

No Goat's Toe #1

Publication notes for *Beyond The Enchanted Duplicator...To The Enchanted Convention*. Coming to your mailbox from Geri Sullivan, Toad Hall, 3444 Blaisdell Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408-4315. Phone: 612/825-3558; PROMote Communications: 612/825-2292. Published September 4, 1990. All rights reserved.

VIRGIN REPORTS: (aka The Virginity Report?)

"That Which The Magic *8* Ball Hath Spoken, Let No Fan Challenge"

In his letter of 3rd August, 1990, Walter wrote: "James and I both still feel the other's name should go first, but we have agreed to let the decision be made by a higher authority, i.e. the Magic *8* Ball. Please perform the Ceremony of Consultation, in your role as Vestal Virgin."

In preparation for the all-important ceremony, I placed the *8* Ball on top of the corrected manuscript, so that it might absorb the words and speak ex cathedra. A few days later, donning the Mantle of the Vestal Virgin, I ascended to the attic, grasped the *8* Ball firmly in my hands, and asked, ever so quickly, "Are you absorbing the contents of the manuscript you've been sitting on?"

Concentrate and Ask Again
the *8* Ball commanded.

Composing myself, I asked, "Do you understand the issues of authorship?"

Signs Point to Yes

Are you ready to tell us whose name should be first?

You May Rely On It

I flipped back the plastic cover and removed the letters from Walter and Vin† so as to avoid any favoritism, then set the *8* Ball directly on the authorship line ("Two Picturesque Ruins of IF")
Should the cover read "by two picturesque ruins of IF"? I asked.

Yes, Definitely

Although it is against the rules to test or entrap the *8* Ball, my suspicions were aroused. It didn't seem to be taking the matter any too seriously, or was it perhaps responding to the issue of authorship on the Proof cover, rather than the final cover? *Are you joking with us?* I queried.

After the answer came up on edge, the *8* Ball fessed up: **It Is Decidedly So.**

When I asked which name should come first, the *8* Ball, no doubt tired of tomfoolery, told me to **Ask Again Later.**

Donning the robes again, I checked in the next day, *Are You Ready to Tell Me Today?*

Better Not Tell You Now

OK, I know when to leave well enough alone. I let the *8* Ball consider its decision for the weekend, taking the manuscript to Elise Krueger's BirthdayCon, where Tom Whitmore and I shared knowing grins over our respective current publishing projects and a dance or two to the beat of Cats Laughing and Boiled in Lead.

Stu Shiffman and I sat down for a chat about BTED...TTEC art and format. Eileen Lufkin and Karen Cooper poured over the manuscript, chuckling often and soaking in the wonder of it all. Jon Singer and I talked long into the

night, as is our occasional wont.

On Tuesday, September 4, after immersing myself in baths of paint thinner, hand goop, then soap, and cleaning my hair with madder root, rosemary, and mint, I donned jeans, a Keycon T-shirt, and sandals of loosely-woven leather. (Garments fitting a fannish vestal virgin, don't-you think?) I climbed the attic stairs, flipped on the air conditioner, computer, and fan (thus causing a brown-out that stretching from Lake Street to Northern Iowa), and picked up the Magic *8* Ball.

Should Walt Willis' name come first on Beyond the Enchanted Duplicator...To The Enchanted Convention?

Yes, Definitely

Then James White's name should be listed second?

Signs Point to Yes

And should Chuch Harris' name outshine the other two, in 60 point Broadway type?

My Reply is No

There you've got it, Walter, James, Chuch, and friends. The Magic *8* Ball has spoken. I hereby retire my virginity.

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Proofreader Questions U.K. "That" vs. "Which" Conventions

American Proofreader

Extraordinaire Jon Singer raises a question of style regarding use of the pesky *which* and the all-too-often overlooked *that*. In Murkin, *which* is often misused in place of *that*. As Strunk and White explain, "That is the defining, or restrictive pronoun, *which* the nondefining, or nonrestrictive. See Rule 3 [Non-restrictive clauses are parenthetical...commas are therefore needed...Restrictive clauses, by contrast, are not parenthetical and are not set off by commas.]

"The lawn mower that is broken is in the garage. (Tells which one)

"The lawn mower, which is broken, is in the garage. (Adds a fact about the only mower in question)

"The use of *which* for *that* is common in written and spoken language. ('Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass.') Occasionally *which* seems preferable to *that*, as in the sentence from the Bible. But it would be a convenience to all if these two pronouns were used with precision. The careful writer, watchful for small conveniences, goes *which*-hunting, removes the defining *whiches*, and by so doing improves his work."

Beginning with BTED's second paragraph, Jon boxed the defining *whiches* for easy identification. "And not for the first time, he wondered why he should now feel something like the same restlessness *which* had impelled him to leave Mundane in search of The Enchanted Duplicator."

