

# alt.pulp

## Frequently Asked Questions

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# FAQ

## alt.pulp

**Q.** What is alt.pulp?

**A.** alt.pulp is an unmoderated newsgroup set up for the discussion of pulp magazines and related topics. In general, discussions posted to alt.pulp focus on the character, or hero, pulps.

You can access to alt.pulp through a newsreader or web browser.

Pulps are also discussed in other newsgroups:

- **alt.fan.doc-savage** for Doc Savage.
- **alt.fantasy.conan** for Conan and Robert E. Howard.
- **alt.fantasy.er-burroughs** for Edgar Rice Burroughs and Tarzan.
- **alt.horror.cthulhu** for H.P. Lovecraft and horror/weird fiction.
- **rec.arts.sf.written** for science fiction and related stories.

Feel free to cross-post items to one or two of these newsgroups if you think others would be interested in your posting.

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### Q. What were pulp magazines?

**A:** As the name implies, pulp magazines were inexpensive, popular magazines printed on paper made from the cheapest pulpwood. Publishers weren't very concerned with the durability of the magazines, only that they were able to crank the magazines off the presses and get them into the hands of readers as cheaply and as often as possible.

The pulps were easily recognizable when compared to "slick" magazines, such the "Saturday Evening Post" or "Time" magazine, which were printed on slicker, higher-quality paper. The pulps also typically had rough, untrimmed edges.

But the difference between the pulps and other magazines didn't end with appearance; it extended to the quality of content. Escapism was the pulps' main goal, and they used any method they could to achieve that goal. Colorful, outlandish and sometimes risqué covers beckoned newsstand perusers to escape into the magazine. And the stories inside were equally as colorful, outlandish and sometimes risqué.

Pushing their Depression-era woes out of their minds for a short while, readers were able to escape into realms of science fiction, horror, fantasy, crime and mystery, sports, westerns, romance and adventure through the pulps.

Among the more famous authors who got their start during the half-century of the pulps were: Edgar Rice Burroughs, H.P. Lovecraft, Isaac Asimov, Dashiell Hammett, Louis L'Amour, Ray Bradbury, Earl Stanley Gardner, John D. MacDonald, Max Brand, Robert Heinlein, Robert E. Howard and Robert Bloch. Many of the pulp authors wrote under pseudonyms or "house names," which were fictitious author names assigned by the publisher to specific titles or characters. Also, by using pseudonyms, writers were able to publish more stories, which was important since they were paid by the number of words they wrote. The more stories they had published, the more money they could make.

The pulps first appeared in the mid-1890s, but didn't reach their heyday until the 1930s. In fact, there were more than 1,000 different pulp titles published during that period. But by the end of the 1940s, the days of pulps were numbered. The final pulps ended their runs in the mid-1950s, replaced by television and the paperback book.

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<http://members.aol.com/dotPulp/PulpFAQ>

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**Q.** What were character, or hero, pulps?

**A.** Character pulps were so called because they were named after a single character, or hero. And, the title character appeared in the featured novel in the magazine. Character pulps came into existence in April 1931 when Street and Smith's "The Shadow" burst upon the newsstands with .45s blazing. Within two years The Shadow's success had spawned a new pulp genre. The character pulps rode high for nearly 20 years. Then television, movies, comic books and paperbacks finally took their toll and the pulps vanished in the 1950s.

The phrase "character pulps" is a bit more inclusive than "hero pulps" since several of the magazines that fit this genre featured a villain as the title character. Among those featuring villains were "The Mysterious Wu Fang," "Doctor Death" and "The Octopus."

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**Q.** What were the major pulp publishers and what character pulps did they publish?

**A.** Though there were numerous small publishers that put out character pulps, the majority were published by Street and Smith, Popular Publications, Thrilling (Standard/Better Publications) and Ace (Magazine Publications/Periodical House). Here is a rundown of their key character magazines:

### Street and Smith

- "The Shadow" (1931-49) 325 issues.
- "Doc Savage" (1933-49) 181 issues.
- "Bill Barnes, Air Adventurer" (1934-35) 20 issues, numerous stories (including as a backup in "Doc Savage").
- "The Skipper" (1936-37) 12 issues, 40 stories as back-up series in "Doc Savage."
- "The Whisperer" (1936-37, 1940-42) 14 issues/10 issues, 25 stories as back-up series in "The Shadow."
- "The Avenger" (1939-42) 24 issues, plus six stories (five in "Clues Detective" magazine and one in "The Shadow").
- "The Wizard/Cash Gorman" (1940-41) four issues/two issues.

### Popular Publications (and affiliates)

- "The Spider (1933-43) 118 issues.
- "G-8 and His Battle Aces" (1933-44) 110 issues.
- "Dusty Ayres and His Battle Birds" (1934-35) 12 issues.
- "The Secret Six (1934-35) four issues.
- "Operator 5 (1934-39) 48 issues.
- "Mysterious Wu Fang" (1935-36) seven issues.
- "Dr. Yen Sin" (1936) three issues.
- "Captain Satan" (1938) five issues.
- "The Octopus/The Scorpion" (1939) one issue/one issue.
- "Captain Combat" (1940) three issues.
- "Captain Zero" (1949-50) three issues.

### Thrilling (Standard/Better Publications)

- "The Lone Eagle" (1933-43) 76 issues.
- "The Phantom Detective" (1933-53) 170 issues.
- "The Masked Detective" (1940-42) 12 issues, with one story as a backup in "Thrilling Mystery."
- "The Ghost"/"The Green Ghost Detective" (1940-44) four issues/three issues, six stories as a backup in "Thrilling

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Major Publishers continued.

Mystery.”

- “Captain Future” (1940-51) 27 issues.

## **Ace (Magazine Pub/Periodical House)**

- “Moon Man” (1933-36) 39 issues.
- “Secret Agent X” (1934-39) 41 issues.
- “Captain Hazzard” (1938) one issue.

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### Q. Who was The Shadow?

**A.** Street and Smith was in an enviable, but awkward position in the early 1930s. Readers were clamoring for the magazine featuring The Shadow; but, Street and Smith didn't have such a magazine.

As a means of promoting its "Detective Story Magazine," the publishing house had sponsored a radio program that dramatized stories from the magazine. The program was hosted by a mysterious announcer with a haunting laugh. The announcer went by the name of The Shadow.



Street and Smith scrambled to satisfy the readers' appetites, hiring writer and magician Walter Gibson to flush out The Shadow character. A quarterly magazine titled "The Shadow" hit the stands with an April 1931 date. Its instant success prompted Street and Smith to increase its publication rate to monthly.

By giving the magazine the same name as its featured character, Street and Smith unknowingly started a genre that would prove to be a goldmine over the next decade: the character pulp.

Gibson's Shadow was a cunning master of the night, able to melt into the shadows and strike fear into the hearts of criminals with his whispered, mocking laugh. When not cloaked in black slouch hat and coat, The Shadow posed in a variety of identities, including that of wealthy playboy Lamont Cranston. The Shadow was helped by a cadre of agents, all of whom owed their lives and their allegiance to him.

