

New pulp-related books and periodicals available from Michael Chomko, Books for June 2005

Although there are not many new books to write about, there has been a big change in my life. One week ago, I graduated from nursing school. Around mid-July, I'll be starting a paid internship in the operating room of a nearby hospital. In the meantime, I have plenty of studying to do. Before I become a registered nurse, I have to pass a licensing exam. Like other professional exams, the test to become a registered nurse is quite difficult. So I have my work cut out for me.

My son, Peter, will be joining his dad as a graduate in another week. He'll be finishing high school in the next few days. He plans to attend Temple University in the fall. In the meantime, he'll be attending Pulpcon with his dad come July.

On a sad note, Shawn Danowski, who penned numerous articles on the pulps and old-time radio for ECHOES, PURPLE PROSE, and other fanzines, passed away on May 16, following a long illness. Shawn was a wonderful writer and human being and will certainly be missed.

Before moving to the new books, I'd like to remind you that 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.

Finally, for up-to-date information on new pulp releases—many of them carried by yours truly—please visit Bill Thom's COMING ATTRACTIONS website at <http://members.cox.net/comingattractions/index.html>

Mike Chomko
June 5, 2005

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

The sixth Adventure House pulp replica, reprinting SPICY ADVENTURE STORIES for September 1941, with a science-fiction cover by H. J. Ward and fiction by Bellem, Merrill, and others has been received. Forthcoming pulp replicas will include MYSTERY TALES for December 1939 with a cover by J. W. Scott; HIGH SEAS ADVENTURES for February 1935 with a cover by Sidney Riesenber; and SPICY DETECTIVE STORIES for June 1938 with a cover by H. J. Ward. I currently have all six Adventure House pulp reprints in stock. They cost \$15 each.

BAEN BOOKS <http://www.baen.com/>

Coming later in June is a collection of stories by Murray Leinster—A LOGIC NAMED JOE. Featuring altruistic space pirates, nuclear-powered djinn, a time-traveling kangaroo and more, this collection includes three complete short novels of humorous adventure plus three short stories including the title yarn, an uncannily prophetic story of home computers and the Internet—written in 1946. In “The Pirates of Zan,” a young man is accused and jailed unjustly. He is given a secret offer—in return for help in escaping, he must shake up the galactic establishment, which is getting dangerously set in its ways. He succeeds beyond anyone's wildest expectations, seemingly becoming a space pirate, but being in reality, the deadliest do-gooder in the galaxy. In “Gateway to Elsewhere,” the world of the Arabian Nights is real, including very powerful and dangerous djinns, who are nothing like Aladdin's big blue pal. A man from our world wouldn't have a chance against them . . . or would he? In “The Duplicators,” a planet where everyone has a machine that can duplicate anything would be the wealthiest world in the galaxy, right? Wrong. And unless the hapless voyager who's trapped on the planet can find a solution to its problem, his voyaging will be over—permanently. Including stories originally published in the 30s through the 60s in ASTOUNDING and elsewhere, A LOGIC NAMED JOE is a paperback priced at \$8.

BATTERED SILICON DISPATCH BOX <http://www.batteredbox.com/>

There's still no sign of THE MAGICAL MYSTERIES OF THE GREEN GHOST. I've emailed George Vanderburgh and asked him to expedite my order. I'm hoping I'll have to books before the end of June.

BISON BOOKS

<http://nebraskapress.unl.edu/>

I've restocked Bison's Howard collections in both hardcover and trade paperback. However, they are disappearing rather quickly.

BLACK COAT PRESS

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

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, the famous 1911 novel by Gaston Leroux, has been entirely retranslated by Jean-Marc and Randy Lofficier and is now available in an unabridged edition. Also included is a new story about Erik by the Lofficiers and a portfolio of 45 new black-and-white illustrations by famous international artists. It is available as a trade paperback for \$25.

BLACK DOG BOOKS

Still no sign of Tom Roberts' latest pulp reprints—THE CRIMSON BLIGHT and THRILLING ADVENTURES: TALES OF THE JUNGLE. Tom was moving to a new home which probably accounts for the delay

BLOOD 'N' THUNDER

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

Coming in late July is THE BLOOD 'N' THUNDER GUIDE TO COLLECTING PULPS, a trade paperback, written by Ed Hulse. How does one determine which pulps are worthwhile, or how much they are worth? The BLOOD 'N' THUNDER GUIDE TO COLLECTING PULPS addresses these questions by outlining the scope of the field and identifying, genre by genre, the most desirable issues of the hottest titles. In this informative volume you'll learn everything you need to know about assembling a pulp-magazine collection, whether you're interested in obtaining a smattering of representative titles or building a comprehensive library. It will cost \$20. The summer issue of BLOOD 'N' THUNDER should be appearing in August.

