seems I can't get along without youse." "Wynken, Blynken & Nod" sent an electrifying message, concluding: "Are we too personal bulb? We trust you find this letter illuminating (It is our private opinion Ackerman is a pungent.) " We leave thee to take it on the lamp, untill we meter gain. Good light all!"