Together they battled a range of evildoers — from common swindlers and jewel thieves to the band of The Hand and the voodoo master Rodil Mocquino — for 18 years, until the summer of 1949, and for 325 novels.

Readers knew little about The Shadow at first, but as the series progressed readers were given hints about his past. In 1937, "The Shadow Unmasks" revealed just who The Shadow really was. He was Kent Allard, a famed aviator who had disappeared years before in Central America. Allard had been a fly-



**The Shadow continued.**

ing ace and spy during World War I, before starting his war against crime.

Also in 1937, six years after The Shadow first appeared in print, he returned to the airwaves with a drama of his own. But unlike the print Shadow who relied on darkness and his stealthy abilities to conceal him from others, the radio's Shadow used an hypnotic power he learned in the Far East. One thing that the print Shadow did pick up from the radio program was a female agent named Margo Lane.

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**Q. Who was Doc Savage?**

**A.** Doc Savage, the Man of Bronze, was Clark Savage Jr. — a young man whose widower father had turned him over as an infant to be reared by experts in every field, from medicine to reason and from gymnastics to science. Indeed by doing so, his father had turned him into a Superman, who dedicated his superhuman skills to justice.

In its search for a follow up to its immensely popular magazine “The Shadow,” Street and Smith came up with the concept of Doc Savage and turned to writer Lester Dent to bring him to life. Instead of a crimefighter who used guns and cunning, as The Shadow did, Doc Savage use science as his weapon against evil. (In fact, later in the series, the magazine’s title briefly was changed to “Doc Savage, Science Detective.”)



Doc was joined by the Fabulous Five, all experts in their fields — including law, civil engineering, electrical engineering, archaeology and chemistry. Working out of the tallest skyscraper in New York City, Doc, the Five and, at times, Doc’s cousin Patricia Savage traveled the world solving mysteries and battling evildoers through 181 adventures from March 1933 until 1949.

Though the novels were formulaic, Dent made up for that with nonstop adventure and cliffhanging suspense. The formula proved a success, giving Street and Smith another best-selling hit.

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**Q.** Who was The Spider?

**A.** At first glance, The Spider looked like Popular Publication's knockoff of The Shadow: black hat and cloak, blazing pistols and a maniacal laugh. But that's where the similarities ended.



Thanks to author Norvell Page, writing under the name Grant Stockbridge, The Spider took a decidedly weirder avenue than The Shadow. Whereas The Shadow battled more realistic villains, The Spider took on whole "Legions of the Accursed Light," "Satan's Sightless Legions," "Dictator's Death Merchants," "Volunteer Corpse Brigade" and scores of other nightmarish evildoers.

The first two Spider novels, credited to R.T.M. Scott, took a more mainstream approach, with The Spider actually being a nickname for playboy detective Richard Wentworth. The villains were more mundane.

With the third issue, Page took over the writing duties and took "The Spider" pulp in a totally different direction. The Spider became Wentworth's alter ego: a hunchbacked maniac who dressed in wild wig and fake fangs and terrorized the underworld.

Aiding The Spider were Wentworth's perennial fiance Nita Van Sloan, his trusted Sikh manservant Ram Singh and butler Ronald Jackson. Though The Spider was wanted by the law, police inspector Kirkpatrick often unwittingly provided information to The Spider through his friend Wentworth.

"The Spider" was the seventh character pulp. It appeared with the October 1933 issue and continued for 117 issues more, until 1944.

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**Q.** Who was The Avenger?

**A.** When his wife and daughter were cruelly murdered, Richard Henry Benson underwent a transformation — his hair turned stark white, his facial muscles froze and he became The Avenger.



The Avenger was a blend of Street and Smith's two hit crimefighters — The Shadow and Doc Savage — he was a “merciless, avenging machine of steel” and, yet, was a public figure which those in trouble sought out for help. What distinguished him from the other two Street and Smith characters was his face. Benson could mold the features of his paralyzed face “into position to adopt any guise.”

Assisting him in his war against evil was a band of trusted aides; together they formed the efficient crimefighting organization Justice Inc.

It's interesting to note that two of The Avenger's comrades, Joshua Elijah H. Newton and his wife, Rosabel, broke the stereotypical and derogatory depictions of black Americans in popular culture of the 1930s. Both were honor graduates of Tuskegee Institute. Though they sometimes went undercover as “languid servants,” their keen minds made them indispensable members of Justice Inc.

The new crimefighter hit the streets in a September 1939 issue under the writer's credit of Kenneth Robeson, “the famous creator of Doc Savage.” Robeson, of course, was a house name, this time used by writer Paul Ernst. “The Avenger” magazine lasted 24 issues, until September 1942. His adventures continued in a series of short stories, written by Emile Tepperman. Five of the stories appeared in “Clues Detective” magazine and one in “The Shadow” magazine.

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**Q. Who were G-8 and His Battle Aces?**

**A.** The sixth pulp character to get his own magazine, G-8 took to the skies with his wingmen in October 1933 and battled everything the Kaiser could throw at him. And it wasn't your run-of-the-mill Red Baron that came after G-8.

Aviation writer Robert J. Hogan pitted the World War I flying ace and master spy against some of the most vile foes the Kaiser's scientists could conceive: "The Skeleton Patrol," the "Squadron of Corpses," "The Headless Staffel," the "Wings of Invisible Doom" and dozens of other weird enemies. But nonetheless, "G-8 and His Battle Aces" were victorious for 110 issues, until the magazine folded in 1944.



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**Q.** Do indices to character pulps exist online?

**A.** Yes. Using Robert Weinberg and Lohr McKinstry's "The Hero-Pulp index" (Opar Press, 1971) as a basis, Nick Sauer and Michael Rogero Brown put together several files in early 1993 containing indices for most of the hero pulps. The indices include volume and issue numbers, authors, date of publication, paperback reprints, and comic book, radio, movie and other book appearances by the characters.

These indices are available at the Rutgers' SF-Lovers archive:

- "Black Bat":  
<http://sflovers.rutgers.edu/archive/bibliographies/black-bat.txt>
- "Captain Future":  
<http://sflovers.rutgers.edu/archive/bibliographies/captain-future.txt>
- "Doc Savage":  
<http://sflovers.rutgers.edu/archive/bibliographies/doc-savage.txt>
- "G-8 and His Battle Aces":  
<http://sflovers.rutgers.edu/archive/bibliographies/g-8.txt>
- "Moon Man":  
<http://sflovers.rutgers.edu/archive/bibliographies/moon-man.txt>
- "Operator 5":  
<http://sflovers.rutgers.edu/archive/bibliographies/operator%235.txt>
- "The Phantom Detective":  
<http://sflovers.rutgers.edu/archive/bibliographies/phantom-detective.txt>
- "Secret Agent X":  
<http://sflovers.rutgers.edu/archive/bibliographies/secret-agent-x.txt>
- "The Shadow":  
<http://sflovers.rutgers.edu/archive/bibliographies/shadow.txt>
- "The Spider":  
<http://sflovers.rutgers.edu/archive/bibliographies/spider.txt>
- Minor heroes and villains:  
<http://sflovers.rutgers.edu/archive/bibliographies/small-hero-pulps.txt>
- "Weird Heroes," a 1970s attempt at creating a paperback hero-pulp anthology:  
<http://sflovers.rutgers.edu/archive/bibliographies/weird-heroes.txt>

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**Q.** Are there any equivalents to character pulps today?

