

The question of how orbits can be established in binary or trinary suns is simply rubbish. There is a way and nature invariably finds it--for nature is as automatic as an adding machine in that way.

But the astronomers are busy, as usual, working things out in the most tortuous, complicated, and unnatural methods possible. Mathematics has so befogged the brains of these men that they have lost the ability to reason simply. And simplicity will prove the essence of all things.

No, I don't know what causes a nova. Neither do they. It doesn't matter in the least when discussing the origin of planets. Novae happen. They happen regularly. That is all that enters in this discussion.

Now the purblind astronomers have gotten around to admitting grudgingly the existence of a few non-solar planets. In time, in full time, they will come around to the Wollheim Nova Theory.

That may take them five, ten, twenty, or even fifty years. When they do, please to remember where you heard it first.

(Sept. 1944)

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EPISTLES OF ROBIN THE APOSTLE (III)

The Gholy man doth praise the Egg
And reads the Gholy Ghible
He fears not sin; he fears not hell:
To Phnaa ~~his~~ he is not liable.
(The Gholy Ghible)

Jan 1945

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first year of publication

PHANTASPHERE

the youngest fantasy fanzine

Founded in 1945 as Phantasphere. Not combined with The Fapa Fan, The New Hieroglyph, Ray, Adulux Beskan, or others including The Phantagraph.

Donald A. Wollheim; Editor & Publisher
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PHANTASPHERICS

In the course of publishing fan magazines, we suddenly felt the whim to put out a companion magazine to The Phantagraph. We combatted this urge at first--- then decided in the spirit of the FAPA, to go right ahead and bring out this sister magazinex, this new title which would have exactly the same policy and format as our old ~~xxxxxx~~ standby. So here is the first issue of Phantasphere. No apologies whatsoever. It will not be the last number, either. But it will not appear as often as its older Dawzine... Phantasphere, like The Phantagraph, will publish anything we darn please. Of course, mainly, almost always, with a fantasy twist somehow.

---DAW

NOVAS IN CLOVER

By Donald A. Wollheim

We are deriving a certain amount of mild amusement and mild irritation by perusal of various articles dealing with the problem of the creation of planets. A recent one in Astounding Science Fiction by the professional astronomer Richardson adds to this.

You see, some ten years ago, we expressed our opinion that the birth of planets is a natural by-product of the emergence of novae. That when a sun passes into the stage of internal explosion known as "nova", it casts off matter sufficient to create planets. That whether this matter falls back into the parent sun or wanders off forever into space is of no importance. For since there are dozens of novae today and have been countless millions in past aeons, all space is jammed full of loose particles of matter, of sizes from the tiniest meteoric pebble to huge Jupiter-sized chunks. And that no sun, however small, can long avoid capturing some of this junk.

Hence all suns have some sort of attendant bodies--even if only a few wispy comets. Almost all suns will have some attendants of planetary nature, even if only of asteroid size. Most Sol-sized bodies, whether single, binary, trinary, or what have you, will have at least one or two Mars-size bodies and probably lots more.