

Type: Invention
Class:
Code: Author: Fawcett, E. Douglas
Pseud.: None

Title: "HARTMAN THE ANARCHIST"

Subtitling: "The Doom of the Great City"

Pub.: Date: Price: Pages:

Illus. by: Fred E. Jane

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Synopsis of Plot: Hartmann, embittered in youth, develops a flying machine & sets out to impose his will on Britain. He begins with the destruction of London. Succeeds in that but fails in his main aim.

Review: by W. Robert Gibson.

The story is told, in the first person, by a minor character who was caught up in Hartmann's attempt. Hartmann had been a youth of great promise and the disciple of an anarchist who combined idealism with bombs. The latter died in violence and H. disappeared. The narrator interviewed his mother, for whom H. retained affection, and at her home met some of Hartmann's adherents. The meeting led to his being selected to carry Hartmann's messages to his victims. He was half-guest, half-prisoner on the aero during the terror.

During his absence H. had developed an extremely light strong metal. With it he made a flying machine, buoyed by vacuum chambers or light gas and suspended from a single, lengthwise plane. (The illustrations suggest a hull of a yacht suspended from a gravitate plate.) He plans to destroy all order, in the belief that a higher civilization will automatically rise from the ruin, and has mob-leaders planted to take advantage of the confusion he will cause.

His vessel is loaded with dynamite bombs and petrol, and he sets out on the destruction of the city. (Like many pre-flight authors the writer has quaint ideas about bombs. One a man can lift and drop through a trap will destroy any building. And he pictures Londoners as very panicky.) The descriptions of flight and of destruction are clear and vivid. Most of London's landmarks are destroyed. By bombs or by tanksfull of petrol dumped and ignited. The city is gutted.

Yet Hartmann fails in the end. His machine is invulnerable, his powers immense, but he must refuel from a ground base, and he is cut off from the ground. Some time after the narrator is dropped by parachute the aero explodes. By accident ... or as a spectacular suicide?

The author is frankly advocating certain reforms, if not Hartmann's, and uses the latter to make clear their necessity.

~~MYTH~~
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Are you interested in the unknown, the quaint, the bizarre? Have you any interest in mythology; the traditions of our peoples; the superstitions and beliefs of the past? Or the future? If so then the messiah has appeared. A fanzine is intended to be centered upon the subjects and emanating from Cpl Norman Willaorth, 1750th Ordnance supply and Maintenance Company, APO 558, US Army.

MYTH will be a magazine devoted to mythology primarily, but any of the allied subjects that are connected to that subject will be discussed in those pages. Mythology, legend, witchcraft, demonology, modern comparative religion, or any of the other interesting fantasies that form the traditions of people and that have had such intimate effect upon the life and history of the world, will have a place within the pages of MYTH. I'm sure that you have all read and enjoyed UNKNOWN WORLDS in which have appeared many delightful stories of legendary and mythological characters--Prester John in the 'Roaring Trumpet', one of Neptunes companions in 'The Indigestible Triton', and stories concerning ghosts, kobolds, faires, Pan, nymphs, dryads, valkyries, Satanas, as well as the other myriad creatures and creations of mythology. Fiction in MYTH would be of the same sort, but we would desire to concentrate upon the background of these stories with articles and discussions of these many beliefs.

In format, MYTH will be an all around fanzine containing articles, fiction, and artwork. Poetry, being the medium in which most of our classical mythology has been recorded, is very acceptable as epic or in a lighter vein. We realize that in being a rather specialized type of publication, that MYTH may not appeal to such a large audience as do the many general fan efforts, but we do feel that it will definitely fill a large hole that now exists in both fan and professional publications. Only of late years has the fantasy fan been finding his place amidst the scientificist type of imaginative reader, so that by fostering a comprehensible study of the basis of most fantasy that we are directly furnishing material for untold numbers of excellent stories concerning subjects about which the ordinary reader--or writer--is not definitely familiar.

So, if you have a knowledge of any branch of myth and legend, if you can give intimate information concerning a better breed of leprechaun, write it up and submit it here. If you are at all interested in reading such literature, let us know. Material is needed of all sorts concerning our subject--article, story, poem, or art. The range of subject matter is legion, the sub-branches practically unlimited. Take the efforts of our ancestors to peer into the future--the art of prophesy where the attempt was made in dozens of ways: Theomancy, Psychomancy, Crystallomancy, Sciomancy, Pyromancy, Capnomancy, Myomancy, Ophiomancy, Botanomancy, and more than some fifty different sciences of divination. There is a lot more to be said of Anthropomancy than the fact that it was an attempt to read the future by plotting the position of the entrails of a human sacrifice. Where was it practiced, and by whom? Let's give in and give out!! If you are interested in fantasy at all, this is your chance to do your bit for the cause. Write a better epic than Homer; draw a better kobold than Cartier; enlighten us in regard to Shintuism, Brahmaism, Chinese philosophy, or Christianity. Futurians is waiting.