BOLD VENTURE PRESS

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

SPIDER #8, reprinting "The Mad Horde" from May 1934, has not yet appeared. I have no word at this time when it will be released.

DARKSIDE PRESS/MIDNIGHT HOUSE

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

Next up is the first volume of Midnight House's collected short stories of Clifford Simak. Edited by Phil Stephenson-Payne, the first book of the series will feature approximately 125,000 words and present a mix of the well-known and the obscure. Limited to 500 copies, ETERNITY LOST & OTHER STORIES will be available for \$45. I currently do not have a release date for this volume.

Forthcoming volumes from Darkside Press are MY ROSE AND MY GLOVE, a collection by Harvey Jacobs, and STAR CHANGES, a collection of Clark Ashton Smith's science fiction. Forthcoming titles from Midnight House are THING OF DARKNESS, a collection of tales by WEIRD TALES writer G. G. Pendarves, and DARKER TIDES, by Eric Frank Russell, well-known for his science fiction.

DEL REY BOOKS

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

BRAN MAK MORN: THE LAST KING should be shipping this week. A trade paperback, written by Robert E. Howard and illustrated by Gary Gianni, it will cost \$16.

FLESK PUBLICATIONS

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

Coming in July will be MARK SHULTZ: VARIOUS DRAWINGS, VOLUME 1. It will be available as a trade paperback for \$20 or a limited hardcover for \$30. There will be 500 copies of the latter. See last month's newsletter for further details.

GIRASOL COLLECTABLES

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

June brings three more Girasol replicas. The covers will soon be available at the publisher's website.

SPICY ADVENTURE STORIES #28 for January 1937 features "Murderer's Grog," by Robert E. Howard (writing as Sam Walsler). Also featured in the issue are stories by Robert Leslie Bellem, Hugh Cave (writing as Justin Case), and others. This replica costs \$25.

THE SPIDER #12 for September 1934 features the Norvel W. Page novel, "Reign of the Silver Terror." Also appearing in the issue is a Doc Turner story by Arthur Leo Zagat as well as a tale by Emile Tepperman. This replica costs \$35. Coming next month is the third OPERATOR #5 novel.

WEIRD TALES #8 for November 1923 is another of the bedsheet issues. It features stories by John D. Swain, J. Paul Suter, Oscar Schisgall, Farnsworth Wright, Sonia Greene, Edgar Allan Poe, Seabury Quinn, and others. The cover is by Washburn. This replica costs \$35.

HARPER COLLINS

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

THE BRADBURY CHRONICLES: THE LIFE OF RAY BRADBURY is a biography of the author written by Sam Weller. Ray Bradbury is an American literary icon, an architect of wonders whose life has been as fascinating, momentous, and inspiring as his fiction, which has enthralled millions of readers the world over for more than six decades. Born Rae Douglas Bradbury on August 22, 1920, in Waukegan, Illinois, he displayed an affinity for the fantastic at an early age -- spending hours at the local movie theater, fighting his fear of the dark to escape into glorious made-up worlds. Though he once dreamed of becoming an actor, writing was his true calling, and he remained resolute in his art throughout his early adult years despite numerous rejections -- finally breaking through with publications of his horror and fantasy stories in the "pulp" magazines of the forties. It was not long before he ascended to a higher literary plane, creating the acclaimed works that would solidify his place as one of the most important and influential authors of the twentieth century. THE BRADBURY CHRONICLES is, at once, a poignant love story, an inspiring tale of struggle and accomplishment, and a spellbinding record of an extraordinary era in America's history and the man who helped define it. Here is Ray Bradbury—dreamer, author, humanist, poet, innovator—a one-of-a-kind literary force of nature whose extraordinary life can now be celebrated along with the enduring masterworks with which he has graced the world. The cost is \$27.

HIPPOCAMPUS PRESS

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

I'm expecting my copies of Hippocampus' H. P. LOVECRAFT: LETTERS TO REINHART KLEINER and M. P. Shiel's THE HOUSE OF SOUNDS AND OTHERS to arrive this week. Each of these two volumes is priced at \$20. The Robert M. Price anthology, TALES OUT OF DUNWICH, is currently scheduled for release in late June. Unfortunately, it does not appear as if I'll have copies available for Pulpcon.