**A.** Yes. They are the paperback adventure series. Paperbacks fill a similar niche as the old pulp magazines. In particular, the paperback series such as the Executioner, Nick Carter (a revival of sorts of the pulp and dime-novel character), the Destroyer, the Penetrator, et al, are similar in many ways to the old character pulps. It's doubtful that these adventure series would have happened had it not been for the success of Bantam's reprint series of Doc Savage.

In fact, Will Murray, who wrote the last few Doc Savage novels as the new Kenneth Robeson, current writes the Destroyer series.

— *Michael R. Brown*

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**Q.** Have pulp heroes had any impact on popular culture?

**A.** Yes, but to a great extent most people don't realize it.

Who hasn't heard of the phrases: "The weed of crime bears bitter fruit. Crime does not pay. The Shadow Knows!" or "Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men? The Shadow Knows!" Both come from the widely popular Shadow radio show.

For the most part, the pulp heroes influenced other characters who became much more popular. Batman was influenced quite a bit by Zorro, the Black Bat, The Shadow and Doc Savage. Doc Savage had a great influence on Superman. Doc Savage was actually Clark Savage Jr.; Superman took the identity of Clark Kent. During the 1950s, many concepts from Doc Savage were added to Superman: Superman got an arctic Fortress of Solitude (just like Doc), he got a superpowered cousin (just like Doc), and so on. Much of the gadgetry of James Bond, Man from U.N.C.L.E. and the like was done before by Doc Savage.

Comic book heroes were influenced by the pulps before they went in their own directions. A pulp-influenced comic character would be one who wore ordinary clothes such as a fedora and overcoat (no matter how colorful), versus some kind of skin-tight spandex outfit; and would be an above-average person, as opposed to a superpowered person. Some examples of pulp-influenced comic characters were D.C.'s Dr. Occult and the original Sandman (who wore a green suit, purple cape, orange fedora and a weird gas-mask).

— *Michael Rogero Brown*

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**Q.** Have there been attempts to do new pulp-style hero characters?

**A.** There have been several attempts at doing original pulp-style characters in books, comics, and movies, but most met with limited success. Among these attempts are:

(Note: This list contains only original characters, not adaptations of classic pulp characters, such as Conan, Doc Savage, Tarzan, Sheena, and the like. Also, it is certainly not comprehensive, but does provide an overview of what is out there.)

### Books

**“The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai: Across the 8th Dimension”** — This novelization, by Earl Mac Rauch, contains information on the character left out of the movie.

**Prince Zarkon of the Unknown** — This series by Lin Carter was an Avenger/Doc Savage-style character. Most novels included cameos of pulp characters.

- “Nemesis of Evil”
- “Invisible Death”
- “Volcano Ogre”
- “Earth-Shaker”
- “Horror Wears Blue”

**Darkman** — These books were based on the pulp-inspired movie character.

**Agent 13** — This series by Frank Dille and David Marconi was about a man fighting a world-wide secret society in the 1930s. The third book was published with “Web of Danger,” by Aaron Allston, in the first of the Double Agent series. There were more Double agent books, but no more Agent 13 stories. There was also an Agent 13 comic book and role-playing game.

- “The Midnight Avenger”
- “Serpentine Assassins”
- “Acolytes of Darkness”

**Doc Sidhe** — Aaron Allston’s novel is set in a world combining fantasy and hero-pulp genres.

**Indiana Jones** — These novels were based on the serial/pulp



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Pulp-style Heros continued.

inspired movie character. Titles included:

- "Indiana Jones and the Peril at Delphi" (by Rob MacGregor)
- "Indiana Jones and the Dance of the Giants" (by Rob MacGregor)
- "Indiana Jones and the Seven Veils" (by Rob MacGregor)
- "Indiana Jones and the Genesis Deluge" (by Rob MacGregor)
- "Indiana Jones and the Unicorn's Legacy" (by Rob MacGregor)
- "Indiana Jones and the Interior World" (by Rob MacGregor)
- "Indiana Jones and the Sky Pirates" (by Martin Caidin)
- "Indiana Jones and the White Witch" (by Martin Caidin)
- "Indiana Jones and the Philosopher's Stone" (by Max McCoy)

**Cap Kennedy** — Titles in this series include:

- "Galaxy of the Lost"
- "Slave Ship from Kergan"
- "Monster of the Metelaze"
- "Enemy within the Skull"
- "Jewel of Jarhen"
- "Seetee Alert!"
- "The Gholan Gate"
- "The Eater of Worlds"
- "Earth Enslaved"
- "Planet of Dread"
- "Spawn of Laban"
- "The Genetic Buccaneer"
- "A World Aflame"
- "The Ghosts of Epidoris"
- "Mimics of Dephene"
- "Beyond the Galactic Lens"
- "The Galactiad"

**Dr. Bones** — This space adventurer/archaeologist was conceived by Byron Priess, the creator of the "Weird Heroes" series.

- "The Secret of the Loma" (Stephen Leigh)
- "The Cosmic Bomber" (William F. Wu)
- "Garukan Blood" (Thomas Wilde)
- "The Dragons of Komako" (John Gregory Betancourt)
- "Nightmare World" (David Stern)
- "Journey to Rilla" (Thomas Wilde)

**Lord Grandrith/Doc Caliban** — Continuing his Wold Newton Family concept, Philip Jose Farmer retold the adventures of the "real" Tarzan and Doc Savage:

- "A Feast Unknown"
- "Lord of the Trees"
- "The Mad Goblin"

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Pulp-style Heros continued.

**“Rocketeer”** — This movie novelization by Peter David has some pulp touches. It’s based more on the movie, than the original comic.

**“Weird Heroes: A New American Pulp”** — Here was editor Byron Preiss’ attempt to create a modern-day pulp in paperback. The books were a mixture of anthologies and whole novels. Its eight volumes met with limited success. An index is posted at the Rutgers Science Fiction Lovers website.

## Comics

**“Agent 13”** (TSR) — The paperback series inspired these graphic novels and comic books. The graphic novels were “The Midnight Avenger,” which loosely adapts the first two books, and “Acolyte of Darkness,” which adapted the third book. The comic was titled “13: Assassin” and was set in modern times. It lasted for eight issues (two four-part mini-series).

