

endless shadow



Perhaps first of all I should introduce myself. My name is David Mitchell and I'm fourteen years old and a fan of science-fiction. The reason you find this fanzine in this mailing is this:

I always knew I wasn't the only one who bought science-fiction books, because they, the books, disappeared quite regularly. But I couldn't seem to make contact with any body who shared my love for this field of literature. Then I got an idea. Blue Mountain, where I live, is on the outskirts of the larger city of Anniston. I went to Wade's Book and Magazine stand, it being the largest in town and told the woman who ran the place of my problem. I asked her if she could put me in touch with anybody who bought s-f from her regularly. She said the first name that came to mind was Larry Montgomery and that he was in the phone book, if I wanted to get in touch with him. I did so by letter.

Larry seemed to be pleased to find another fan, besides Dick Ambrose, in the same town, almost, as he. We swapped several letters and then he sent me a copy of his fanzine WARLOCK. It was the first of these # "fanzines" that I'd ever seen. I told him that I would like to publish one myself. He told me how to go about it. This isn't much of a magazine compared to some of the others that I've seen, but I couldn't do much worse and I can only improve with time as I learn more about the SOUTHERN FANDOM PRESS ALLIANCE and science-fiction fandom itself. Maybe in a few months I will have lost the "neocish air" that Larry says I have.

This fanzine's name is ENDLESS SHADOW. I stole the name off an Ace-Double paperback called ENDLESS SHADOW by John Brunner. I hope the Ace people don't decide to sue me for using their title. The book, which is fairly new, had a great cover and an excellent name but the novel itself wasn't too good. In fact it STANK!

The fanzine reviews aren't too good mainly because I haven't seen enoughazines to form concrete opinions. This problem I'm trying to remedy. The offer is wide open for any of you fans to contribute articles, fiction, artwork--anything. I agree with Larry Montgomery in that a zine is only as good as its material. I want to take this opportunity to thank Larry for the cover, which he drew and reproduced himself, and to me Mother who ran these stencils off for me.

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MAILING COMMENTS

DCL-DUM:

The little illustration on the cover was cute, Dave. I didn't enjoy your zine so much because all it was, was mailing comments. And since I haven't read that mailing, I didn't understand much about what was going on. I hope I will understand next time.

WORD ARM:

That sure is an odd name, I wonder why you didn't pick a name related to science-fiction. I mean your zine is supposed to be slanted toward science-fiction. I did enjoy the short page on "A Short History of Coke Bottle Fandom". I'm sure that could very well happen. So far these first two zines have all been mostly conversation, I hope some of the others have something about s-f (I'm reviewing as I read them).

ZACULO:

You people can sure think up some odd names. Again I didn't understand or enjoy anything because of the absence of all but mailing comments. The way where did you get that "title"(!)?

WARLOCK:

Now here is one I like. Even though, I've already read the copy you sent me Larry (the first fanzine I ever read) I'll still review it. That cartoon on page #2, is good. I like! Yea South! Your layouts put the others to shame, keep it up. You can draw pretty good why do you need other people to draw for you? "Whatever Happened to Antarctica Fandom?" I didn't "get".

"Who Killed Cock Robin?" was pretty good, but still no real science-fiction. I'll have to read the book that Dale Walker, you forgot to put his name on the ~~book~~ page his review was one, wrote about it sounds interesting. I don't believe I've ever heard of Gordwainer Smith. Is he a new author? Again I didn't dig the mailing comments, although the name "Fallen Idols" is a great name for such a column, the REC drawing goes great with it. I hope next issue is as good as this one. But I still haven't seen any read s-f writing. Oh.....doesn't the name WARLOCK mean a male-witch?

THE INVADER:

Now there is a NAME for a science-fiction fanzine! I agree with Stan Woolston, science-fiction movies could be vastly improved. "Rocks" was deep or something, I didn't get it. Also I agree with Blaine Bennett, the "southern image" is vastly misunderstood.