ILLUSTRATION

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

The fourteenth issue will be released in July. It will feature an article on the works of legendary illustrator John W. Scott, known primarily for his violent and sadistic pulp magazine covers of the 1930s, and for his later career as a slick magazine artist. Scott's work for the terror pulps was so deranged and violent that the images are still shocking today! The article will be profusely illustrated with scores of never-before-seen artwork, rare magazine covers, and photographs. Also featured this issue will be the work of A. Leslie Ross, most famous for his pulp illustrations and magazine covers. The article will feature beautiful reproductions of rare original paintings and scores of pulp and paperback covers, drawn from the artist's personal archives. Rounding out the issue will be a piece on John R. Neill, book reviews, a guide to events and exhibitions, and much more. Eighty pages long, ILLUSTRATION 14 will be available for \$9.

LEISURE BOOKS

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

A collection of three short novels by Peter Dawson will be available this month. FORGOTTEN DESTINY is vintage Dawson—well known for his classic style and action-packed stories. It will cost \$6.

Coming in July from “Hard Case Crime” will be Wade Miller's BRANDED WOMAN and Peter Pavia's DUTCH UNCLE. Still available is David Dodge's highly entertaining PLUNDER OF THE SUN, a mystery-adventure novel featuring private eye Al Colby. It originally appeared in the April 1949 issue of BLUE BOOK. The cost is \$7.

LULU.COM

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

For the last few months, I've been buying some of the books offered through this publishing service for customers who lack computers. A couple of them have asked for some of the books being published by Jerry Schneider. Unfortunately, Jerry will only sell direct, so I can't discount his volumes (or any Lulu.com books). However, if you'd like anything available through this website, just let me know and I'll add it to my order. The books I'll be ordering include the following:

THE RALPH MILNE FARLEY COLLECTION, BOOK ONE features “The Immortality of Alan Whidden” (a time travel story), “City of Lost Souls” (a Foreign Legion tale set on Mars), and “Who Killed Gilbert Foster?” (a detective tale). Also included is a short biography from ARGOSY. Illustrated and available for \$11 plus shipping with no discount.

THE RALPH MILNE FARLEY COLLECTION, BOOK TWO which “Pe-Ra, Daughter of the Sun,” “The House of Ecstasy,” “Holy City of Mars,” “The Invisible Bomber,” “The 'Rexmel,’” “Wish I Had Written That,” plus two “Meet the Authors” biographies from AMAZING STORIES and a fictional biography of his pen-name, Lieut. John Pease. Fully. Illustrated with the original magazine artwork and available for \$11 plus shipping with no discount.

Another Lulu title that I've had requested is Wildcat Books' THE HOUNDS OF HELL by Ron Fortier and Gordon Linzner. This is the long-awaited meeting of the Moon Man and Doctor Satan! This hero and villain from the old pulp magazines finally cross paths in a full-length novel of thrilling adventure and fantastic perils! This is a book that no pulp fan can be without, a definite collector's item! Illustrated by Rob Davis and Bradley Walton, with a stunning wrap-around cover painting by Thomas Floyd, this is pulp fiction at it's finest... It is available for \$13 plus shipping with no discount.

McFARLAND & COMPANY

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

Two new books on early Hollywood horror films are now available— WOMEN IN HORROR FILMS: 1930s and WOMEN IN HORROR FILMS: 1940's. They are both the work of Gregory William Mank. They had more in common than just a scream, whether they faced Dracula, Frankenstein's Monster, the Mummy, Dr. Jekyll, Mr. Hyde, King Kong, the Wolf Man, or any of the other legendary Hollywood monsters. Some were even monsters themselves, such as Elsa Lanchester as the Bride, and Gloria Holden as Dracula's Daughter. And while evading the *Strangler of the Swamp*, former Miss America Rosemary La Planche is allowed to rescue her leading man. This book provides details about the lives and careers of 21 of these cinematic leading ladies, femmes fatales, monsters, and misfits, putting into perspective their contributions to the films and folklore of Hollywood terror—and also the sexual harassment, exploitation, and genuine danger they faced on the job. The cost for these paperbacks are \$30 each. Both are over 400 pages long.

NIGHT SHADE BOOKS

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

My copies of Lord Dunsany's THE COLLECTED JORKENS, VOLUME 3 and LETTERS FROM NEW YORK: THE LOVECRAFT LETTERS, VOL. 2 have both arrived and will soon be shipped.