**“Dominic Fortune”** (Marvel) — The Howard Chaykin character was similar in some ways to his “Scorpion” character. Dominic Fortune was a soldier of fortune-style character set in the ‘30s. Chaykin did several one-shot stories that appeared in various showcase series at Marvel. Fortune also appeared in modern times as an old man searching for his lover from the ‘30s, but this was not done by Chaykin.

**“Dreamwalker”** (Marvel) — This graphic novel deals with a pulp-style hero from the ‘30s, but is set in modern times. He is killed by gangsters, and his son, a secret agent, takes over.

**“Indiana Jones”** (Marvel and Dark Horse) — The George Lucas/Steven Spielberg movie series inspired these original comic book stories. Marvel did a series called “Further Adventures of Indiana Jones” which lasted 34 issues from 1983-86. Dark Horse has published a series of Indiana Jones miniseries by various writers and artists, and with involvement of LucasFilms. The first miniseries has been reprinted in trade paperback. Dark Horse titles include:

- “Indiana Jones and the Fate of Atlantis” #1-4 [1991, set in 1939]
- “Indiana Jones and Thunder in the Orient” #1-6 [1993-4, set in 1938]
- “Indiana Jones and the Arms of Gold” #1-4 [1994, set in 1937]
- “Indiana Jones and the Golden Fleece” #1-2 [1994, set in 1941]
- “Indiana Jones and the Shrine of the Sea Devil” [1994, set in 1935]
- “Indiana Jones and the Iron Phoenix” #1-4 [1994-5, set in

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1946]

- “Indiana Jones and the Spear of Destiny” #1-4 [1995, set in 1945]
- “Indiana Jones and the Sargasso Pirates” #1-4 [1995-6, set in 1939]
- “Indiana Jones and The Dance of Death” [set in 1940]
- “Indiana Jones and the Lost Horizon” [set in 1935]

“**Midnight Men**” (Epic/Marvel) — Another Howard Chaykin comic, this one deals with a group of vigilantes in California existing since colonial times. When one dies, another takes his place. The stories were set in modern times.

“**Night Raven**” (Marvel UK) — This British comic book character was set in 1930s America. The comics tell the story of a mysterious Shadow-like vigilante hero (the reader never knows who he is) There are two Night Raven graphic novels: one collecting the comic book stories; the other an original graphic novel. A Night Raven text series also appeared in the monthly “Captain Britain” magazine.

**Prowler** (Eclipse) — The stories about this 1930s-era character are set in modern times with him coming out of retirement to train a replacement. It has had two four-issue miniseries: “Prowler” and “Revenge of the Prowler.”

“**Rocketeer**” (Pacific/Eclipse/Comico/Dark Horse) — Though more heavily influenced by the “Rocketman” movie serials, “Rocketeer” does incorporate pulp elements. In fact, in the first comic series (since reprinted in trade paperback by Eclipse) the rocketpack was created by Doc Savage. In the second series, the Rocketeer meets The Shadow. It inspired a movie and novelization.

“**Sandman Mystery Theater**” (DC/Vertigo) — Each of new stories of this ‘30s pulp-style character are spread over four issues. Stories include:

- “The Tarantula” (issues #1-4) [reprinted in trade paperback]
- “The Face” (issues #5-8)
- “The Brute” (issues #9-12)
- “The Vamp” (issues #13-16)
- “The Scorpion” (issues #17-20)
- “Dr. Death” (issues #21-24)
- “The Night of the Butcher” (issues #25-28)
- “Hourman” (issues #29-32)
- “The Python” (issues #33-36)
- “The Mist” (issues #37-40)
- Annual #1
- Annual #2
- “Sandman Midnight Theater” (one-shot)

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Pulp-style Heros continued.

**“The Scorpion”** (Atlas) — Created by Howard Chaykin, this mercenarial immortal’s adventures were set in the ‘30s. Chaykin only did the first two issues, then the character was revised and reset in the present only to become your typical costumed do-gooder.

**“Twilight Avenger”** (Eternity) — The Twilight Avenger was pulp-style hero set in the ‘30s.

**“Wordsmith”** (Renegade) — This series dealt with a writer of pulp heroes. The 12-issue series has been collected in two trade paperbacks (Caliber). There is also a companion piece called “Heroes from Wordsmith,” dealing with his pulp characters.

## Movies

**“Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai: Across the 8th Dimension”** — Banzai, the rock-star/physicist/surgeon/hero and his aides are very pulp-like in style. Also a novelization and a comic book adaptation.

**“Dark Man”** — The Spider was an inspiration for this character according to the creator. Also a novelization and paperback series, and a comic book adaptation and a series of original comic book stories. There are also two direct-to-video sequels.

**Indiana Jones** — The popular George Lucas/Steven Spielberg character is based on pulp and movie-serial heroes, and set in the 1930s. A fourth movie has been talked about, but nothing has been firmed up. The movies also spawned paperbacks, comic books and a short-lived TV series. Film episodes include:

- “Raiders of the Lost Ark”
- “Indiana Jones and The Temple of Doom”
- “Indiana Jones and The Last Crusade”

**“Jake Speed”** — This hero from a paperback novel series (the novels supposedly are written by Jake’s assistant to fund their adventures) helps a woman looking for her sister who has been kidnapped by white slavers. Jake mentions the Destroyer and Doc Savage as being real people. (Doc is said to be retired.)

**“Rocketeer”** — This movie was adapted from the “Rocketeer” comic which first appeared under the Pacific Comics logo. The Doc Savage character was changed to Howard Hughes for the movie.



Pulp-style Heros continued.

## Television

**“Adventures of Brisco County Jr.”** — This series was based on a non-existent dime novel/pulp western series. It lasted only one session on Fox.

**“Legend”** — Another short-lived series, “Legend” starred Richard Dean Anderson as a dime novelist who wrote of a larger-than-life character named Nicodamus Legend. He became involved with matters which forced him to take on the persona of Legend. Anderson’s character is aided by the turn-of-the-century hi-tech wizardry of Professor Bartok.

**Grey Ghost** — This Shadow-esque character, voiced by Adam West, appeared in “Batman: The Animated Series.”

**Nightshade** — This pulp-style character from the ‘50s comes out of retirement to help the Flash stop an old foe, in ABC series “The Flash.” The character reappears in another episode when a vigilante takes his name as “Deadly Nightshade.”

**“Young Indiana Jones Chronicles”** — This short-lived series focused on the adventures of Indiana Jones at the ages of 10 and 16. It was based on the movie character.

## Games

**Justice Inc.** (Hero Games) — Justice Inc. is a hero-pulp role-playing game. Two scenario books, “Trail of the Goldspike” (a hero-pulp adventure) and “Lands of Mystery” (a set of rules on playing Edgar Rice Burroughs-style “lost worlds romances”) were published. It is out of print.

**Daredevils** (Fantasy Games Unlimited) — Another pulp role-playing game, it covered all genres. Five volumes of short scenarios were published called “Daredevil Adventures.” It is out of print.

