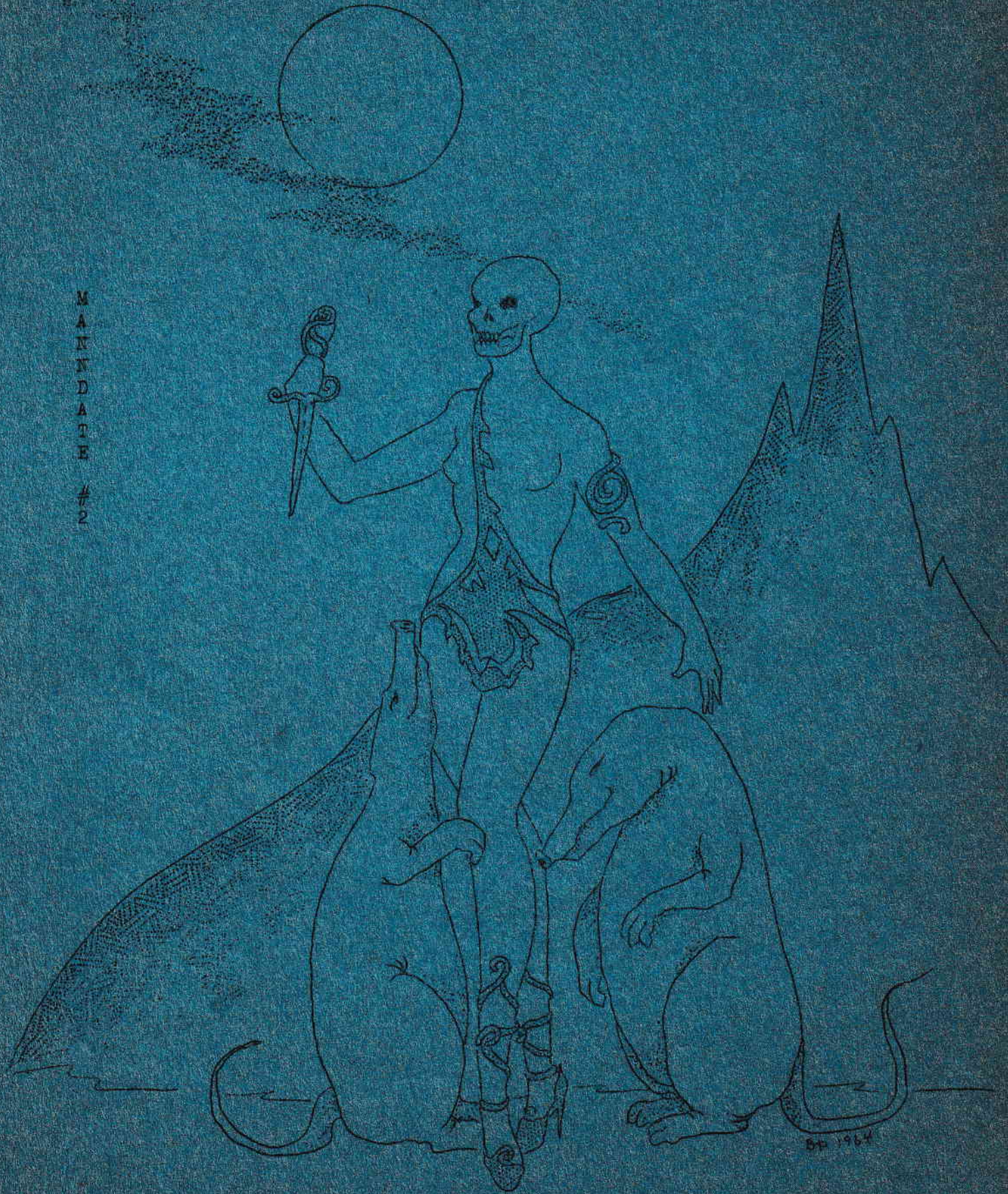


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8th 1964

MANNDATE #2 is a sort a fanzine thing published by Richard Mann, B331 Bryan Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48827. It is for the Southern Fandom Press Alliance Mailing 14 -- as a postmailing, unfortunately. The date is January, 1965, though the mailing was in December. This is ROMPress Publication --um, let me see, now-- Number 27, I think. I'm a bit confused about that right now, you see. This is available outside Our Little Group for, oh, say, 10¢ or the usual. Mimeography by Bruce Pelz this time around, and that lovely cover was done by Dian Pelz, and stencilled by the artist, thank heaven. Another Tinkertoy Colophon for Dave Locke...

