

January 29, 2005

**NEW, PULP-RELATED BOOKS AND PERIODICALS AVAILABLE FROM MICHAEL CHOMKO,
BOOKS for February 2005**

Greetings Pulp Fans,

Happy New Year to you all. I've been meaning to put out a new flyer for a couple of weeks, but something or other kept getting in the way. I am back in nursing school in what will, hopefully, be my last semester. I began critical care nursing about two weeks ago and should be getting ready for my first test, but books are part of my life too.

Although I shipped a good number of books in late December and early January, including the long-awaited COMPLIMENTS OF THE DOMINO LADY, January has been a fairly quiet month for new arrivals. Both Black Coat Press' ARTAHE: THE LEGACY OF JULES DE GRANDIN and Wheatland Press' ALL STAR ZEPPELIN ADVENTURE STORIES arrived around the end of this past week. I will be shipping them in the next few days. A new HIGH ADVENTURE and Bold Venture's SPIDER #7 also arrived. A sample of a very interesting item, a new fanzine about sword and sorcery, published by James Van Hise, was delivered just yesterday. You'll read more about it below.

Before moving to the new books, I'd like to remind you of the particulars. I offer a discount of approximately 10% on orders over \$20. The prices listed in my catalog are list prices (rounded to whole dollars). So your cost will be about 10% off the prices listed. Shipping is between \$2-6, depending on the weight of your order, as long as you are happy getting your order via media mail or bound printed matter. If you prefer UPS or priority mail, shipping will cost more. Shipping outside of the United States will also be more. I can take cash payments, but not credit card payments, through Paypal at chomko@enter.net. Checks and money orders can be sent to Michael Chomko, 2217 W. Fairview Street, Allentown, PA 18104-6542. If there's something that I don't list, please ask. There are many other publications available to me.

For up-to-date information on pulp-related items, I recommend you visit Bill Thom's "Coming Attractions" website. Bill updates his site on a weekly basis—Friday evenings, most of the time—and keeps abreast of the many new developments in the world of popular fiction. The address of his site is <http://members.cox.net/comingattractions/index.html>.

Mike Chomko

ADVENTURE HOUSE <http://adventurehouse.com/>

HIGH ADVENTURE #80 is now in stock. The lead story features the Green Lama battling "a monster who traffics in human misery." It is backed up by a story featuring the Crimson Mask, written by Norman Daniels, as well as a couple of yarns from the October 1942 issue of SPICY MYSTERY STORIES (one of them written by Robert Leslie Bellem" \$8

Forthcoming issues of HIGH ADVENTURE will feature Ki-Gor, the Jungle Lord, Frederick Painton's "The Conquest of America," and the first Dan Fowler story from G-MEN, a Thrilling pulp that played on the popularity of J. Edgar Hoover's FBI in Depression era America.

G-8 AND HIS BATTLE ACES #15 is also in stock. It features one of the best of the "Flying Spy's" adventures, "The Blizzard Staffel." \$10

Adventure House will also be starting its own line of pulp replicas. The first three announced are SAUCY MOVIE TALES for July 1936, with cover art by Norman Saunders, and two issues of SPICY MYSTERY STORIES—the May 1936 issue with a cover by H. J. Ward and the February 1938 number with a cover by Parkhurst. No date has been set for the release of this new line of pulp replicas, but they will be printed on acid-free paper and will cost \$15. Please let me know if you would like me to reserve any for you.

BATTERED SILICON DISPATCH BOX

<http://www.batteredbox.com/>

The only news from Battered Silicon is that the Gadget Man collection that Will Murray is compiling will be delayed. In early January, Will sent me an email stating that the project will not be ready for the spring of 2005. In the meantime, I will soon be restocking Battered Silicon's various "Lost Treasures from the Pulp." If there is a particular title in which you are interested—one of the books currently available—please let me know and I will be sure to order a copy. As these books are expensive, I do not maintain a lot of extra stock.

BLACK COAT PRESS

<http://www.blackcoatpress.com/aboutus.htm>

As mentioned above, ARTAHE: THE LEGACY OF JULES DE GRANDIN by Philippe Ward; translated by David Kirshbaum is now available. However, I believe all but one of my copies is already spoken for. The price is \$23.

Coming in the spring will be ARGENE LUPIN VS. SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE BLONDE PHANTOM, a translation of Maurice LeBlanc's 1906 thriller by Jean-Marc and Randy Lofficier. In this story, the gentleman burglar matches wits with Sherlock Holmes in a deadly duel over the legendary "Blue Diamond." Also featured in the volume is the 1907 Lupin-Holmes novella, "The Jewish Lamp," and a new Lupin-Holmes story. \$21.

