

Bryan Follins: This is pretty trippy stuff. You write, “Does the past exist?” In the present time in the physical world, no—but as an accrual of everything that’s led up to *this* moment (the one in which I’m writing, the one in which you’re reading) it definitely does. We all have memories of what came before for us personally and (so far as we can encompass) our knowledge of a wider sphere of existence. And all present physical entities (of any type, living or not) have come to us traveling through the past to the present moment. That’s my “perspective or outlook.” Your move!

Charles Fuller: “Shooting Sharks” made for an interesting read, but it was so alien from my own experience that it leaves me with nothing to add.

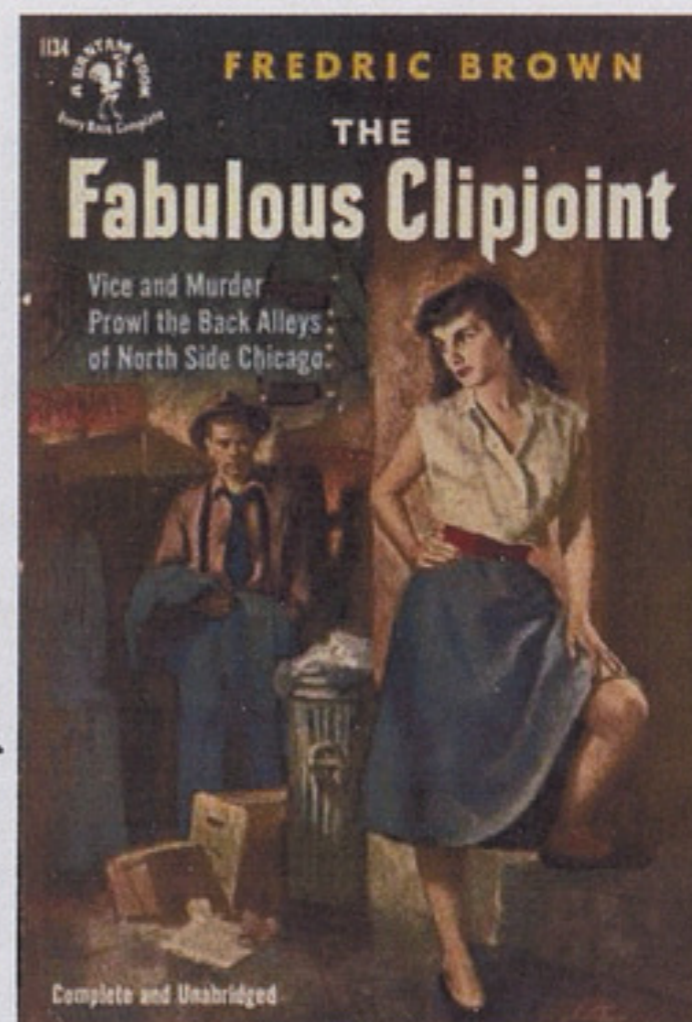
I don’t know if I “revere the works of Ray Harryhausen,” but I do like them. You write that you “still consider the fight with the skeletons in

Jason and the Argonauts to be one of my all time favorite movie scenes.” I don’t know about that, but it’s the most memorable of any of his work to me. I didn’t see that movie (or any of his work) when it was first out in 1963 because I was unaware of its existence. In those years my cinematic attention was on “art” films. But in the ‘80s I saw it and the others of its ilk (the various Sinbad movies, etc.) at Saturday matinees with my then-young sons. We were all dazzled by those skeletons.

To me you write, “I do recall *Science Fiction Theater* when it was in syndication in the early ‘60s. Lots of old pictures of V-2 launches.” My viewing of those shows was, of course, back when they originally appeared on the tiny screen—and I don’t recall V-2 launches at all. But that’s just me...

Sorry I can’t help you with the movie title.

Chris Garcia: Noting that the deadlines for both TAFF voting and the next SNAPS distribution fall on the same day, let me technically be the first to congratulate you on your win. (And if Linda Deneroff sweeps to victory ahead of you, my sincere commiserations.) I’ve been enjoying the *PrintZines* you’ve been doing in support of your run.

