



SFPA 204

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OO - Liz - The mailing came to my mother's Decatur address as expected and I have it here in Virginia now. The move is scheduled for the first of July. Good to see you and Jeff at DSC!

I am starting this on June 17, so it should be in in plenty of time.

Refinement - Jeff and Jeff - Ghood Grief...

It Goes On The Shelf 19 - my own self - Sorry about the number and date goof at the top! Could have sworn I had edited that, and didn't notice it until the thing had been printed.

Seasons - Binker - I have removed 6-inch oak limbs with a limb saw, but 8 inches is getting into the professional category, especially if it's already leaning on a house. That storm that hit Atlanta Monday night after the con followed me all the way across NC and dumped a 10-inch tree across my path, had to wait for the guy with the chainsaw. Then when I got home the power was out, didn't get it back until the next morning. My mother's house was out until 4 p.m. the next day, and had a big limb down and another waiting like the sword of Damocles to fall 40 feet - fortunately not over the house.

I filed my taxes over the net and it seems to have worked ok, but I wouldn't have done it if I had realized going in they were going to charge another \$10 for the privilege. The 1040PC costs nothing but the stamp.

Anne Dietz Robertson says there is some sort of group that meets in the general Lilburn area at a public library. But don't look to me for any Phoenix effect on Atlanta fandom, I just ain't that social!

I didn't even know the Quakers had an oath... If I was going in for organized religion, I might join them from what I have heard - but then I remember that Nixon was supposedly a Quaker, and I am allergic to organized religion anyway.

Fiberglass gives some people the itch. I once got some in my face under this house - should have been wearing a mask - and after I got out had a sudden massive sinus drainage.

I packed up the ThermoFaxes and thermal stencils along with the mimeos, didn't know they had made a model for copying from books. Judging from the single-page device, it must weigh 100 lbs! Ghu only knows if the old thermal stencils are still usable, but I couldn't bear to throw the mimeo stuff away.

The Lawyer - Meade - You like bad movies and you missed **The High Crusade** at DSC... Good to see you anyway. Your attempt to return to lawyering reminds me of a Biblical verse that I can't quote because the Bibles and all the other reference books are packed up - something about a

dog...

I like tape books when I'm driving - I listened again to the old BBC dramatization of **The Hobbit** on the way down to DSC, and some Isak Dinesen tales on the way back. Some were read by the Baroness Blixen herself, some by Colleen Dewhurst, and some by Julie Harris.

Just had a phone call from a T. Frankel at Yankee Book Peddler about Purple Mouth Press. He wanted all the data on the books, says they buy stuff for resale to libraries. The largest order I had had in years came to the Decatur address - they wanted some 50 books. Unfortunately these are all packed and I have lost the order anyway, unless it's with some mail I left out at the house in Lilburn. I will send Frankel an email.

Demented play fragment! You were at the University of Virginia about the same time I was, I think I got my MS in 1967. But I did most of the courses on extension, I was only at UVA one semester (because they required it).

Not Minac - Lynch - You are probably asked for directions because you stick up so far - they figure you can see whatever it is they are looking for... I am often mistaken for the staff in thrift stores...

Good trip report. I was talking to Faruk von Turk at the con, he says I need to change the graphic files to jpeg to put IGOTS on a webpage. I have one issue converted anyway, but the pictures make it too large in terms of memory required.

I find it annoying to have a site continually pester me for cookies - if all they get is what you describe, I doubt it is worth the botheration. And why should I waste disk space on them?

I have retired, as of April 3, after nearly 39 years in the wind-tunnels - actually a high-speed towing tank and 4 wind-tunnels. I was 30 years at the 8-Ft Transonic Pressure Tunnel and it was interesting work. When they closed that and sent me to the Unitary Plan Wind Tunnels, it became very dull after a couple of years. I was Safety Head, as I had been at the 8-Ft, but in spite of the higher pressures and velocities in the supersonic (Mach 1.5-4.6), the transonic tunnel (Mach 0.2-1.2) was much more interesting in terms of safety.

Offline - Irv - And I bet you let them keep that ear wax - few people know that there is a big black market in ear wax, it's used in certain chemical machinery.

Don't think I will need storage in Atlanta, the house in Lilburn is about 60% larger than the two I have here. I would hate having anything in storage. I don't even like have stuff in boxes, except for multiple copies of things I've published. Saw Klon at the con but never got to talk to him.