BLACK MASK ONLINE

<http://www.blackmask.com/page.php>

I honestly don't know how this guy gets away with putting out DOC SAVAGE books, but he claims that he has contacted Conde Nast about his line of books and they have not ask him to stop. Black Mask reprints two stories in a trade paperback. I believe fourteen are now available, beginning with THE MAN OF BRONZE and THE LAND OF TERROR. Some of the interior illustrations from the original pulps are also reproduced. If anyone is interested, please let me know and I will see if I can set up an account with this instant publisher.

BLOOD 'N THUNDER

<http://www.geocities.com/poppub/>

Ed Hulse is hoping to have the ninth issue of his fine magazine on pulps, movies, and radio ready for release in the month to come. It will feature Albert Tonik on the Lone Ranger, Alfred Jan on "the Surgeon of Souls" (a Robert Leslie Bellem series that ran in SPICY MYSTERY STORIES), Will Murray on gangster pulp specialist Anatole Feldman, and Anthony Tollin writing about a newly discovered SHADOW movie from 1931. All the other fine features you have come to expect will also be available in the new issue. More details will follow when I learn then.

BOLD VENTURE PRESS

<http://members.aol.com/boldventurepress/>

As mentioned above, both COMPLIMENTS OF THE DOMINO LADY (\$15) and SPIDER #7—"Serpent of Destruction" (\$10)—are on hand.

Scheduled for release in March 2005 will be SPIDER #8—"The Mad Horde"—while "Satan's Death Blast" (the ninth SPIDER) is due for May 2005.

COPPERVALE

<http://www.coppervaleinternational.com/>

ARGOSY QUARTERLY will be appearing in the spring of 2005. I am unsure if it will be available in two states as was the last issue, but it will definitely be appearing in its slipcase format. Designed and edited by James A Owen, the first volume of the new issue will be 144 pages, while the second part—featuring the start of a serial by John Grant, "The Dragons of Manhattan"—will be 112 pages long. It will be printed in Sepia ink on heavy Ivory stock, to better present the line art of illustrator Bill Sienkiewicz. In addition to the Grant serial, there will be stories by Richard Lupoff, Steve Rasic Tem, Marly Youmans, Jim Fusilli, Zoran Zivkovic, Charles Coleman Finlay, and Chris Nakashima-Brown. There will also be an article on the death of John Dillinger, written by William F. Nolan.

CRIPPEN & LANDRU

<http://www.crippenlandru.com/>

My copies of BYLINE: MICKEY SPILLANE have arrived. Next out is Margaret Millar's THE COUPLE NEXT DOOR, a collection of short mysteries (with just two from the pulps). Keith Deutsch is hoping to have the Paul Cain BLACK MASK collection ready in the early part of this year. That's one I'm really looking forward to.

DARKSIDE PRESS/MIDNIGHT HOUSE

<http://www.darksidepress.com/index.html>

I am still awaiting my copies of HORRIBLE IMAGININGS, the new Fritz Leiber collection, but I believe it will soon be on its way. Midnight House's other Leiber titles quickly went out of print, so please don't hesitate on this one. All of John Pelan's Darkside Press/Midnight House books come with my highest recommendation—good stories in a high quality format. The price of HORRIBLE IMAGININGS is \$45. Coming up next, the first of THE STORIES OF CLIFFORD D. SIMAK—ETERNITY LOST AND OTHER STORIES.

DEL REY BOOKS

<http://www.randomhouse.com/delrey/>

According to Bill Thom, Del Rey's forthcoming collection of Robert E. Howard's Bran Mak Morn stories will feature a previously unpublished and untitled Howard story as well as artwork that did not appear in the original Wandering Star edition. It will be available as a trade paperback for \$16 in May 2005.

GIRASOL COLLECTABLES

<http://www.girasolcollectables.com/>

My January order from Girasol has been inexplicably delayed. My apologies to all of you who had requested replicas from me. I'm hoping they will be here in the coming week. Here is what is new for January.