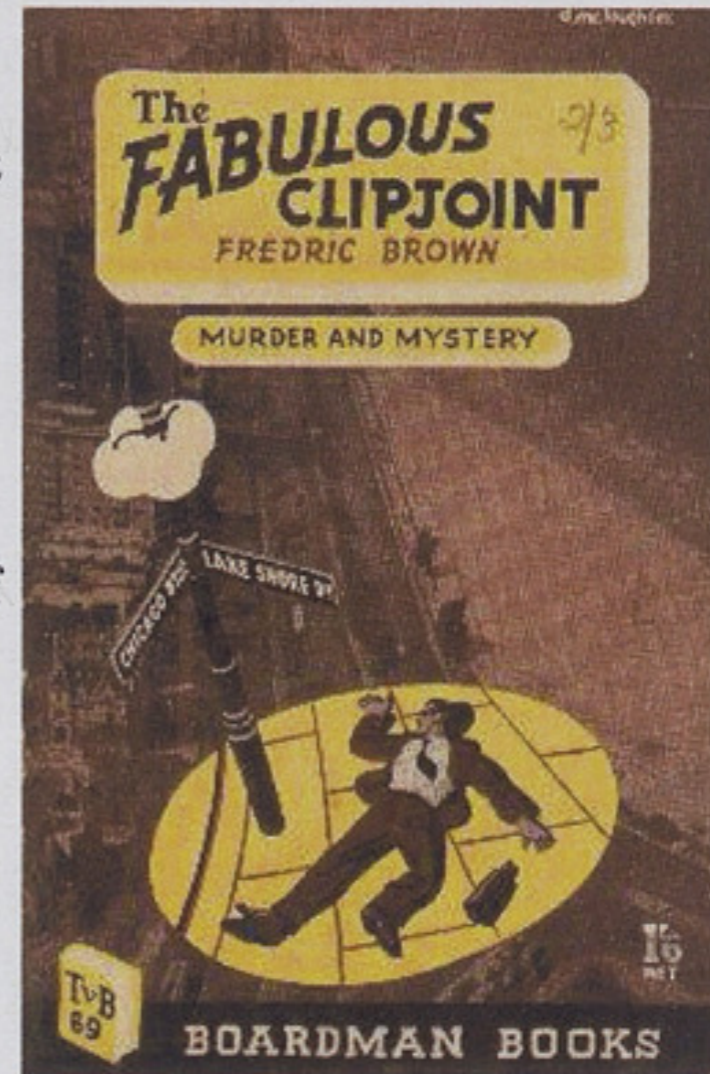
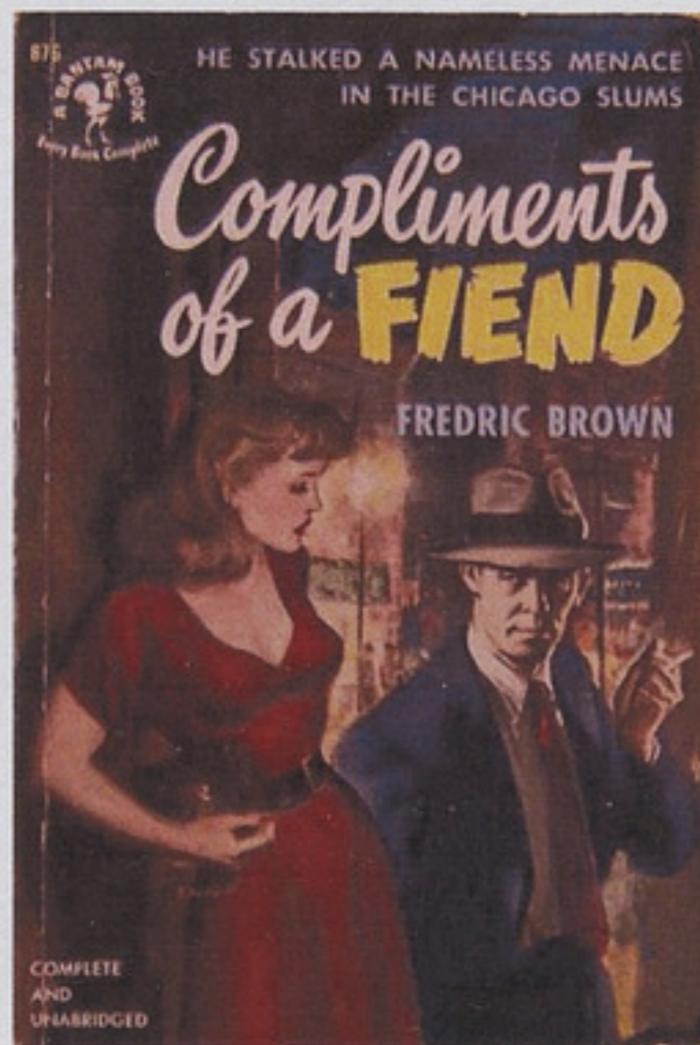