Spiritus Mundi - Guy - Who is the plug-ugly on the cover? The new people back of my mother's house have five dogs, one of which barks at high C. You should take 1-2 grams of vitamin C a day when you first start getting a cold - I haven't really had a cold or the flu in years. But then I don't eat oysters - sounds to me like you had food poisoning. On the other hand you probably come into contact with more people than I do - current theory is that the cold and flu germs are passed mostly hand to hand.

Why does your italic font jump above the baseline? Looks like you have the hiccups... The kid busted for passing out lemon drops in school seems to have been one of those brief items that you never see any more about. Of course there are those who claim that refined sugar is an addictive drug. I can remember reading a definition of addiction that included not only the desire for another dose and the withdrawal symptoms if you didn't get it, but also that increasingly large doses were required to get the same effect. Ghu knows what the Philadelphia

lawyers stick in now for a legal definition - probably no more than *the government says it's bad for you*, in essence.

I never met an astronaut - I'm not sure that I ever saw one other than on TV. Not that I made any great effort - several of the original seven spoke at Langley Research Center in open symposia.

The problem with 'p' (an ominous sign of looming prostate problems?) could probably be fixed by getting a new keyboard, but the error message about the hard drive sounds serious. In DOS it is easy enough to inquire about how much of the hard disk is full. If you are getting full, de-fragmenting can help improve the efficiency of the disk storage by making wasted space usable. For example, if you have an exit to DOS, you can click on it and say 'dir' and it will reveal how much free space there is on the disk. This Pentium II has 1.15 gig left out of the original 2 gigabytes, so I have nothing to worry about for the moment.

Purple Mouth Press 1975-1998

Bogey Beasts by Sidney H. Sime with music by Josef Holbrooke, 1975

Art by Sime, 8.5x11 inches, 74pp saddle-bound card covers, \$10

Reprint of 1923 edition with new cover by Alpajpuri. The original cover was found in time to include it, reduced, on the title page.

The Spagyric Quest of Beroaldus Cosmopolita by Arthur Machen, 1976

New art by Mae Strelkov, 5.5x7.2 inches, 28pp saddle-bound card covers, \$5

Original title *Thesaurus Encantatus*, now o/p.

The Vaughn Bodë Illustration Index by George Beahm, 1975

Art by Vaughn Bodë, 8.5x11 inches, 64pp saddle-bound color card cover, \$7.50

Actually Heresy Press, but in any case o/p.

Kirk's Works by George Beahm, 1980

Art by Tim Kirk, 9x12 inches, perfect-bound (\$10) & hardcover (\$25)

Heresy Press, color cover, all slick paper. The hardcover is o/p.

Guinevere & Lancelot and Others by Arthur Machen, 1986

Art (9 plates and cover) by Stephen Fabian

7.75x10 inches, 60pp saddle-bound card covers, \$10

Edited by Michael T. Shoemaker and Cuyler W. Brooks Jr.

The Night Land by William Hodgson, 1995

Condensed and mapped by Dave Hall

6.75x9 inches, 68pp saddle-bound card covers, \$6

The original text fills 2 volumes. Now o/p.

Quest for the Green Hills of Earth, 1995

Art by Alan Hunter (11 illos), 8.5x11 inches, 32pp, \$6

Story by C.L. Moore, music by George Heap and Joseph Kaye, explanation by Ned Brooks.

Hannes Bok Illustration Index by Cuyler W Brooks Jr, 1970, 1974, 1996

Cover by Hannes Bok, size and page-count varies

There are a few of the 1996 48pp 8.5x11-inch edition left, \$10

Latest update available by e-mail.

An Island in the Moon by William Blake, 1998

Edited and decorated by Gavin O'Keefe

5.5x8.5 inches, 36pp saddle-bound card covers, \$6

Half went to Australia.

Obscure short-run ephemera such as *The Ballad of Eskimo Nell*, *The Ballad of the Raving Timsie*, *The Pantoum of the Pilfered Pups*, and some Tolkien buttons.

I stuck that in for grins, I can extract it to e-mail to Frankel... Back to the MCs -

Twygdrasil - Dengrove - Ford's the one on the right? I never met you that I know of.

Lots of my friends have died recently - Dave Hall, Lynn Hickman, Avram Davidson, Ray Zorn. I have no uncles left, and only three aunts out of the original eight - my Aunt Marie died this year. Only Dave Hall's death was much of a surprise, he was much younger than I am.

I use Netscape here and used it at work and never had any training - if a software is well-written, no formal training should be required. I did like having a manual on some softwares that had seldom-used features.