DAMON SASSER

<http://rehtwogunraconteur.com/index.html>

The eighth issue of TWO-GUN RACONTEUR will cost \$10.50. For further details, please see last month's newsletter.

SEELE-BRENT

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

I've received a few bumped copies of the first issue of THE HOWARD COMPANION, now out of print. Each has one corner bumped. Originally priced at \$12, these copies are available for \$8 with no additional discount.

SUBTERRANEAN PRESS

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

Subterranean will be following up the first volume of THE READER'S BLOCH with a second volume (and possibly, a third). It will be entitled THE SKELETON IN THE CLOSET and sell for \$40. It's no secret that a hefty helping of Robert Bloch's fiction remains unreprinted or uncollected since its original publication in pulp magazines, digests and anthologies of original stories. What many readers don't know is how good much of this fiction is. These stories run the full gamut of genres for which Bloch wrote—fantasy, horror, science fiction, mystery—and all showcase Bloch's inimitable style. We can't presume to know why Bloch never collected them in his lifetime, even though he sanctioned the reprinting of some in anthologies. Possibly, he felt they didn't fit the scheme of specific books. Regardless, the stories provide interesting snapshots of Bloch's career at the time they were written, and the evolution of story markets where they appeared. For a look at the content of the second volume, please visit the Subterranean website. In the meantime, let me know if you'd like a copy reserved for you. I believe I still have one copy of the first volume—THE FEAR PLANET AND OTHER UNUSUAL DESTINATIONS—available for sale at \$40.

JVJ PUBLISHING

<http://www.bpib.com/imagesmagfolder/imagesmag/index.html>

EVERETT RAYMOND KINSTLER: THE ARTIST'S JOURNEY THROUGH POPULAR CULTURE—1942-1962 is slated for release near the end of July. Kinstler was a guest of honor at one of the Bowling Green Pulpcons. An artist whose portrait work hangs in museums, boardrooms, banks, private collections, The White House, and in the homes of his clients and friends, he spent two decades honing his craft on the pages of comic books, pulp magazines and on the covers of books. All he ever wanted to do was draw. When he dropped out of high school at fifteen after his sophomore year, it was to take a job as an apprentice comic book inker. Less than a year later he was drawing stories, and a year after that he was drawing illustrations for pulp magazines like THE SHADOW, DOC SAVAGE, and DETECTIVE TALES. He went on to draw the comic book adventures Hawkman, Jesse James, Zorro, and the very obscure but provocative White Princess of the Jungle. His artistic journey also took him to the covers of paperback books and the covers and pages of young adult books of the Fifties. This is the story of his growth from "uneducated kid" to a painter of presidents and celebrities. Over 375 illustrations, many reproduced from the original drawings and paintings, accompany a biography enlivened by Kinstler's memories and the recollections of friends and editors who knew him during these fascinating years. This hardcover, 240 pages, 8½" x 11", 380 illustrations, over 170 in color, will be available for \$45. Please let me know if you'd like to reserve a copy.

J. VAN HISE

<http://stores.ebay.com/Sword-and-Planet-Books-and-Comics>

I've received my copies of SWORD & FANTASY #2 and the first of three planned volumes entitled SCIENCE FICTION IN THE GOLDEN AGE. I will be shipping both in the near future. For further details, please see last month's newsletter.

WILDSIDE PRESS

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

Although Wildside will be moving later this month, they have managed to squeeze out a few more interesting titles. Please let me know if you're interested in any of these titles as soon as possible as Wildside will be shutting down for a short time in mid-June as they orchestrate their move to Rockville, Maryland.

HEAVY PLANET AND OTHER SCIENCE FICTION STORIES by Milton A. Rothman is a collection of tales by an author best known to generations of science-fiction readers for a single classic story written at age 19—"Heavy Planet." It was originally published under the byline of "Lee Gregor" in ASTOUNDING SCIENCE FICTION in 1939 and kept in print for decades in the classic anthology ADVENTURES IN TIME AND SPACE. Rothman was a pioneer of early fandom, a founder of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society, a fanzine publisher, and a World Science Fiction Convention chairman. After World War II, he became one of the country's leading nuclear physicists, but continued to write science fiction throughout his life. Here, for the first time, all his science fiction stories are collected in one volume, giving a clear picture of the author's development from youth to old age, reflecting lifelong preoccupations with physics, mathematics, music, the futility of war, and, of course, science fiction itself. Here is an authentic voice from the early years of the modern science fiction field. Introduced by science-fiction master Frederik Pohl, HEAVY PLANET is a trade paperback costing \$20.