**Agent 13** (TSR) — Another role-playing game, this one was based on the paperback series. There was also an “Agent 13 Sourcebook” for “Top Secret SI” game.

**GURPS Cliffhanger** (SJG) — This world book for Steve Jackson Games’ Generic Universal Role-Playing Game provided a basis for role-playing serial and pulp heroes.

**Savage Empire** (Origin Games) — This was a computer game based on “lost worlds” pulp stores, such as Edgar Rice Burroughs and H. Rider Haggard.

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Pulp-style Heros continued.

## Other

Nick Naime and his Agents of P.U.L.P. — This series of fan fiction novels by Jeff McCoskey are available only on the Internet (and occasionally posted to alt.pulp). They are a parody of the hero-pulp genre. The novels include:

- "The Man from P.U.L.P."
- "Synonyms of Fear"
- "Satan's Trousers"
- "Improbable Island"
- "Double Jeopardy" (to be serialized in the fall of 1997)

The stories are available at the Eyrie website:  
<http://www.eyrie.org/ftp/racc/Inh/PULP/>

— *Michael Rogero Brown*

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# FAQ

## Falt.pulp

### **Q. What is Philip Jose Farmer's Wold Newton Family?**

**A.** Farmer's idea of the Wold Newton Family was put forth in "Tarzan Alive" and "Doc Savage: His Apocalyptic Life," his two "biographies" of those characters. Basically the idea is that in the 1700s a radioactive meteor landed near Wold Newton, England. The radiation affected the occupants of two nearby coaches.

The descendants of these people became the real-life heroes and villains that are the basis for almost all the major and minor literary heroes of the last couple of centuries, including such diverse characters as Fu Manchu, James Bond, Travis McGee, most of the pulp heroes, the Scarlet Pimpernel and others. Of course the stories we have read about them are exaggerated fiction, so that most people think them wholly fictitious.

Some people like this concept, many do not. Farmer has written several works linking these people together (like the "The Adventure of the Peerless Peer" and "The Other Log of Phineas Fogg") and there was a short-lived fanzine, "Wold Atlas, devoted to the idea.

There is a western author named J.T. Edson who has incorporated Farmer's Wold Newton ideas. In his series of books, several of the characters are part of that "family," including Captain Dusty Fog. If anyone has more info on them, please let us know.

This is the list of Wold Newton stories, as recorded by Michael Rogero Brown:

### **Philip Jose Farmer**

- "Tarzan Alive" (non-fiction biography of Tarzan)
- "Tarzan Lives: An Exclusive Interview with Lord Greystoke" (in Book of PJF)
- "The Obscure Life and Hard Times of Kilgore Trout" (in Book of PJF)
- "The Apocalyptic Life of Doc Savage (non-fiction biography of Doc Savage)
- "The Other Log of Phineas Fogg" (Fogg and Moriarty/Nemo)
- "Extract from the Memoirs of 'Lord Greystoke' "
- "After King Kong Fell" (in Grand Adventure, — Doc Savage and The Shadow make cameo appearance)

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Wold Newton continued.

- “The Adventure of the Peerless Peer” (Tarzan, Sherlock Holmes, The Shadow, G-8, The Spider)
- “The Adventure of the Three Madmen” (rework of previous, in Grand Adventure — replaces Tarzan with Mowgli from Rudyard Kipling’s “Jungle Book”)
- “Ironcastle” (rewrite of “L’etonnant voyage de Hanetan Ironcastle” by J.H. Rosny — mentions that Ironcastle and Doc Savage lead an expedition to Maple White Land from Conan Doyle’s novel “Lost World”)
- “A Feast Unknown” (Vol. IX of Lord Grandrith’s Memoirs — Tarzan vs. Doc Savage)
- “Lord of the Trees” (Vol. X of Lord Grandrith’s Memoirs — Tarzan)
- “The Mad Goblin” (sequel to “A Feast Unknown” featuring Doc Savage)
- “Secret Immortals (sequel to “Lord of the Trees” and “The Mad Goblin”; does not yet exist)
- “Lord Tyger” (rich man creates his own Tarzan)
- “Time’s Last Gift” (Tarzan)
- “Hadon of Ancient Opar” (set in land from Tarzan series)
- “Flight to Opar” (sequel to “Hadon of Ancient Opar”)

## J.T. Edson

- “Floating Outfit” series, featuring Captain Dusty Fog
- “Bunduki” series

— *Michael Rogero Brown*

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# FAQ

## falt.pulp

**Q.** Are there any books on pulps?

**A.** Yes. There have been many books written about pulps, pulp characters and pulp authors.

The following list, compiled by the proprietors of the **.Pulp** website, is certainly not a comprehensive bibliography, but provides a solid foundation. Many of the following items are out of print, but can often be found through book dealers or from fellow pulp fans.

The proprietors of **.Pulp** welcome additions to this bibliography. if you are aware of books or articles pertaining to pulps – not reprinting them – that do not appear in this list, please contact **.Pulp** at email:  
lampkin@freenet.tlh.fl.us .

Comments regarding entries appear in *italics*. Unsigned comments are those of the **.Pulp** staff; comments by contributors are credited.

### General

**Beaumont, Charles.** “The Bloody Pulps,” *Playboy Magazine* September 1962.

**Bleiler, Richard J..** “The Annotated Index to the Thrill Book: Complete Indexes to and Descriptions of Everything Published in Street and Smith’s *The Thrill Book*” *Starmont Reference Guides*. Starmont House, 1991.

**Darrach, Brad.** “Back to the Gore of Yore,” *Time* 26 July 1972, 72-73.

**Dziemianowicz, Stefan R..** “The Annotated Guide to Unknown and Unknown Worlds” *Starmont Studies in Literary Criticism*. Starmont House, 1991.

**Gallagher, Edward J..** “The Annotated Guide to Fantastic Adventures” *Starmont Reference Guides*. Starmont House, 1985.

**Gammell, Leon.** “The Annotated Guide to Startling Stories” *Starmont Reference Guides*. Starmont House, 1986.

**Goodson, Tony,** ed. “The Pulps” *Chelsea House*, 1970.

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## Books on Pulps continued.

**Goulart, Ron.** "Cheap Thrills: An Informal History of the Pulp Magazine" Arlington House, 1972. (Also in paperback, "An Informal History of the Pulp Magazine" Ace Books, 1973.)