I don't know about Lewinsky, but I read the other day that someone said that they had established that Clinton had left town at the time of the alleged incident with Paula Jones.

I tried to talk Binker into cooking the raccoons in skunk grease for the con suite at DSC, but she's too soft-hearted.

Yes, I have a copy of **The Cruise of the Kawa**, I forget under what name and it's packed up. Chappell did **Through the Alimentary Canal With Gun and Camera** under his own name.

When I spoke of the efficiency of an autogiro, I meant by some measure such as miles/gallon - it being a vehicle of sorts.

Everything is good for something - *Ignite* could be used to start a fire, or to serve as a bad example of a fanzine. I will give it this, all the issues were short.

I have seen VRML, I had a primitive version on the old computer at work. No use to look at the other side of a buckyball though - they are spherically symmetrical and look the same in any view.

I asked Wade Gilbreath at DSC if he was still doing art and he said no - a great loss, he was good.

We were discussing at DSC whether male pattern baldness was inherited from the father or the mother. Everyone's actual experience seemed to match mine, that it came from the father. I have the same receding hairline as my father, whereas my mother's only brother was bald by the time he was 40. But nothing is ever that simple - all three of my father's brothers were bald by the time they were my age, though my grandfather on my father's side also had a receding hairline.

Confessions - Hlavaty - Speaking of telepests, recently I have gotten several of the recorded

variety, which provide no one to be rude to... Two were for a local candidate for mayor, not that his opponent was any great prize either.

The Sphere - Don - Missed you at the DSC... Speaking of pirates, what about Mervyn Peake's own beautiful **Captain Slaughterboard Drops Anchor**, aside from the illos for **Treasure Island**? None of Peake is public domain, as far as I know, but it might turn out to be easy to get permission to use something - I had no trouble getting the rights to Arthur Machen material; and Peter Winnington, who has a Peake website, seems to get permission easily enough. I don't know, with everything packed up, whether his wife Maeve Gilmore or Peake's son Sebastian control the estate, but you could easily find Winnington's website and ask.

I doubt if any of Peake's work will be public domain in our lifetime - Peake died in 1957, and British law provides copyright for 75 years after the author's death. Well, I might make it to 2032 and you are younger than I!

Ken Starr is using torture, in a way - I can't imagine that Susan McDougal is having a good time. I am totally opposed to this business of jailing people for refusing to testify - forced testimony is useless.

Speaking of obsolete sf, I do have one book not packed that I bought in an antique mall in NC - **The Green Ray** by Vance Thompson, Bobbs-Merrill, Indianapolis 1922-24. Even if the copyright was renewed this has been public domain for years. The multiple copyright dates might suggest magazine publication before the hardcover. I suspect the name is a pseudonym, but my references are packed. He used it on several books which may also be sf - **The Pointed Tower** and **The Scarlet Iris** are mentioned on the title page. I haven't read it yet, but the green ray seems to have been a medical invention, some sort of suspended animation.

Hope your Ramada Inn was better than the one the DSC had in Birmingham!

Peter Pan and Merry - Schlosser - No, *Ricki* and *Nicki* is too nice a rhyme to break up with a *Lucy*... Many metaphors have little to do with the truth of the original image - the lemmings (who do not, in general, dive over cliffs to their death) and the ostrich (who does not hide his head in the sand) are good examples. The "idol with feet of clay" is not all that bad, as metaphorical usages go, though to my mind idolatry would not be justified by a homogenous idol.

Yes, with the current weather patterns, power outages are becoming more frequent. I can't cook and this house anyway is heated with gas by natural convection, so a woodstove would be of little use. The new house in Lilburn is gas heat but requires an electric blower. What I really need is backup electricity... I wonder if anyone makes a generator that would run off the natural gas? Should be easy, with modern electronics, to get enough 110 AC for everything but the airconditioning and resistance heaters like an electric stove or dryer.

I remember the name *Korbas*, but not anything useful about him.

I missed that Eve was using those 'laundry disks' I had seen them advertised, but thought it very unlikely that they were anything but a scam - let's have a Consumer Report here!

Trivial Pursuits - Janice - Good to see you at the con. Funny cover, though as a ex-engineer I might point out that the rope is rather short for a person in a wheelchair. Or is it the hangman that's handicapped?

My calm demeanor comes from having watched a lot of the old David Carradine *Kung-Fu* TV show... I do not miss the NASA job, it had become very dull. And I knew if I suggested to the branch head that I was finding things slow, I would just wind up wasting my time in psychobabble

meetings. I tried to hint that I might be useful at tech editing, but nothing came of it.