Paul Herman continues to bring the work of Robert E. Howard back into print with *A GENT FROM BEAR CREEK AND OTHER TALES*. This new volume features the comic western novel and two bonus tales with Breckinridge Elkins. This collection showcases Robert E. Howard's comic westerns. The text for Howard's novel "A Gent from Bear Creek" is restored to the original version, including the italics left out of previous editions. A Smyth-sewn hardcover, it will be available near the end of June and cost \$40.

Wildside continues *SECRET AGENT X* with the first novel of the series—"The Torture Trust." Originally published in February 1934 issue of the *Ace* pulp, the story tells of an unholy trio who met in a hidden room in a deserted part of the city. Brilliant men by day, leading scholarly and productive lives as far as the police and the outside world were concerned, secretly they donned black cloaks and ran an organization of evil . . . for "The Torture Trust" threatened their blackmail victims with a terrible acid bath, leaving a trail of faceless corpses to bear mute testimony to their power! Fearless, alone, Secret Agent X went against them in a desperate battle of wits at the gateway to destruction! It is available for \$15. I also have all previous volumes of the series in stock.

OPERATOR #5: THE DAWN THAT SHOOK THE WORLD has been delayed, due to problems with the interior pages. It will hopefully be available in July. In this story, Jimmy Christopher leads a band of agents into Europe, battling a dictator with plans for world domination. One of the bloodiest pulp magazines ever produced, *OPERATOR #5* has a well-deserved reputation for thrill-a-minute action and peril. If you enjoy heroic pulp fiction, you'll love the *Operator #5* series. *THE DAWN THAT SHOOK THE WORLD* will be available for \$15. I also have all previous volumes of the series in stock.

Due to Wildside's pending move, the following titles are now slated to appear in July.

PEOPLE OF THE DARK (WEIRD TALES, VOL. 3) by Robert E. Howard is scheduled for release in May. Featuring an introduction by Joe R. Lansdale, the contents includes "The Black Stone," "Children of the Night," "The Dark Man," "The Footfalls Within," "Gods of Gal-Sagoth," "Horror from the Mound," "Kings of the Night," "The Last Day," "People o of the Dark," "The Song of the Mad Minstrel," and "The Thing on the Roof." A Smyth-sewn hardcover with dust jacket art by Stephen Fabian, *PEOPLE OF THE DARK* will cost \$35.

Clark Ashton Smith's *THE WHITE SYBIL*, limited to 700 copies, this volume will include the title story, "Chinoiserie," "The Raja and the Tiger," "The Justice of the Elephant," "The Kiss of Zoraida," "The Ghoul," "Something New," "The Malay Krise," "The Ghost of Mohammed Din," "The Mirror in the Hall of Ebony," "The Mahout," "The Primal City," "The Passing of Aphrodite," and "The Tale of Sir John Maundeville." The cost will be \$30 for this Smyth-sewn hardcover. Please let me know if you'd like to reserve a copy. Wildside is also planning to release a series of volumes that collects Smith's stories for *WEIRD TALES*.

Edgar Rice Burroughs' *THE TARZAN TWINS*, originally written for the children's market and published by the P.F. Volland Company in 1927, this new edition will feature introductions by both Burroughs and Mike Resnick. Find out more, as two young boys are invited to Tarzan's African estate—when and where they bite off more than they can chew, lost in a jungle full of hungry beasts, and hungry cannibals! The cost will be \$25. Please let me know if you'd like to reserve a copy as soon as possible as these are likely to disappear rather quickly.

In other news, Wildside has become the publisher of *WEIRD TALES* with John Gregory Betancourt joining George Scithers and Darrell Schweitzer as co-editor of the magazine. The next issue, #337, is now expected in late June or July. I'm hoping that with *WEIRD TALES* becoming a Wildside magazine, I will be able to add it to the publications that I handle. Coming in October from Wildside will be another magazine, simply entitled *FANTASY MAGAZINE*. The first issue will include tales by Jeff VanderMeer, Vera Nazarian, Holly Phillips, Tim Pratt, and many more. Wildside will also be publishing a magazine entitled *SHERLOCK HOLMES MYSTERY MAGAZINE*. However, I have not been able to find further details about this publication. Please let me know if you're interested in receiving any of these periodicals.