OPERATOR #5 for April 1934, featuring "The Masked Invasion," written by Frederick Davis (as Curtis Steele). America's Secret Service Ace will be alternating with two of Girasol's SPIDER replicas throughout 2005. \$35

SPICY DETECTIVE STORIES for April 1934, the first issue of this popular pulp magazine and the only one NOT to feature a Dan Turner story. It does, however, include Robert Leslie Bellem's "The Shanghia Jester," as well as stories by Norman Daniels and others. \$25

WEIRD TALES for July 1925, featuring Robert E. Howard's first story for "the Unique Magazine," "Spear and Fang." Also featured are H. Warner Munn's "The Werewolf of Ponkert," H. P. Lovecraft's "The Unnamable," and stories by Henry S. Whitehead, E. Hoffmann Price, Seabury Quinn, Eli Colter, and many others. \$35

Please remember that Girasol keeps all of its replicas in print. So if you'd like one of their previous reproductions, please ask and I will be glad to add it to my order.

HIPPOCAMPUS PRESS

<http://www.hippocampuspress.com/>

M. P. Shiel's THE HOUSE OF SOUNDS and the Robert Price's new collection of Lovecraftian-inspired stories, TALES OUT OF DUNWICH, have both been delayed. They will hopefully be out in a short time.

ILLUSTRATION

<http://illustration-magazine.com/>

I still have plenty of copies left of ILLUSTRATION 12 for \$9, featuring a wonderful article on pulp great, Robert G. Harris. Slated for the next issue (set for release in March 2005) are articles on Alex Schomburg, John R. Neill, W. T. Benda, and more. Don't miss out on a single issue of this wonderful magazine, which comes with my highest recommendation.

COMIC ART #7 will soon be shipping. It features articles on Harvey Kurtzman, Krazy Kat, Dutch underground comics, and more. The cost is \$9. For more information visit <http://www.comicartmagazine.com/index.html>

LEISURE BOOKS

<http://www.dorchesterpub.com/>

Coming in March will be a collection of three James Gheraldi stories by Max Brand—SMOKING GUNS—for \$6. Also in March will be THE WHITE FEATHER, three novellas by Cliff Farrell, who turned out many fine stories for DIME WESTERN, STAR WESTERN, and other pulps. It will cost \$5. April will bring TERROR STALKS THE BORDER, featuring two stories by Bradford Scott, one featuring Jim Hatfield and the other Walt Slade. It will cost \$6.

Leisure has many other fine pulp Westerns available by authors such as Todhunter Ballard, Frank Bonham, Walt Coburn, Dane Coolidge, Dan Cushman, Peter Dawson, H. A. DeRosso, T. T. Flynn, Bennett Foster, Steve Frazee, Zane Grey, Ernest Haycox, Alan LeMay, D. B. Newton, Nelson Nye, Wayne D. Overholser, Lewis B. Patten, Les Savage, Jr., and Gordon D. Shirreffs. Please visit their website for further details or drop me a line to see what is available.

Leisure will also be resuming their "Hard Case Crime" series in March. Coming up is Day Keene's HOME IS THE SAILOR, published for the first time in nearly forty years. It is considered to be Keene's finest novel. Allan Guthrie's KISS HER GOODBYE, a new novel about a strong arm who sets out to administer his own brand of justice. Leisure's "Hard Case Crime" volumes are available for \$7.

Two other Leisure Books of interest are their collections of the fiction of William F. Nolan. DARK UNIVERSE and NIGHT WORLDS are both available for \$7.

NECRONOMICON PRESS

<http://www.necropress.com/>

A new edition of S. T. Joshi's H. P. LOVECRAFT: A LIFE is now available. It is a trade paperback, 708 pages long, and will retail for \$30. S. T. Joshi—the leading authority on Lovecraft—has gone back to primary sources to set the record straight on the many-faceted "gentleman from Providence." Joshi looks at Lovecraft's early interests in science, mythology, and literature; his involvement in the "amateur journalism" movement; his towering presence in the pulp magazines of the 1920s and the fantasy fandom of the 1930s; and the posthumous rescue of his work by friends and devotees. Along the way, Joshi probes the literary, philosophical, cultural, and historical forces that shaped Lovecraft's work and thought, provides capsule portraits of his close friends and colleagues, and studies the growth and development of all aspects of his creative work. Written from a sympathetic but critical perspective, Joshi's biography dispels many of the myths about Lovecraft the man and wins new converts to his distinctive literary work. A classic work of biography, I am still waiting to hear from Necronomicon about setting up an account with them. In the meantime, please let me know if you'd like me to reserve a copy for you.

NESFA PRESS

<http://www.nesfa.org/press/>

YEARS IN THE MAKING: THE TIME TRAVEL STORIES OF L. SPRAGUE DE CAMP has been released. The price is \$25. de Camp was a master of the time travel and alternate history story. In many respects his novel LEST DARKNESS FALL founded alternate history, while "Aristotle and the Gun" is probably one of the best stories about tinkering with history ever written. Also included are "The Wheels of If," "Balsamo's Mirror," "The Gnarly Man," "A Gun for Dinosaur," "The Isolinguals and de Camp's wonderful essay "Language for Time-Travelers." This is a collection of L. Sprague de Camp's SF best stories and essays dealing with time travel. It is the first volume of a projected series of stories and novels by L. Sprague de Camp.