Belle Augusta: To Ross you write, “Howard the Duck the Movie is one of my guilty pleasures, too. Do you know if it is out on DVD?” It’s never come out on DVD, but scads of VHS copies are available via Amazon and eBay. Amazon says it’s “not yet released” and invites you to leave an e-mail address for notification. Considering the movie was released in 1986 and wasn’t a commercial success, I’d be surprised if it ever does come out on DVD.

And speaking of Howard, I was in Comic Relief in Berkeley recently and saw a new Howard comic that bills itself as part of a mini-series (perhaps like the half-dozen that came out some years ago). However, it’s drawn by completely different people. Howard doesn’t look the same (or even similar) and the story wasn’t all that interesting. I passed on it.

“Classics Illustrated was the solution in my Grandmother’s sixth grade classes. They might lack depth but everyone in class had a clue, even the ‘I hate reading’ crowd.” When I was living on the Richmond, California urban branch of The Farm in 1978, I sent back a set of Larry Gonick’s *Cartoon History of the Universe* to some friends back in Tennessee. (It was only in comic book form at that time.) Before long, I was asked to buy up a bunch of them for use in the school back there. Fortunately I knew Ron Turner of Last Gasp, who was acting as distributor, and was able to purchase them wholesale. He was pretty amused to know they were going to be used as textbooks.

“I have heard the Eureka-Arcata area is developing more culture all the time, especially with so many people relocating from down south.” Arcata has always been pretty hip, thanks to Humboldt State College being there, but like you I understand that boring ol’ Eureka has also perked up in recent years. My up-close-and-personal perspective on the towns dates back to the ‘80s when I went up that way selling books, but I’ve read some stuff that’s updated me. I’d like to check it out in person again sometime.



R-Laurraine Tutihasi: It may take some time to sell your house, since you’ve unfortunately begun making the effort in the midst of a serious slump in real estate (mostly due to the so-called “subprime mortgage crisis”). But as you write, “At least we have regular traffic, as realtors bring their clients around.” That’s better than no one showing up at all. And it probably shows better with most of your stuff now gone. Also sorry to hear about Mike’s health problems—hope they pass quickly.