A less clear example shows up at the beginning of Chapter 2:

"In the early afternoon of the following day, Jophan paused on the first ridge of the Trufandom Mountains to look back on the enchanted land *which* he might never see again." Either the *which* should be changed to *that*, or a comma should be inserted between *land* and *which*. You will also note the repositioned comma earlier in the sentence, which Jon indicated and with which I concur.

Unless U.K. style defines *which* as restrictive, I suggest we go with *that*.

Jon also raises a question of style regarding time designations. Are hours and minutes separated by a period or a colon on the eastern side of the Atlantic? Should it be 7.30 on page 17, or 7:30?

And on page 48 (oh, how Jon

will scream when he sees that sentence beginning with *and!*), why are we changing *nappies* to *diapers*? What was the original quote? Has usage changed over there? Seeing that we have Irish authors, I'd like to stick with Irish words where possible.

The stickiest question of timeliness and style comes when Jophan discovers that Les Brown is a *girl*. Those who know the original reference tend to be delighted and charmed by the use of the word on pages 21 & 22. Other American readers are more likely to raise an eyebrow at *girl*, which goes to show that the Feminist Movement raised consciousness on at least some fronts. Personally, I favor keeping *girl*, preferring it in this case over the obvious substitutes, *female* and *woman*. But I figured we'd best all know it's a risky choice.

Now for the Coveted Proofreader's Awards:

Most Entertaining Margin Notes: Jon Singer for his "Tee Hee Hee," "Yahoo!" "Dat's it! BLLEEAHH Get it away from me!! Get it away! Gaahhh! [Unnecessary word. (*And - gfs*)]" followed by "Well, maybe [MAYBE] I let this one slide by..." and "Awright, awright, this one's ok, too."

Best New Words: *Elevated* (replacing Transferred in Chapter 15's title) and youthful added to Chapter 20.

Eagle Eye: This award goes to the person or persons who caught all those pesky doubles: *as as, bad...bad, only...only, a a, between between, and and and*.

Loss of Innocence: This special award goes to Jon Singer for his comment: "Shee-yit! I thought Prosaic was in Noo Joisey!"

“ . ; : ‘ ’ ... ” (Punctuation Award): 5-way tie; everyone seems to have found several extraneous or lacking commas, periods, not to mention colons full and semi.

You'll have another round of proofing on the final layout, complete with more chances to win proofreading fame and glory. Whet your ink nibs and keep an eye on your mailbox.

BTED...TTEC Artist Wins Hugo; Announces Intent to Move West!

Stu Shiffman, fanartist of renown, has, at long last, won a well-earned, well-deserved Hugo! And aren't we glad we saw the hand-writing on the wall and asked him to illustrate BTED...TTEC before the award was announced, thus beating the hoards of faneds beating a path to his illustrious door?

In an attempt to stay a step ahead of the demanding faneds, not to mention creditors who might be lurking in dark alleys, Stu and Andi are planning to move to the fan centre of the 1990s, Seattle, Washington. If all goes as planned, look for a CoA

from Stu and Andi later this fall.

The move to Seattle, and associated upheavals of home, belongings, and art supplies, will take a toll, but Stu expects to finish BTED...TTEC illustrations by the end of the year, as we originally planned. He plans to do a full cover, several large interior illustrations, and some silhouettes that can be used at the beginning of each chapter. We hammered out some ideas at BirthdayCon, including a suggestion we will float forth at this time: Let's ask Ross Chamberlain to update his map to show the new areas. S'all right with you guys?

Lichtman Requests Copy #30; Who's Next?

BTED...TTEC fan mail has already starting showing up in Toad Hall's mailbox. Robert Lichtman writes: "In his latest letter Chuch mentions reserving copy #1 of 'Beyond the Enchanted Duplicator' — if it's not too cheeky, could I reserve #30? I hope it will be out soon!"

A letter from Arnie Katz, full of flattery and egoboo for one Geri Fitzgerald Sullivan, includes the following paragraph: "Walt told me you are the publisher of the forthcoming 'Beyond the Enchanted Duplicator.' 'TED' has always had a special meaning to me since I read it on the first night of my first worldcon. I freely admit that I gave a whoop of joy when WAW told me about the sequel. What a wonderful time to return to fandom! Are you taking advance orders? Is there anything I could do to help?"

While I won't be taking advance orders until I have a better idea of what production costs will be, I am beginning to compile a mailing list for upcoming promotional flyers/order forms. I'll ask Arnie to mention the sequel in an upcoming issue of *Folly*.

Joe Siclari plans to include an announcement of the sequel in the next *Magicon Progress Report*.

So, James and Walter, word of your magnum opus is beginning to spread.

How many copies are you interested in autographing up front? I can send over covers only, so postage won't be too outrageous.

Beyond The Enchanted Duplicator... ...To The Enchanted Convention

by
Walt Willis and James White
(Two Picturesque Ruins of Irish Fandom)

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from
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