Well, now. My face is red, and I have goofed. I hope this won't be my habit with the SFPA -- really I do. You see, it was like this...

Long ago, in September, my SFPA mailing came. It was my first from your group, and I liked it. I had some time, so I sat down to do a few mailing comments. I got four pages into them when it became time to leave for school. First thing I did was to pack up the stencils and take them along, in hopes of finishing them and mailing off the stencils to Bruce in time for the mailing. However, I forgot that I'd done them, and only about ten minutes ago did I discover them when getting ready to do an APA45zine. Today is December 27, and I presume that my December mailing will await me when I get back to Lansing. The only thing to be done, it seems to me, is to give this thing a cover and a page of explanatory editorializings and mail it off to the Pelzes for reproduction. Which I'm doing.

So now what do I do to fill up the page? Well, there was that first term at MSU to be discussed a bit, I suppose. I learned a good bit more about science fiction (you know, that greasy Buck Rogers stuff...) from my roommate, George Fergus. For instance, I'd always considered Doc Smith to be one of those lousy space opera writers. Come to find out the guy writes some of the best cuddy space opera I ever read. I have been converted. Anyone got any hardcover Lens books they want to sell cheap?

I also discovered people like Jack Williamson, who I'd always thought of as a pretty fair country writer. His space opera is much cornier than Doc's, but living with a live, breathing space opera fan has sort of deadened my critical faculties or something. I had to laugh my way through THE LEGION OF SPACE, but I did read it. And I enjoyed it. The next thing was those new Doc Savage novels, which, judging from the first one, are actually hilarious. Doc Savage, the mortal superman. What a nut...

As for school itself, I'm doing all right, if you call an expected straight B average all right. I have the most awful propensity for sleeping through my chemistry lectures, but I managed a B in the course, or perhaps even higher if I did as well on the final as I think I may have. And that one's an honors course, too. College life itself agrees with me, I'm happy to say, and I'm actually looking forward to going back and getting in the gfoove again. Coming home for Christmas has been a wonderful interlude, but I'm getting itchy fingers and such again, and it's time to go back to work. After I do my APA45, and SAPS fanzines, of course. First things first, you know.

And that about wraps it up. From the looks of it, you'll be seeing another page or two next mailing. No time now. Don't forget me in the mailing comments!

GRUNTLINGS

Actually, I wouldn't believe it myself if it weren't me that was doing the impossible. I got the 13th mailing this very morning, and now I'm embarking into that curious limbo of me writing nearly three months in advance. It won't last. Probably what will happen is that I'll get about three stencils cut, then have to leave for Michigan State (an event some 3 days in the future as I write this, and three months in the past as you read this), and then forget doing the rest of the zine until mid-November, when I'll be so snowed under with work that I'll not get a chance to finish it. We shall have to see, I guess.

The ever-lovin' name of this column, Gruntling, is a derivation of the word "disgruntled". One presumes that reading me's on your fanzine does just the opposite of disgruntling the happy SFPA faned, so therefore, folkzes, you is gruntled. And I'm the one who's gruntling you. See?

I have lots of things to say about the group, but I suppose that they can wait until I get around to ~~reading~~ writing it. It being the editorial that you've probably read awready. One bad thing about this doing the me's first....I'm afraid I'll use up everything that could go towards an editorial. (Editorial sounds so formal and ominous; can't somebody think of something else I could call it?)

THE SOUTHERNER 13 :: JOE, ol boy:: Goshwow, some 339 pages this time. That's a bunch for the SFPA; in fact, it's about par for N'APA, with twice the membership. Even SAPS doesn't do that much better than this. Goshwow.