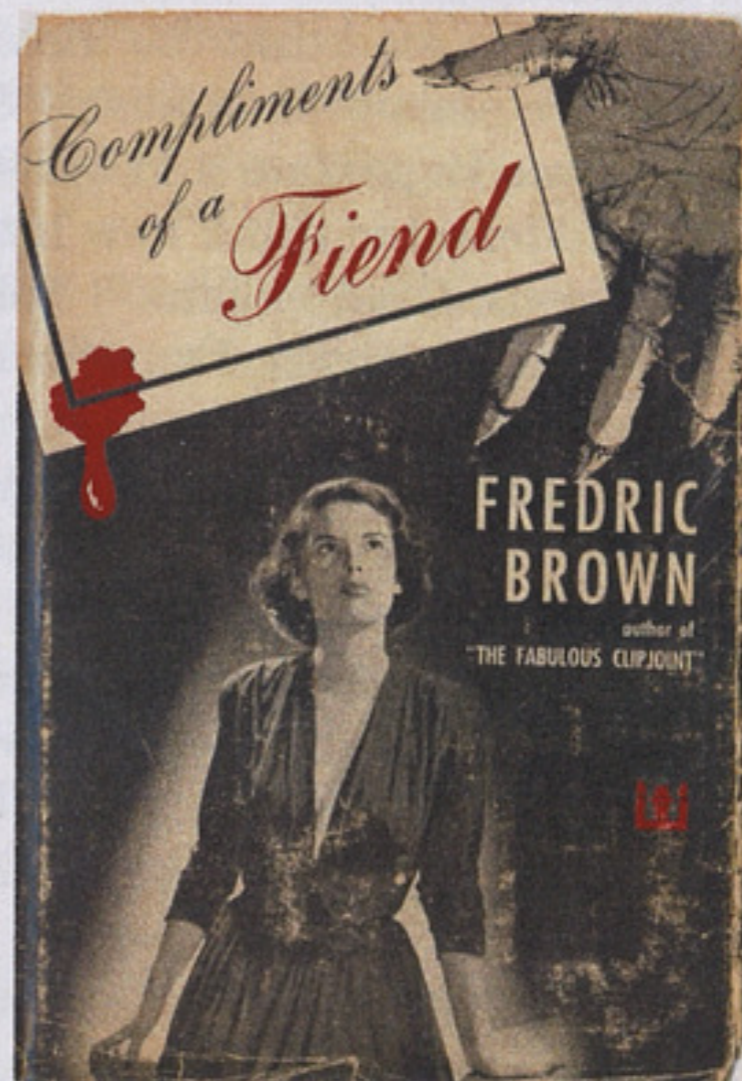
Marcy Waldie: Good to see you turning up here again! I liked your commentary on American Indian culture and especially your observation about how “ordinary” the Paiute reservation area was, and especially your noting that “The med center was a state -of-the-art equipped facility.” An American Indian medical center got built in Santa Rosa a few years ago across the street from where I was working (before I retired) and it’s exactly the same as your description (a lovely *large* building). For more on it check out... <http://www.crihb.org/Sonoma.htm>.

John Purcell: “As the calendar approaches the end of September, 2007 as I type these beginning words for SNAPS, I can honestly say that I will be mailing my membership dues off to FAPA Real Soon Now.” Well, I haven’t gotten them as of this writing (November 7) and it’s too late for you to join as of the

November mailing. I hope you’ll be on board for February, though—and you should know that the dues have gone up to \$25 a year in order to cover the vastly increased cost of sending out the non-U.S. mailings (now that there’s no more surface rate out of the country). Twenty percent of FAPA is from other countries (Australia, Canada, England and Sweden), which gives it a nice international flavor.

Arnie Katz: I know you’re mourning your messy divorce from PWD, but I think it’s probably a good thing. As you write, you need a venue where you can “pull in some revenue” in addition to writing about a subject you enjoy. Perhaps with time that will come, and I wish you luck in making it so.

“I got a letter the other day from Jeff Redmond, who is caught in the throes of upgrading his computer set-up. He added DSL and made the switch to XO, but when he called the HP Customer Service line, the guy who took the call hooted at him over his Pentium computer. Jeff felt pretty bad about getting battered around the head and shoulders and I sympathized...” While agreeing with you on your points about the interface between computer hardware and software and successful and hassle-free participation in Core Fandom (you describe *me* in writing that “anyone who is working with less than a Pentium III and DSL is liable to find it hard to do much with electronic fanzines and such” because my computer is one of those and I have fast DSL), it’s personally disturbing that you’re sym-





pathetic to a troll like Redmond—who continues to steal other people's e-mails (probably without permission) and repost them at...

<http://www.groups.msn.com/sciencefiction/general.msnw>

...and who caused such a huge hassle when he was briefly on the Fmzfen mailing list (including, as you know, putting words in my mouth in e-mails to Chris Garcia and setting up fake e-mail addresses supposedly from me). Has he suddenly redeemed himself, apologized for being a major shithead, and I wasn't informed?

"A question for the membership to discuss: With hard copy apas faltering, should SNAPS attempt to merge with one of the traditional groups? I'll hold off my comments till next time, but I do think this idea deserves consideration. Tell me what you think." The topic of Going Electronic has surfaced in both FAPA and SAPS in recent mailings.