I get CineMax2 here and the Sunday paper thing wasn't covering it - but neither was *TVGuide*. Now the newspaper magazine lists everything, but with full description only of movies. Ghu only knows what I will find in Lilburn. I will not be in any hurry to get cable. I will no doubt have the *Atlanta Journal* delivered, and it has a TV magazine on Sunday.

Somewhere I have the supposed instructions to an IBM technician on the maintenance of 'mouse balls', it circulated at the office.

Moby Dick was never forced on me, I read it on my own - but it was a waste of time, I remember almost nothing about it.

I got a Cyrillic typer in Birmingham, in case I want to type Russian addresses... It's a Hermes Baby, made in Switzerland. I've got books that are larger!

If 737 people from Boston were hit by lightning, it would be a great coincidence. And perhaps a good start...

Marsh Creek Gazette - Hughes - Good to see you and Suzanne at the con. I am not surprised that ditto juice is still available, most of it probably goes to schools. A cheap, easy-to-use technology, though some people these days might worry about the methanol fumes and the ethylene glycol. Never bothered me that I could tell. I have packed my spirit duplicator.

My sister sorts books at Goodwill and I have gone with her a few times. Not a bad way to spend a few hours, though I always worry about the 'art' table, which is generally piled so high as to be a hazard to the passerby.

I don't know why a site would ask for a cookie more than once - do they think the user is going to change his mind? After the fifth one it becomes aggravating!

Your comment that you 'have to do something really coldblooded' to get the death penalty applies only to people of the Caucasian persuasion with a good lawyer.

Souf paw - Brandt - Hmm, to get all the issues of *It Goes On The Shelf* on a free website I would have to get the storage per issue down below 500K. The text is no more than 50K each, but the illos I don't know - Von Turk says they will be much smaller if they are jpeg rather than gif, but I don't know if I have the software to convert them.

I thought chocolate was pretty much immortal, but then I keep it in the refrigerator. I have always driven to DSC, Texas is quite a ways out there for my elderly Toyota... I am having a right-hand rear-view mirror put on it for Atlanta traffic. I'm giving the slightly newer Geo Spectrum to my sister's kid. I suppose I could rent a car... Or from Atlanta I might just ride with another fan.

Even though Vonnegut denies writing sf, all of his novels that I have read still contain sfnal ideas, and I've read most of them.

I rather like Denny's and was sorry to see the one up the street close. Their Western Omelet was pretty good at one time, and I thought the Grand Slam breakfast was a good deal if I wanted a high-cholesterol breakfast.

I have been at Hogu Ranquets, and agree with you that it is hard to imagine what would constitute an 'abuse' in their balloting! I never could get into the spirit of it myself, I must not be silly enough...

Stomp Your Hat - George - I think the guy named Steve Pritchard who saw me stomp my hat became a sort of fan... Good to see you and Jill at the con.

That Dean Koontz found sf fans disturbing means little, he admits to being fairly nutzoid... I

don't know about Disch. He used to be a good writer, but the last thing I read of his (**The Priest**) was pointlessly unpleasant.

When I say Uma Thurman 'looks weird' I mean it as a compliment - there were ladies looked like that on the cover of *Weird Tales*. I might watch *The Avengers* on the boob toob if I had nothing else to do, or wanted to watch something while I ate. I consider the chance of actually seeing a good movie so remote as to be left utterly to luck, like winning the lottery.

David Hasselhoff is the antichrist, or one of them - everyone knows that. It is clear from the Book of Revelations that there will be several. Frank Sinatra was another.

Still working on reading **Naked Came the Sasquatch** - too much psychobabble...

Tennessee Trash - *Gary R.* - Good to see you and Corlis and the kids at the con. My father did not seem to enjoy retirement, but then he had little in the way of hobbies. Other people I know retired very early and were happy as clams - Chester Cuthbert in Canada, who had done something in insurance and Emory Bradley in Atlanta, who had been a lawyer.

I think the main benefit of the teflon coating on aircraft cables is that it allows them to be pulled into place without damage. No one expected those planes to be in use for 20 years, or knew what the insulation plastic would do in that time - few of the flexible plastics are all that stable.

Good discussion of the speed-of-light business!

