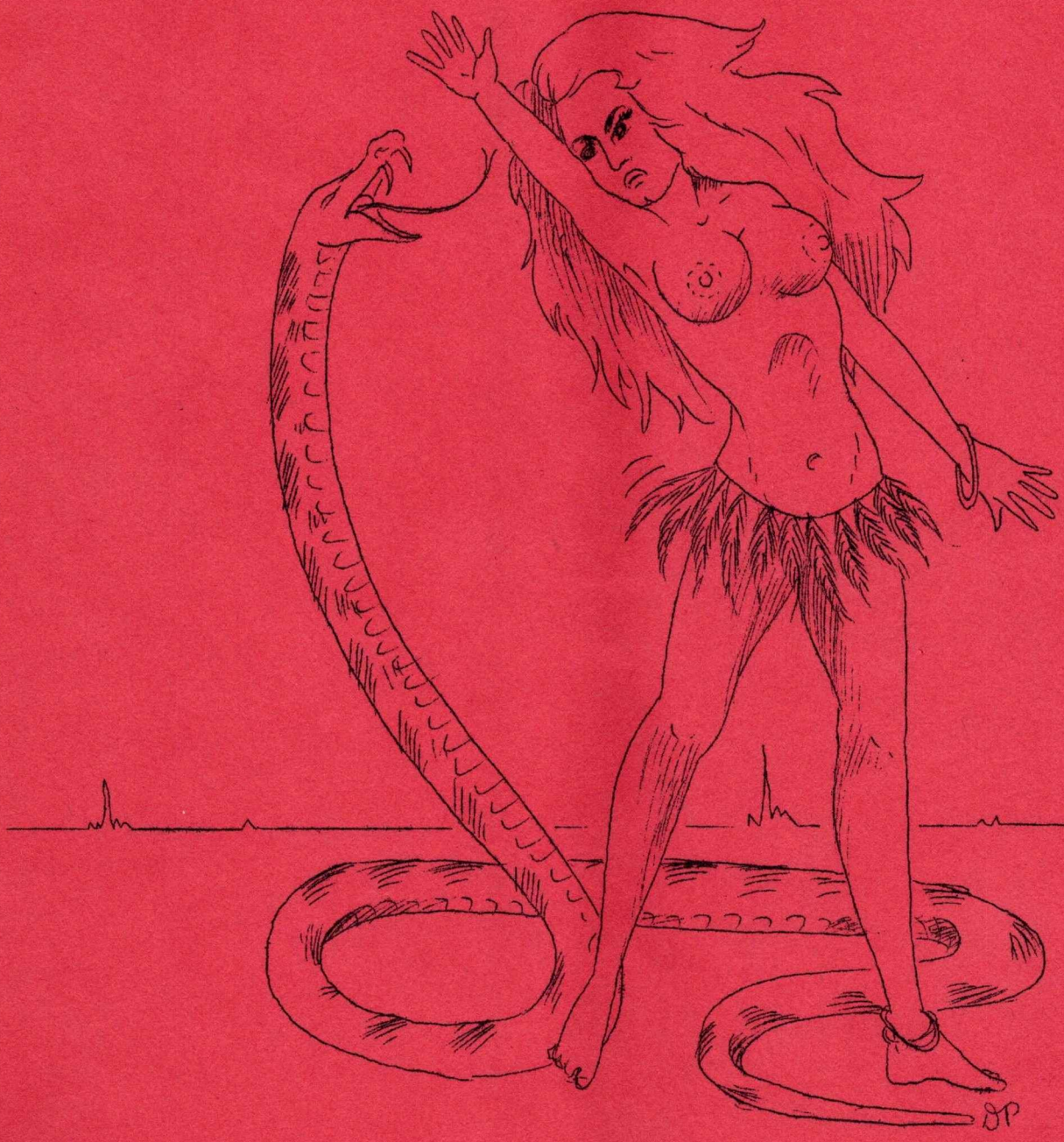


# RACHE



NAPA

# RACHE 23

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TOO MANY FANZINES is something I never thought I'd have, but right about now I am beginning to wonder... After the Tricon, Dian and I, together with Fred Hollander, another Los Angeles fan who'd been to the con, went to Detroit to pack and ship the Fanzine Foundation, a large collection that Alan J. Lewis (formerly of Michigan, now living in Portland) had assembled over about five years by purchasing collections. We knew the Foundation collection was large, but we didn't know how large. It took us an entire day to pack and ship it, and would have taken longer if it hadn't been already in boxes, most of which had tops of some kind. It weighed over 2100 pounds. We shipped 69 boxes in three loads, and took the three or four leftover boxes, which hadn't been tied up and addressed in time to make the last -- 4:30 p.m. -- shipment, with us in the car. It cost about \$40 to ship, even sending it via Library Rates (4¢ for the first pound in each box, 1¢ for each pound thereafter) to UCLA Library. I insured each box for the 20¢ minimum, and felt assured that the P.O. wouldn't lose them, even with the somewhat jury-rigged packing job we'd done.