Both groups seem to generally favor continuing as paper-only apas until they eventually die. In FAPA there seems to be mixed feelings about it, but at least everyone there has an internet connection and could participate. In SAPS there are a couple members who aren't on-line (and don't want to be) and the general sentiment even aside from that is that the group should sink or swim on its own merits. Both groups seek new members, but are realistic about the possibility they may eventually meet their demises. My own feeling is that fannish institutions *do* eventually wither and fade away if they no longer attract continued participation. The halls of fanhistory are littered with examples (the ISFCC, TLMA, 7APA, CCUF, etc.). There's no shame in it.

"I'm glad that the history and culture of Fandom, embodied in nearly 80 years of fanzines, is preserved in private and university collections, but I'm saddened to think how little of it is available to today's good, active fans." You write this in connection with the Faan Store, about which you've apparently received some comments that it's somehow unseemly to make money selling electronic versions of old fanzines. I disagree with those views—as we both know, it's a lot of work to scan old fanzines page by page and make them available in PDF form, whether for free or for a small profit to repay the cost of one's time. To me it's on the same level as doing, for instance, *Fanorama* or *Ah! Sweet Laney!* Just as much work is involved.

"I don't have high personal interest in audio CDs of fanzine readings." I have about zero interest in such things, preferring to *read* fanzines rather



than hear them being read by others. However, this doesn't apply to such things when organized as part of a convention program item (such as we did at the 2002 Westercon).

"As the editor of this era's best hard copy fanzine *Trap Door*, your support of electronic fanzines in general (and *VFW* in specific) is much appreciated. I love hard copy fanzines; I'm just realistic about their present and future problems." So am I—I continue to do my fanzine in hard copy because I can support it by auctioning off old fanzines. As a compromise between that and electronic publication, I've been putting PDFs of issues on Bill Burns's site *after* the next paper issue comes out. This is only possible with the issues since I got a new computer (in 2000) and switched to all-electronic "originals" instead of multi-layered paper paste-ups. For previous issues I'd have to scan everything, and somehow that's not very high on my list of priorities.