HEMLOCKING AND OTHER STORIES: THE COMPLETE SOLO SHORT SF OF JUDITH MERRIL is forthcoming around the middle of February. The cost will be \$29. In addition to the title story, it will reprint twenty-five other tales, including the classic from 1948, "That Only a Mother." The bulk of the stories to be included are from the late forties and early fifties.

I will probably wait until the Merrill book is available before placing my order for the de Camp volume. I will also be ordering NESFA'S recent volumes on E. E. Smith, Jack Speer's FANCESTRAL VOICES, and a few other titles at this time. If there's another NESFA volume you'd like, please let me know so I can add it to my order.

I still have a few NESFA collections available from my inventory reduction sale. Most of these are available for about 30-35% off their original price. If you're interested, please drop me a line for further details.

RAINONE (ALMOND PRESS)

<http://www.popularfiction.us/index.html>

Joe Rainone has announced the start of a new series that will examine early popular fiction in the story papers, dime novels, and other predecessors to the pulps. His first volume, ART & HISTORY of AMERICAN POPULAR FICTION SERIES, is about Frank Reade, Jr. and features all the cover and interior art from the dime novel series, THE FIVE CENT WIDE AWAKE LIBRARY and other publications Frank first appeared. All told there are more than 120 images plus a "lost" short story entitled "Frank Reade's Christmas in the Air." According to Rainone, Frank Reade was the first in American fiction to get his own series and was a forerunner of early science fiction. The book features a full color cover with black & white interiors on glossy paper for better quality and resolution. Perfect bound, 8.5 X 11, the book retails for \$20. I have not seen this volume and don't have any copies available at this time. I'm listing it here to see if there is enough interest for me to stock it. If there is, I will get in touch with Almond Press to see if I can set up an account with them.

SEELE-BRENT

<http://www.seele-brennt.com/>

The following volumes are all forthcoming. I don't have dates yet for these, but I'm hoping they won't be too long.

THE DARK MAN: THE JOURNAL OF ROBERT E. HOWARD STUDIES #8 will feature articles on Howard's Gothic and Texas influences, Don Herron's THE BARBARIC TRIUMPH, the influence of Imperialism on pulp authors, and others features. It will cost \$8.

LOST WORLDS: THE JOURNAL OF CLARK ASHTON SMITH STUDIES #2 will feature articles on the Atlantis theme in Smith's fiction, Smith collections in the San Francisco Bay region, symbolism in his poetry, and more. It will cost \$7.

STUDIES IN FANTASY LITERATURE #3 will feature an interview with Tim Powers, an article on the nature of fantasy, a critical study by Brian Stableford, and other pieces. It will cost \$7.

According to publisher, Nick Curtis, a second printing of THE HOWARD COMPANION #1 will be available in the spring. I quickly sold out of my copies and so did the publisher. Hopefully, those who missed it will not have to wait too long for this new printing.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

<http://www.press.uchicago.edu/>

TRANSFORMATIONS: VOLUME 2 IN THE HISTORY OF THE SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE, 1950-1970 will be available in Spring 2005. Science fiction historian Mike Ashley brings his unparalleled knowledge to bear on the period from the beginning of the Cold War through the end of the 1960s, an era of tremendous change in the writing of and the marketplace for science fiction. Ashley begins his story with the decline of the pulp magazines at the end of the 1940s and their replacement by new digest-sized and glossy magazines. That switch, and the increased respectability that came with it, coincided with a true golden age of science fiction writing in the early 1950s, with such giants of the genre as Isaac Asimov, Philip K. Dick, Frank Herbert, and Harlan Ellison all publishing regularly in a wide range of such magazines. However, as Ashley shows, by the end of the decade, sales had slumped, all but six of the science fiction magazines had folded, and the future looked bleak—until the surprising rebirth of the genre through the work of British writers Michael Moorcock and J. G. Ballard. Ashley also considers how the popularity of Star Trek and the movie version of 2001: A Space Odyssey influenced the future of the science fiction magazine. TRANSFORMATIONS will cost \$28.