I was right. A week after we sent them off, 60 of the boxes arrived at UCLA. (I had arranged with the delivery man to leave them on the loading dock instead of dragging them upstairs to the 8th floor and having me drag them down again). They were preceded by the 7 boxes (about 200 pounds) I had shipped from Seattle on our trip -- Toskey's collection of SAPS mailings and a box of mixed zines from Busby. (We'd also picked up about four boxes of zines at Roy Tackett's on the return trip.) And the final nine boxes showed up within the next few days.

We now have an apartment full of fanzines that will take a very long time to sort, checklist, and file. As we do them, the duplicates will be for sale, of course -- with the usual exorbitant prices. The collection has SAPS, FAPA, OMPA, and N'APA mailings in duplicate, as well as boxes of genzines, old and new. There was only one copy of SENSE OF FAPA (unless we missed something), and it's sold (\$10). There are at least two copies of the SAPS mailing with WHO KILLED SCIENCE FICTION, but those will also cost at least \$10 for the mailing, since a previous copy of the mailing already went for that price, and WHO KILLED is very difficult to locate. So send want lists, and I'll see what I can fill on them, and for how much.

Maybe I do have too many fanzines. I rather doubt it, of course. I'm buying another box of them from John Trimble, and I've got my eye on another couple collections that may be for sale, so.....

Oh, yes. I'm keeping the name of the Fanzine Foundation, services available to anyone interested: info on a fanzine or its contents available for a return pc or stamped addressed envelope. Xerox copies of fanzine items available for 15¢ a page (8½x11). And if you're in the L.A. area, you're welcome to use the collection -- under the usual library supervision and at hours convenient for the library, of course.

Anyone want to get rid of his or her collection.....?

AS FOR N'APA, it still seems to be going downhill. I think the primary reason is that all the APAs are hitting a slump right about now, as a result of there being too damn many of the things. A number of them are going to drop dead, others will simply have to cut back for a while until the field is ready again to support them.

I do not see N'APA having to fold. It's been going for over seven years now, and should have enough momentum to carry it over the slump. (Of course, if I did think it was dying I probably wouldn't say so for fear of being jumped by a pack of screaming 103% types...). I expect APAs such as ValAPA, APA 45, InterAPA, Stobcler, and APA L to go under within the year, but even there I may be wrong.

In addition to the problem of too many APAs, there is the additional problem of a number of the older members reaching toe don't-give-a-damn point. They find other things they'd like to do instead of publishing for the APAs -- this frequently happens following Worldcon time, by the way. I'm in such a mood myself, as a matter of fact. I'd really like to find more time for photography, Gilbert&Sullivan, and such -- plus some special fan projects. I considered throwing myself out of N'APA for lacktivity this time, even. -- I would still continue as Official Editor, as there has never been anything in the bylaws about the OE having to be a member of the organization. But I gave up the idea, in spite of the fact that I found it very amusing to contemplate. For one thing, being OE is quite a bit of work, and if I'm going to do that much work, I might as well do a little bit more and stay a member -- especially since I am the only Charter Member who has never dropped out. (For that matter, I've only missed one mailing since the APA started.)

If N'APA is to survive, we will have to have some new members to replace the dropouts. It would be nice if we had some good retread members too -- ones who have been in before but dropped out -- if they can be re-interested in N'APA. So it's really up to the present membership to try to dig up some new members -- and it won't be easy, with the NFFF itself in a slump and its publications highly erratic. But it can be done if you try.

THE IDEAL AGE for entry into fandom is an interesting subject for discussion. If one enters in mid-teens, the onslaught of college or the draft may gafiate him completely. If one enters too late, fandom may seem far too juvenile to hold his interest. If one enters fandom while in college, either grades or fanac will be poor. It's a puzzle.....

AS OF THIS DATE, no one has filed for the post of N'APA OE for the coming year, so I guess I'm OE again by default. This is all right with me this time, but I don't know about next time -- I may have spent 5 years as SAPS OE, and I may be trying for 5 years as FAPA OE (I just won my 4th term in a row), but I'm not sure I want to be N'APA OE quite that long. How about some of you applying next year? Being OE gives you a chance to get good copies of all zines -- or at least as good as possible; sometimes that's not too good. You get your mailing early, and you don't have to pay postage to get your zine to the OE. Also, you can do your zine at the very last minute -- all OE's do so. True, the job's a bit of work, but it does have to be done. How about it?

SPEAKING OF BEST COPIES OF ZINES, I had a strange experience with the next-to last issue of NIEKAS, which went through N'APA and also through FAPA. Out of the 46 N'APA copies, only 1 had the cover illo showing a bottom margin, so I took it for my mailing. Of the 68 FAPA copies, only 1 showed a bottom margin on the cover, so again I took it. I am assured by Felice that the illo was supposed to run off the bottom of the page, so my copies are incorrect. I prefer them, however, so I'm keeping them. But 1 in each batch being a goof-copy is quite a coincidence! See what you miss when you aren't OE?! .....Bruce Pelz