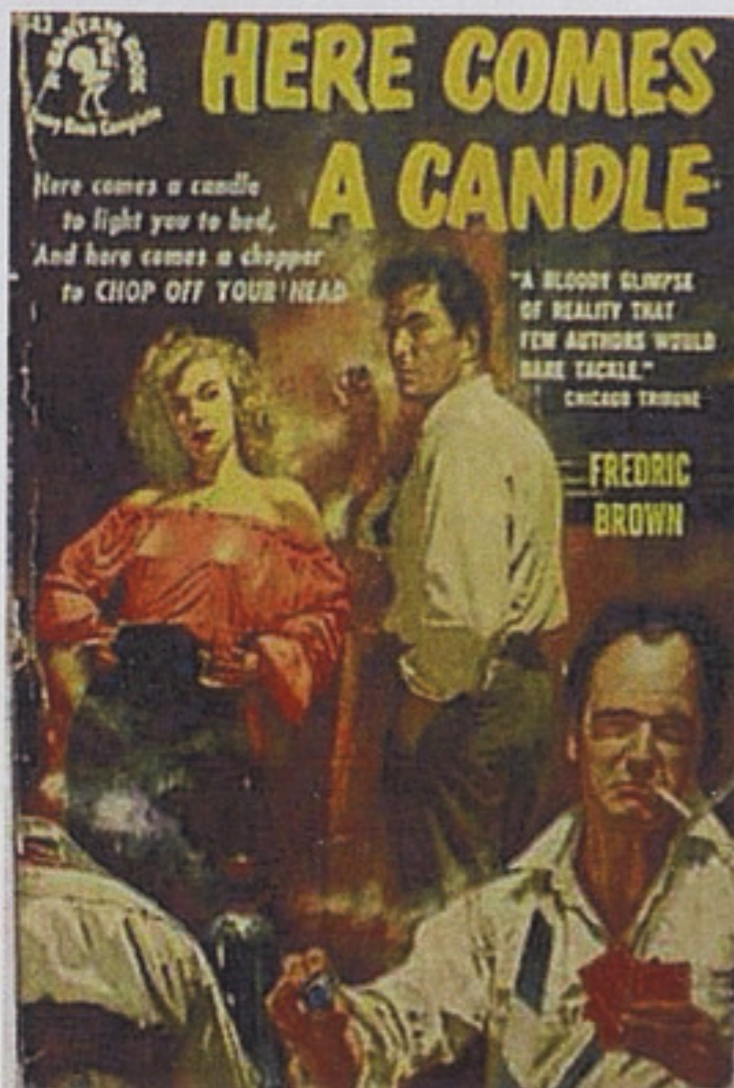
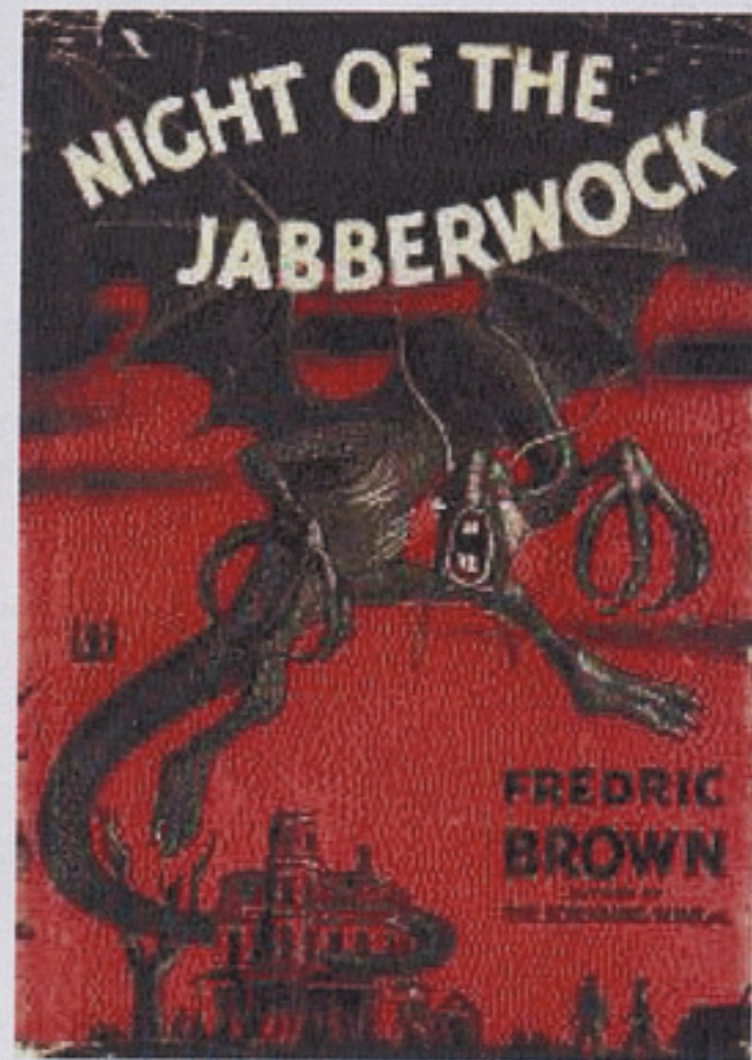
"I believe that if Core Fandom has another 'golden age,' it will be based on electronic publishing." I agree completely.

Joyce Katz: Living as we do on a narrow, busy street with no sidewalks and many blind curves, we've almost never had trick or treaters. The exception was when the kids next door were *very* young and would come around with their parents (this was before I lived here, but Carol told me about it). These days we don't even bother, preferring to keep the lights out in front of the house. When we see bands of hulking, uncostumed teenagers down in other neighborhoods going around with their giant garbage bags to get candy, I feel certain we're doing the right thing.

Glad to read your cats are doing well...and even moreso that your "stereoscopic needle biopsy" turned up benign!

I loved your description of the Crater Lake Lodge: "Made of great timbers; it almost seemed like a natural growth and not a man-made structure." That depicts it perfectly. I'm glad you've had an opportunity to be there.

That's a wonderful photo of you on the back cover!



**HAPPY THANKSGIVING
TO EVERYONE!**