Oblio - *Gary B.* - Great cover! The tunnels I worked in would have torn the Wright brothers' plane into shreds in seconds... I didn't know NASA had ever tested a model of it, could have been in the so-called Full Scale tunnel next door to the 8-Ft. Transonic Pressure Tunnel. The Full Scale was built to test actual small planes and had an open-throat test section of 30x60 feet and a maximum speed of 200 mph. It went into use in the '30s and by the time I saw it was hardly capable of 100 mph without excessive vibration. As far as I know it is still going - NASA gave it to Old Dominion University. The building is impressive, an enormous rectangular frame of steel beams with the corrugated Transite walls on the inside. Transite is a tightly bound asbestos, harmless enough unless you grind it to a powder and release the fibers.

Washington DC is north of here and further from the coast than we are so they probably have more snow than we do - but it's been a long time since they had enough to matter much. We had some fairly heavy accumulations here in the 60s and 70s, but they were generally gone in a few days. Atlanta is more likely to have trouble, what with the hills. The worst residential street I have seen lately was the one on the way to Toni's house in Birmingham. I wasn't sure the Toyota could make it. It would certainly have overheated if the hill had been very long, and I wouldn't have attempted it if it hadn't been clean and dry. I would like to watch them pave it once!

I agree with you about tailgating - and when it's an umpteen-ton truck you know he would clobber you if you stopped suddenly. I slow down gradually until they get the point or pass.

The Northern Californian - *Lichtman* - My '86 Toyota Corolla still gets 37 mpg at 75 mph, probably because I have only driven it on the highway. Hard to say how long it will last in Atlanta traffic. But I like it, it's just the right size and comfortable to drive.

Tyndallite - *Metcalf* - I would love to see the *Worm Ouroboros* movie, had never heard of it. I have at least one volume of the Tolkien *Letters*, but it's packed - what language was his correspondence with Eddison in?

Yngvi - Toni - Good to see you and the house and the Hill of Doom! Nobody gave me Beam's Choice with my badge - in fact, no one offered me a Program Book but I discovered the pile later. Whatever did you do to Joe, he never came to the room to sleep but slept most of Sunday on a short bench in the mezzanine hall. When he got home he complained his heel was numb and blamed it on my car, but I suspect the bench... He was reading LotR when I left.

I have never seen a computer printer that could print more than one page at a time... Maybe Steve Hughes' 11x17 LaserJet could do two 8.5x11 pages at once! I just thought of the solution to the shift problem with your LaserJet 6L - you could format for double column...

Pillow - weber - Inzer looked pretty good at DSC for someone who had almost been stabbed to death. Hank R. had just lost 22 lbs to pneumonia, said they told him he had overdone the exercise. Probably a high exposure to germs in the gym too.

I was told by a PO clerk a couple of years ago that it was perfectly ok to put a letter in with a book sent Book Rate. If the PO opens a Book Rate parcel, I expect they are looking for something more serious than that!

I will be interested to hear which novel **The Clones** was filmed - there are at least two. Both bad, but only one of them bad enough to be funny. If some ham actually has to say "Keep your hands off my clones, you slut", you have the right one...

Armadillo - Liz - Good luck with the learning disability - I think that has become an industry. I agree that anything in boxes or a pile is clutter - Good Stuff should be neatly displayed on shelves.

Ceci n'est pas une pipe - Jeff - I have tried to read Hoeg but he seems impenetrable to me. I had had enough UNIX to get the 'pipe' joke - makes as much sense that way as with the tobacco pipe! But I do not care for Magritte - the wit is all very well, but I like a picture to have some visual beauty in itself.

* * *

Strange to live in a house with almost everything packed in boxes. I still have some tools to pack, and some clothes. The sort of clothes I have can just be shoved in a box and none the worse - some of them can be shipped in the single chest of drawers I own. Some tools that will be needed to the end will go with me in the car. I suppose this PC will be packed last.

What will be left behind? Not much - all of those lumps of plastic foam and heavy cardboard tubes that I had kept for years were used as packing material. Most of the paints and household chemicals will be abandoned. I will probably take a small box of such stuff in the car. The only ones I have packed are tiny bottles of corflu. I found more motor oil than I expected, nearly 2 cases from when I used to change it myself. I still have the plastic gizmo that is both a drain pan and a bottle; and a pair of ramps for getting the front of a car up. The Geo has the drain plug behind the exhaust manifold and the Toyota only required a change once a year the way I used it, so I have never changed the oil in either myself.

Nothing I will really miss here except the big oak trees, and one good restaurant. Even the thrift store is under new management, and not for the better.

No illos this time - all the sources are packed and the text has come out to almost exactly 8 pages. And it's 2:30 in the morning - I must be nuts...