"The Revenge of Godfrey Gopher" by Clinton Brake (sounds like a fake name to me) was pitiful! It was very good Staton, I wouldn't have published it. Again the m-understood mailing comments.

SPORADIC:

The reproduction of this 'zine is spotty and a little hard to read. Congrats on on your marriage, Bill. I don't seem to be able to find anything to say about your zine that wouldn't sound sarcastic. I just didn't get "A Pictograph in Four Parts."

ISCARIOT:

I hope that you, Al and Richard, didn't mean for that title to mean JUDAS Iscariot. If you did, I don't ~~ZEMELIKE~~, that's sacriligious. The cover, again, had nothing to do with science-fiction. The only thing I liked about this fanzine was Andrew's review of DREAFFUL SANCTUARY by Eric Frank Russell. I didn't like the book either Al.

I D AMGASSY:

A GOOD cover! Yea! Excellent print, what kind of machine did that, if I may ask? I really enjoyed August Derleth's "WIERD TALES-A Memoir". It's really too bad this magazine isn't being put out any longer, All those full page-illustrations were GREAT! What I'm wondering is--why didn't you give some of those science-fiction illos to people ~~whom~~ who didn't have any good good ones. Sharing would have helped this mailing. I liked this fanzine!

THE HUCKLEBERRY FINZINE 1 & 24:

Nothing here but mailing comments and some nude drawings. Now nudes are alright in PLAYBOY but not in any part of science-fiction. Putting sex into s-f I just don't approve of.

Well, I was a little, not much, disappointed. I thought all those zines that Larry talked about in his letters would look just like pro mags, except they would be put out by amateurs. But even though there wasn't much real s-f the people represented here ARE the same kind of fan I am. I hope to learn and profit from my association from you.

YOU JUST WAIT by David Mitchell.

He lay there behind the bars and waited for sleep to come. But sleep was very elusive when your time was near. He was next. Somehow he had never actually believed it would be his turn. I'll wake up and I'll be back home and this will be only a nightmare, he thought. But he knew that this was no nightmare-----this was reality! He rolled and tossed fitfully on the hard floor of the cage. No sleep didn't come very easy before it was your turn.

He was different from his fellows. He was wild and wasn't used to the cages, while his fellows in the cages around him had always been prisoners. They were born in the cages and would die there. While he.....I've got to escape before the giant comes for me! Escape.....how? No.....it just wasn't any use at all-----there was no way out.

With all of his might he tried not to think about what was going to happen, but his mind still kept going back to that day when the scout had told him of the horrors of the table and the giants torture of all his kind.

HE SUDDENLY the dark room was flooded with light! NO! NO! the words fo med on his lips. Then he could hear the huge footsteps coming across the room toward his cage. The latch was lifted and the gigantic hand reached into the cage. He was lifted ~~and~~ hand up and sat down on a large table under a brilliant light. For the next hour, although it seemed an eternity, he was prodded, poked, and subjected to all kinds of indescribable tortures. Then when it seemed like he couldn't stand it any longer, the worst of the tortures was ranned into his small body. The big long spike was thrust into his body and left for what seemed like ages. Then he lost conscienceness.

When he came to he was again in his cage. The pain of the torture was still a dull throb in his sore body. Then he heard a faint sound. Someone below him was taling. Talking! These domesticated ones around him never talked, so wh could it be? Then as if in answer to his question, the face of his best friend appeared at the door to his cage. "Come quickly I have opened your door!!" Immediately following his friend to the floor, he realized how long he had been out. Why must I have been out almost all day, he thought. Oh, well now that I'm free that doesn't make any difference.

We still must be careful of the great cat, he warned his friend. Later, after their perilous journey across the cavernous room he sto pped and looked back at the ~~dark~~ dark room.

He looked at the room, and he thought, "You just wait you giants! Our scientists have discovered a machine to make us as large as you. You have never suspected our intelligence but beware, the day that we become large. Then we will seek our revenge for all the injustices that you have heaped on us and our friends. Then will you know what we have been through. YOU JUST WAIT!

THE END

This has been ENDLESS SHADOW#1--aren't you glad it's over!