**Gruber, Frank.** "The Pulp Jungle" Sherbourne, 1967.

**Hagemann, E.R.** "Comprehensive Index to 'Black Mask': 1920-1951" Bowling Green State University Popular Press, 1982.

**Hamilton, Frank, and Link Hullar.** "Favorites" Tattered Pages Press.

**Hutchison, Don.** "The Great Pulp Heroes" Mosaic Press, 1995.

**Jaffery, Sheldon.** "The Collector's Index to 'Weird Tales'" Bowling Green State University Popular Press, 1985.

**Jones, Robert Kenneth.** "The Lure of Adventure" Starmont Pulp and Dime Novel Studies. Starmont House, 1989.

**Lesser, Robert.** "Pulp Art: Original Cover Paintings for the Great American Pulp Magazines" Random House, 1997.

*This book, due out in October 1997, promises a collection of original paintings by pulp artists such as Virgil Finlay, Rafael de Soto, J. Allen St. John and George Rozen.*

**Reynolds, Quentin.** "Fiction Factory: From Pulp Road to Quality Street" Random House, 1956.

**Robbins, Leonard A..** "The Pulp Magazine Index" Starmont, 1989.

**Sampson, Robert.** "Deadly Excitements, Shadows and Phantoms" Bowling Green State University Popular Press, 1989.

**Server, Lee.** "Danger Is My Business" Chronicle Books, 1993.

**Tefertillar, Robert L.** "Clandestine Reading: The Gone but not Forgotten Pulps," Antiques and Collecting Magazine May 1994, vol. 99, No. 3, 47, 58-59.

*Tefertillar recalls being a kid growing up reading the pulps. Also included is a short box on the history of the pulps and pulp pricing.*

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Books on Pulps continued.

**Traylor, James**, ed. "Dime Detective Index" Pulp Collectors Press, 1986.

(Unsigned). "The 50 Rarest Pulps" *Mediascene* No. 17 (January-February 1976), 22-25

*James Steranko's magazine asked a panel of pulp veterans and historians, including Robert Weinberg, Fred Cook, Joe Goggin and Ernest Toth, to help it select this collectors list.*

(Unsigned). "The Pulps Are Coming Out of The Shadow," *Washington Post-L.A. Times Wire Service*, 8 May 1977.

*A look at the rival in the popularity of the pulps, with comments by Popular Publications founder Henry Steeger and "The Shadow" author Walter B. Gibson.*

**Van Hise, James**, ed. "Pulp Heroes of the Thirties" Midnight Graffiti Publications, 1994.

*A collection of articles on pulp characters, writers and artists, as well as three works of fiction. It features reprinted articles and original works, including:*

- "Sex and the Spider," Robert Sampson.
- "The Top 10 Spider Novels — And One Stinker," Will Murray.
- "Twenty Years of Murder," Don Hutchison.
- "A Penny A Wor."
- "Hardboiled Detectibles," Rex Miller.
- "The Pulp Heroes and the Death Syndrome — or, A Death-Defying Act."

**Van Hise, James**, ed. "PulpMasters" Midnight Graffiti Publications, 1996.

*Another collection of articles on pulp characters, writers and artists. It features reprinted articles and original works, including:*

- "Pulps — Television of the 1930s," Erika Fensley.
- "The Top 25 Shadow Novels — And One Stinker," Will Murray.
- "Modern Pulp Fandom."
- "How I Write," Norvell W. Page.
- "Robert E. Howard: Master of the Dark Fantastic,"

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Books on Pulps continued.

*James Van Hise.*

■ *"Margaret Brundage: The Great Lady of Weird Tales," James Van Hise.*

**Weinberg, Robert.** "The Weird Tales Story" FAX, 1977.

*Interviews with artists and authors are the foundation for a study of the fantasy and horror magazine.*

**Weinburg, Robert, and Lohr McKinstry.** "The Hero-Pulp Index" Opar Press, 1971.

**Wilkinson, Richard Hill.** "Whatever Happened to the Pulps?" Saturday Review 10 February 1962, 60-61, 67.

*Wilkinson, who chiefly wrote Western fiction under the names of R.R. Meredith, Thomas Christie and Lt. Harlan Hayford, discusses writing pulps and offers his opinions on what killed them off.*

## Characters

**Bishoff, Murray.** "Shadow of the Ages," The Collector Fall 1973, 46-51.

**Carr, Nick.** "America's Secret Service Ace: Operator #5" Pulp Classics #7, 1974. Starmont, 1985.

**Carr, Nick.** "The Flying Spy, A History of G-8" Pulp Classics #19. 1974. Starmont, 1985.

**Carr, Nick.** "The Horseback Gladiator: The Life and Times of the Rio Kid" The Secret Society of the Sanctum, 1997.

**Carr, Nick.** "The Other Detective Pulp Heroes" Tattered Pages Press, 1992.

**Eisgruber, Frank Jr.** "Gangland's Doom" Pulp Classics #1, 1973. Starmont, 1985.

**Ellis, Mark, and Paul Davis,** eds. "Doc Savage: Manual of Bronze" Millennium Publications Inc., August 1992.

*The "Manual," printed in comicbook format, includes profiles of Doc Savage, his five pals, cousin Pat Savage and selected villains. Also included are: diagrams of The Helldiver submarine and Doc's headquarters; a prototype for an unsold 1936 Doc Savage comic strip (by author Lester Dent and illustrator Paul Orban); and drawings for a proposed (but also never produced) Doc Savage cartoon.*

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Books on Pulps continued.

**Farmer, Philip Jose.** "Doc Savage: His Apocalyptic Life" Simon and Schuster, 1972; Bantam Books, 1973; Playboy Press, 1981.

**Gibson, Walter.** Introduction to "A Quarter of Eight/The Freak Show Murders" Doubleday Crime Club, 1978.

*The introduction offers a glimpse at the pulp history which lead to "The Shadow."*

**Gibson, Walter.** Introduction to "Crime over Casco/The Mother Goose Murders" Doubleday Crime Club, 1979.

*Gibson explains how location played an important factor in his "Shadow" tales.*

**Gibson, Walter.** "Norgil: Walter Gibson Conjures Up a Magician Detective," Mediascene No. 27 (September-October 1977), 7.

*The author of The Shadow details how his background in magic lead to the development of Norgil.*

**Gibson, Walter.** "The Shadow" article in "The Great Detectives," Otto Penzler, ed.; Little, Brown and Co., 1978

*"Gibson discusses The Shadow and gives a possible explanation for the why The Shadow's ring is different at different times." - joe5mc@aol.com*

**Gibson, Walter, and Anthony Tollin.** "The Shadow Scrapbook" HBJ.

**Grant, Maxwell (Walter B. Gibson).** Introduction to "Norgil The Magician" The Mysterious Press, 1977.

*Gibson discusses the impact of magic on his pulp characters.*

**Grant, Maxwell (Walter B. Gibson)** Introduction to "Norgil: More Tales of Prestigitaction" The Mysterious Press, 1979.

*Gibson looks back at the influences of short stories in the collection.*

**Hopkins, Howard.** "The Grey Nemesis" Golden Perils Press, 1992.

**Johnson, Tom.** "The Black Bat" Golden Perils Press and Fading Shadows Inc, 1990.

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Books on Pulps continued.