I see that one Dave Hulan, fringish SFPAer, has been left off of the roster. Joe, I'd have thought you'd do that to Bill Plott instead, in return for him doing it to you last time. That would bring it up to a full 19 members, and you mentioned to me that Creath Thorne was considering joining, so he would make the full 20. Goshwow, a wl, even. I think I shall try to convince Al Scott to consider the SFPA, too. You'd like him. (Tell them, Len.)

Lessee now. 339 pages and 15 members contributing to the mailing.... Quick consultation with the trusty slide rule would seem to indicate that that comes to 22.6 pages per member represented in the mailing. Goshwow, fellas. (And gals, too. My favorite She-SAPSite is here too, now.) Even counting the temporary deadwood, that comes to nearly 17 pages each.

I see I'm listed with the new members where I belong. As you read last time, I'm a fake-southerner up Northside, and this is a great honor and privilege and like that. Glad to see Dian with us, too. I like her.....

No treasury report sounds ominous. Get with it, bhoys, as Al Andrews (the one and only, thank ghu) would say.

Nice that all one has to do is live in the South for a while to be a full-fledged SFPAer. Now that I'm in, you'll have a rough time getting me out. No matter where any SFPAer moves, he stays in...which is fair enough, I guess. I guess.

Yes, I guess the mailing coming a couple of days late is something of an improvement "over two moths". Two moths, you say. Yeh, I guess so. Those moths wouldn't make for such good reading, and probably would make short work of any envelope you tried to send them in. Yes, the mailing is definatèly superior. If you get stuck making it late again, don't send us any moths.

PHOENIX 9 :: Dave Locke :: Well, this makes two issues of this one for me. Thanks I guess. I won't go into any great length here in the mc's over this one since I wrote you a rather extensive LOC just the other day. Why dincha warn me, and I could have put it all here and had it in print, whereas you're rhather uncertain about the continuity of Nix. I'm sending my spare copy of thish out to some deserving neofan who'll pay the postage on it. If I can find one. What ever happened to the goshnow enthusiastic neofan like I was just this time last year. I used to write and send money for every fanzine reviewed in MANBOC -- and since I've been reviewed there twice, the best I've done is one measly sub. Sheest. Only recent neofan interested in becoming involved in all of fandom quick like I was is Al Scott. Ah, for the good ol days....

dol - drum #4 :: Dave again :: What means the esoteric notation in the colophon that says "Coral Edition #1"? I wonder about these fans who do these nutty things in their colophons. Like you.

My best writing (in letters mostly) comes after I've been at it for many long hours and get a bit punchy....not drunk, but just a bit light feeling. I get whimsical and publish a new fanzine just for the heck of it. (You realize that out of the twelve fanzines I've pubbed as of 22 September, 8 have had different titles? None has gone beyond #2. Yet. Now, by the time you read this, in December, that will have changed, of course.)

Aside to STATON, scoundrel: I can read most of this issue, but it's a struggle that just isn't worth it in a few places. Still, like you say, you're learning.

Naw, you should have called the zine "droll - dumb". Er... only kidding, there, Dave.... Simmer down, there. I didn't mean, not really, that you're either droll or dumb. Honest.... (That's just to make sure that no one mistakes my intentions there. These days, you've got to watch your step most carefully.)

OK, why the lower case letters? Everybody is doing it these days (Jamon knight, ee cummings, ee evers, rich brown, et. al.), and to the uninformed outsider, it just looks like simple affectation. Rich Brown says he does so as not to attract undue attention to himself.... Ahahahahaha, that's a laugh.

Well, it seems that even the ol SFPA is now getting crowded.... That leaves APA⁴⁵ uncrowded (only for a while, though) -- a shame you don't quite qualify for the honor of joining our ranks..... However, that doesn't necessarily go for the rest of you, you know....