VAN HISE

James Van Hise, who has done many fine book-length collections about the pulps, is back with a new publication, *SWORD & FANTASY*. Eighty pages long, stapled together with glossy, card-stock covers featuring art by Roy G. Krenkel, the first issue contains articles on the Wandering Star/Robert E. Howard Panel at the 2002 San Diego Comicon, Karl Edward Wagner's Kane, Gil Kane's Blackmark, and Howard's "Valley of the Worm." There's also a section of indexes on Robert E. Howard fanzines such as *LONE STAR FICTIONEER*, *TWO-GUN RACONTEUR*, and others. A wide variety of artists are also featured, including Gary Gianni, Gil Kane, George Barr, Richard Corben, Mark Schultz, Gene Day, Steve Fabian, Ron Wilber, Hugh Rankin, and others. "In Memorium: Robert E. Howard" is also reprinted from the classic *FANTASY MAGAZINE*, published in 1936 by Julius Schwartz and edited by Schwartz, Ray Palmer, and Forrest J. Ackerman. The cost of the first issue of *SWORD & FANTASY* is \$12. Please let me know if you'd like me to reserve a copy for you.

James' *FANTASTIC WORLDS OF CLARK ASHTON SMITH*, has been delayed. I don't have any word as to when it will appear.

WILDSIDE PRESS

<http://www.wildsidepress.com/>

Wildside continues its series of pulp facsimiles with a reprint of the February 1940 issue of *SINISTER STORIES*—the first issue of this classic weird-menace magazine. *SINISTER STORIES* was a short-lived pulp, published by Popular Publications, designed to thrill and titillate through a mix of suspense, science fiction, bondage, nudity, and grisly horror. Stories such as "Brides of the Half-Men," "Satan's Studio of Sin," and "White Flesh Must Rot" are surely masterpieces of over-the-top pulp writing! The cost is \$20.

H. P. LOVECRAFT'S MAGAZINE OF HORROR #2 is now available in both a newsprint edition (\$6) and bookpaper edition (\$15). Edited by Marvin Kaye, it includes fiction by Richard Matheson, Tanith Lee, Ray Russell, and others. It also includes a bonus novel, Robert Chambers "The Slayer of Souls." I'm not certain, but the bonus novel may only be in the bookpaper edition. However, it is not listed that way on the publisher's website. So I will have to check to be sure.

CONAN'S WORLD by Darrell Schweitzer is a review of Conan's career, from his early beginnings as a mercenary, to the epic battles which resulted in his conquest of Aquilonia. It is available in softcover for \$10.

Coming around the middle of February is Wildside's second volume of Robert E. Howard's stories for *WEIRD TALES*. Entitled *THE MOON OF SKULLS*, it will feature "Skull-Face," "The Fearsome Touch of Death" (its first appearance in hardback), "The Moon of Skulls," "Hills of the Dead," "The Voice of El-Lil", and four of Howard's poems for "The Unique Magazine." The volume will collect Howard's *WEIRD TALES* work from October 1929 through November 1930 plus one of his tales from *ORIENTAL STORIES*. *THE MOON OF SKULLS* will be available in hardcover for \$35 and will be limited to 1200 copies.

Wildside's earlier Howard collections—*COMPLETE ACTION STORIES* (\$20), *GRAVEYARD RATS* (\$17), *WATERFRONT FISTS* (\$20)—are now available in trade paperback. The prices are as noted.

Forthcoming volumes in Wildside's "Pulp Classics" series will include work by H. Bedford-Jones, Arthur Friel (nine stories from *ADVENTURE* from 1919-1921), J. Allan Dunn, Robert Leslie Bellem, Murray Leinster, Max Brand, and many others. Wildside will also be releasing another collection of the work of Clark Ashton Smith. *THE WHITE SYBIL*, a hardcover limited to 700 copies, is slated for release in June and is expected to cost \$30. Finally, the next issue of *STRANGE TALES* (issue number 9) will be available in both bookpaper (\$12.50) and newsprint (\$6). This is a continuation of the classic Clayton pulp. It is hoped that the magazine will then continue on a quarterly basis. Wildside also plans to release facsimiles of all the original pulp issues.

41 *ABOVE THE REST: AN INDEX AND CHECKLIST FOR THE ANTHOLOGIES OF GROFF CONKLIN*, compiled by Bud Webster, is available for \$10. According to author and editor, Barry Malzberg, "Conklin was the most important science fiction anthologist through the years of the genre's true second generation, that point at

which its previously magazine-bound masterpieces were being systematically located, aligned and placed into permanent format. His contribution over the period of two decades was irreplaceable and all of our postwar history exists in the penumbra of his work. Bud Webster has in this index granted an act of scholarship and homage of equal irreplaceability.”