**Johnson, Tom.** "From Shadow to Superman" Fading Shadows Inc. 1991.

**Johnson, Tom.** "The Green Ghost" Fading Shadows Inc. 1991.

**Johnson, Tom.** "The History of the Purple Wars" Fading Shadows, Inc. 1991.

**Johnson, Tom, and Will Murray.** "Secret Agent X" Pulp Classics #22, 1980. Revised edition: Golden Perils Press and Fading Shadows, Inc. 1990.

**Murray, Will.** "The Doc Savage Files" Odyssey Pub, 1985.

**Murray, Will.** "Doc Savage: The Genesis of a Popular Fiction Hero" 1979.

**Murray, Will.** "Doc Savage: Reflections in Bronze" Odyssey Press, 1978.

**Murray, Will.** "The Duende History of the Shadow" Odyssey Press, 1980.

**Murray, Will.** "G-8's Weird War" The Comics Buyer's Guide (May 25, 1984).

**Murray, Will.** "The Invincible Doc Savage" Odyssey Press, 1983.

**Murray, Will.** "Secrets of Doc Savage" Odyssey Press, 1981.

**Nanovic, John.** "Doc Savage, Supreme Adventurer" Odyssey Press, 1980.

*We're not normally listing fiction on this page, but...this novella was the template for Doc Savage, and therefore deserves inclusion.*

**Sampson, Robert.** "Doc Savage, The Man of Bronze," Giant-Size Doc Savage, Marvel Comics, No. 1 (1975), 54-55, 58-60.

*Pulp historian Sampson gives an overview of Doc Savage and pals.*

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Books on Pulps continued.

**Sampson, Robert.** "The Night Master" Pulp Press, 1982.

**Sampson, Robert.** "The Spider" Bowling Green State University Popular Press, 1987.

**Sampson, Robert.** "Yesterday's Faces: A Study of Series Characters in the Early Pulp Magazines" 6 volumes. Bowling Green State University Popular Press, 1988-93.

- "Glory Figures" vol. 1.
- "Strange Days" vol. 2.
- "From the Darkside" vol. 3.
- "The Solvers" vol. 4.
- "Dangerous Horizons" vol. 5.
- "Violent Lives" vol. 6

**Tollin, Anthony.** "The Man Who Created The Shadow" The Shadow: Blood and Judgement, DC Comics, No. 1 (May 1986), 34.

**Tollin, Anthony.** "Shades of The Shadow," an introduction to "The Shadow: Blood and Judgement" graphic novel, DC Comics, 1987.

*"Shades of The Shadow" was the introduction to the graphic novel collection of Howard Chaykin's four-issue miniseries.*

**Tollin, Anthony.** "The Shadow: A Dossier" The Shadow, National Periodical Publications Inc. (DC Comics), No. 9 (February-March 1975, 32-33).

*A brief look at The Shadow of the pulps, radio and film.*

**Tollin, Anthony.** "The Shadow's Agents" The Shadow: Blood and Judgement, DC Comics, No. 1 (May 1986), 31-33.

**Tollin, Anthony.** "The Story of The Shadow" The Shadow: Crime and Punishment, DC Comics, No. 2 (June 1986), 33-34.

**Tollin, Anthony.** "Voices from The Shadows" The Shadow: Brothers in Blood, DC Comics, No. 4 (August 1986), 31-33.

(Unsigned). "Operator 5: A Cover History" The Secret Society of the Sanctum, 1997.

*This book reprints in color all 48 of the pulp series' covers, plus has an article by Nick Carr and a index to the series.*

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## Books on Pulps continued.

(Unsigned). "Return of the Hero" Mediascene, No. 11 (January-February 1974), 20-21.

*After an introduction linked to the publication of "The Shadow" series by Pyramid, the article lets Walter B. Gibson tell in his own words how The Shadow of the pulps came to be.*

(Unsigned). " 'Shadow' knows no popularity limit," The Associated Press, 30 November 1978.

*An interview with Walter B. Gibson, at a mystery writers' convention in Chicago, on the growing popularity of The Shadow.*

**Weinberg, Robert**, "The Annotated Guide to Robert E. Howard's Sword and Sorcery" (unkown), 197?

*A guide to the barbarian heroes of Robert E. Howard, including Conan, Kull, Bran Mak Morn and Solomon Kane.*

**Widen, Larry, and Chris Miracle**. "Doc Savage: Arch-Enemy of Evil" Fantasticon Press, 1993/95.

**Zebrowski, George**. "The Shadow Radio and Pulp Origins: From a '30s Radio Host Voiced by Orson Welles to Pulp Novel Franchise," Cinefantastique Vol. 25, No. 4 (August 1994), 20-21.

*This short history of The Shadow, like the other articles in the magazine's coverage of the 1994 movie, includes several factual errors. Zebrowski often seems to confuse the radio Shadow with the pulp Shadow, indicating that The Shadow is really Lamont Cranston and that The Shadow "fought the underworld — with police help, of course." Another article in this issue of the magazine, by Dan Scapperotti, looks at The Shadow movies and serials of the 1930s and '40s.*

## Genre

**Ashley, Michael**, ed. "The History of the Science Fiction Magazine: Vol. 1, 1926-1935" Henry Regnery, 1976.

*Ashley offers a 40-plus page introduction looking at science fiction magazines from the antecedents to "Amazing Stories" through 1935. The remainder of the book features reprinted stories.*

**Ashley, Michael**, ed. "The History of the Science Fiction Magazine: Vol. 2, 1936-1945" Henry Regnery, 1976.



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## Books on Pulps continued.

**Ashley, Michael**, ed. "The History of the Science Fiction Magazine: Vol. 3, 1946-1955" Contemporary, 1977.

**Carr, Nick**. "The Western Pulp Hero: An Investigation into the Psyche of an American Legend" Starmont Popular Culture Studies. Starmont House, 1989.

**Carter, Lin**. "Lovecraft: A Look Behind the Cthulhu Mythos" Starmont Popular Culture Studies. Starmont House.

**de Camp, L. Sprague**. "Blond Barbarians and Noble Savages" Essays on Fantastic Literature. Borgo Press, 1986.

**Dinan, John A.** "The Pulp Western: A Popular History of the Western Fiction Magazine in America" I.O. Evans Studies in the Philosophy and Criticism of Literature. Borgo Press, 1983.

**Dinan, John and James Steranko**. "Behind the Mask: Part Two: Tracing the Origins of the Great Pulp Heroes," Mediascene No. 17 (January-February 1996), 26-27.

*A look at the inspirations for The Black Bat and The Avenger. (See Part One, listed below under "Unsigned.")*

**Elliot, Jeffrey M.** "Pulp Voices: Interviews with Pulp Magazine Writers and Editors; or Science Fiction Voices No. 6" The Milford Series: Popular Writers of Today. Borgo Press, 1983.