I agree: circulate the egoboo poll in Decembers and save some inaccuracies thereupon. However, I do vote in these things, and like them considerably. I love to vote on things, fill out questionnaires, and like that. Just think of all the egoboo in it.... No, I've never yet been a member of a group that's had an egoboo poll while I was up for votes. I kinda think I'd like to get a few votes for this and that. We were discussing the business of fannish image (in our private correspondence), and this is one way for me to find out a bit of what they think I am. I have no idea how I come through in print, or even on typing paper. Give me time to become hardened, calloused, and jaded before I start to hate egoboo polls. (Haters of egoboo polls often place lower than they think they should.)

Well, you may be the only fan to ever take his typer with him into a bar, but I carried mine with me into a jet airplane for use while flying from San Juan, Puerto Rico, to New Orleans. I was too timid to really get it out and use it, though. A shame. The last Mandate was done while en route from New Orleans to North Dakota, and that was sort of a vacation. And I wrote letters from motels all the way. Someday I'm going to take along some stencils on one of our trips and write up a page or two every night. Should be a neat fanzine. Sort of a travelling one shot.

Finkel = Dien, and I positively dare you to figure that out;

Good ghrief...if you don't read, watch television, have time for the zines you've been publishing, read newspapers, or anything, just what do you do? If I could only pull myself away from the idiot box every once in a while.... But then that won't be hard once I get to college...the nearest tv watching room is down three elevatorless floors and outside into the weather for a 20 yards, and then around on the other end of another building. Whoosh. I think that the only thing will motivate George (roomie George Fergus, people) and I to get over there will be an occassional (so I can't spell...) OUTER LIMITS or two.

On the Dave Locke IQ Test, I scored an IQ of 249...I missed them all, thus proving superiour intelligence. (Evidenced by my superiour spelling....)

Bill Plott on Chuck White is amusing...in the extreme. I've often wanted to perpetrate a hoax on fandom, myself. Of course, Bill only fooled one university; that's nothing compared to a fannish hoax. How about it Dave, wanta work out a hoax or something to give fandom something to talk about? I'll be Breen, and you can be.....

ENDLESS SHADOW :: Dave Mitchell :: Goshwow, fellas, do we ever have a neo on our hands. (At least, he's a rank neo right now...by December I figure he'll either have picked up a few things, or gafiated.

Lessee, now... if you've found some way to get ditto by cutting stencils, I'd say you've discovered something pretty new.

However, Dave, welcome to fandom, and I hope you enjoy it. Most of us who aren't named Walter do.

The story lacks something...quality. Still, keep writing, and you'll improve. Practice makes perfect.

MANNDATE 1 :: Me :: Goshwow....Bruce came up with that wild paper for the covers. I kinda like it, and will request that he use the same stuff this time. I also notice that the old elite typer cut the stencil quite decently, while it hadn't done so on an older SAPSzine. I guess it was that typing plate I was trying. Now I've gona and lost the thing, so I'm not using it this time. Still, the stencils this time look pretty well cut,so I'll just have to wait and see what happens.

NOTHING 1 :: Me again :: I have about 150 of these still left... Any suggestions as what to do with them? I've put them into the mailings or postmailed them to all the apa's I'm in and around, and even that didn't use them all up. I suppose they'd make a nice enough bonfire....

EXCALIBUR 8 :: Len and Arnie :: My mailing didn't contain any copy of #7, so I've just sent to Joe to see if he can rectify the situation. I do have a copy of #7 from your N'APA postmailing, but I want my mailings complete in themselves.

D**n. I wish one of you guys would join the APA45 (or both, for that matter) and run EX there. It would also run up your apa totals, fellas.

Golly, you guys wrote this whole issue by yourselves. Except for the lettercol, that is. Still haven't read Athek's story, but I have read the rest. I guess your SAPS evaluation is good enough....but fellas, I was going to use SAPS for my next column in Benyo's GO..... I guess I could always use FAPA...

This is a fine issue, in spite of the fact that you didn't get any outside conribis. Somebody learned how to stencil artwork, and someone else learned how to cut stencils, and someone else learned how to run a mimeo, and it all makes for a good looking issue.

My favorite exhibit at the Worlds' Fair was the one that had all them ping-pong balls piled on top of it. There were several, in fact, scattered all over the Fairgrounds. Ping-pong balls meant food. That had hamburger stands under them.