*Interviews with writers and editors of science fiction pulps, including Jack Williamson, Horace L. Gold, Stanton A. Coblentz, C.L. Moore and Raymond Z. Gallun. With an introduction by Poul Anderson.*

**Goulart, Ron**. "The Dime Detectives" Mysterious Press, 1988.

**Jones, Robert**. "The Shudder Pulps" FAXtarmont, 1975.

*A history of the weird menace magazines, such as "Horror Stories," "Terror Tales" and "Dime Mystery."*

**Moskowitz, Sam**. "The Growth of Science Fiction from 1900 to the Early 1950s," Blueprint for Space: Science Fiction to Science Fact, Smithsonian Institution, 1992.

*Pulp veteran Moskowitz covers the development of science fiction from the weeklies at the turn of the century through the pulp era and into the post-World War*

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Books on Pulps continued.

*II period. Nicely reprinted, color covers from "Astounding," "Amazing Stories" and other pulps illustrate the chapter.*

**Moskowitz, Sam.** "Under the Moons of Mars: A History and Anthology of 'The Scientific Romance' in the Munsey Magazines, 1912-1920" Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1970.

(Unsigned). "Behind the Mask: Tracing the Great Pulp Heroes," *Mediascene* No. 14 (July-August 1975), 4-5.

*Inspirations for The Shadow and Doc Savage are covered, as well as how they inspired other pulps. (Possibly written by James Steranko and/or John Dinan, see Part Two listing above.)*

**Steranko, James.** "The Steranko History of Comics, Vol. 1" Supergraphics, 1970.

*One chapter in this book looks at "The Bloody Pulps."*

## Authors

**Cannaday, Marilyn.** "Bigger than Life: The Creator of Doc Savage" Popular Press, 1990.

**Cerasini, Marc A., and Charles E. Hoffman.** "Robert E. Howard" Starmont Reader's Guides. Starmont House, 1987.

**Cox, J. Randolph.** "Man of Magic and Mystery: A Guide to the Work of Walter B. Gibson" Scarecrow Press, 1988.

*Here's a thorough accounting of the work that Gibson did for "The Shadow," other pulps, comics, books and more.*

**Gildea, William.** "'The Shadow's' Creator Still Lurks in Hearts..." *The Washington Post-L.A. Times Wire Service*, 24 May 1978

*An interview with Walter B. Gibson.*

**Joshi, S.T.** "H.P. Lovecraft" Starmont Reader's Guides. Starmont House.

*The book's second edition was published under the title of "A Subtler Magick: The Writings and Philosophy of H.P. Lovecraft" The Milford Series: Popular Writers of Today. Starmont House.*

**Lupoff, Richard A.** "Edgar Rice Burroughs: Master of

<http://members.aol.com/dotPulp/PulpFAQ>

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## Books on Pulps continued.

Adventure" Canaveral Press, 1965 (revised, Ace Books, 1968).

**Lord, Glenn.** "The Last Celt" Donald M. Grant, 1976.

*A portrait of Robert E. Howard painted from his notes, manuscripts, letters and stories.*

**McCarey-Laird, M. Martin.** "Lester Dent: The Man, His Craft, and His Market" Hidalgo Publishing Co., 1994.

**Montgomery, George.** "The Shadow Knew" Textile Bridge Press, 1989.

*A personal reminiscence of times spent with Walter Gibson and how author Jack Kerouac may have been influenced by "The Shadow" stories. An odd, but interesting booklet. Introduction by the Amazing Kreskin.*

**Moskowitz, Sam.** foreword to "Worlds of Weird," edited by Leo Margulies. Pyramid Books, 1965.

*A look at "The Forgotten Creator of 'Weird Tales,' " the magazine's originator and publisher J.C. Henneberger.*

**Parente, Audrey.** "Pulp Man's Odyssey: The Hugh B. Cave Story" Starmont House, 1988.

**Parente, Audrey.** "Pulpmaster: The Theodore Roscoe Story" Starmont Popular Culture Studies. Starmont House, 1992.

**Price, Robert M.** "H.P. Lovecraft and the Cthulhu Mythos" Starmont Studies in Literary Criticism. Starmont House.

**Schweitzer, Darrell.** "Conan's World and Robert E. Howard" The Milford Series: Popular Writers of Today. Borgo Press, 1978.

**Schweitzer, Darrell,** ed. "Discovering H.P. Lovecraft" Starmont Studies in Literary Criticism. Starmont House.

**Schweitzer, Darrell.** "The Dream Quest of H.P. Lovecraft" The Milford Series: Popular Writers of Today. Borgo Press, 1978.

**Siegel, Mark.** "Hugo Gernsback, Father of Modern Science Fiction" The Milford Series: Popular Writers of Today. Borgo Press, 1988.

*Also includes essays on Frank Herbert and Bram Stoker.*



Books on Pulps continued.

**Weinburg, Robert.** "The Man Behind Doc Savage" 1974.

**Van Hise, James,** ed. "Edgar Rice Burroughs' Fantastic Worlds" Midnight Graffiti Publications, 1997

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# FAQ

## alt.pulp

**Q.** Are there any magazines devoted to pulps?

**A.** There are several fanzines (fan magazines) being published. Some of these publishers have put out other works on the pulps. If you are requesting info, such as latest price info, back issue availability, etc, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope. Where indicated, make checks payable to the publisher, not the 'zine. Funds should be in U.S. currency.

The 'zines vary widely in quality, "quality" here meaning production quality. They range from Xeroxed and handfolded zines, to nicely bound with slick covers. Art ranges from amateur (some good, some amateurish) to professional. Articles are almost always of high quality. The prominent pulp writers and researchers will have articles in all the 'zines, and the 'zines will mention each other. Don't be surprised to see authors such as Will Murray, Nick Carr, et al, appear in many different 'zines. And most 'zines will plug each other.

In addition to these currently published fanzines, there scores of defunct fanzines.

(Please note that the last time this listing was updated — other than some minor editing — was in December 1995. Therefore information and addresses — both post and email — may be outdated. If you see an error, please let us know. Thanks in advance.)

■ **"Bronze Gazette"** (was "Doc Savage Gazette")

Green Eagle Publications (Howard Wright), 2900 Standiford Avenue, No. 136, Modesto, CA 95350; email: hwright@ainet.com

Small (8.5 x 5.5) nicely done 'zine devoted to Doc Savage. Subscriptions are \$16.50/3. At present subscriptions are to issues 17, 18 and 19 only. Few back issues available. Checks should be made out to Green Eagle Publications.

■ **"Golden Perils"**

Golden Perils Press (Howard Hopkins), 5 Milliken Mills Rd., Scarborough, ME 04070; email: KJRU85F@prodigy.com

Small (8.5 x 5.5) 'zine. Has occasion theme issues. Single issues \$4. Make checks payable to Howard Hopkins. Some back issues available and has other booklets available. At pre-

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Fanzines continued.

sent magazine is on "hiatus" (last was No. 20). Do not know when it will resume publication.

## ■ "Echoes"; "Behind The Mask"

Fading Shadows Inc. (Tom Johnson) 504 E Morris St.,  
Seymour, TX 76380

"Echoes" is the longest running 'zine, has existed for about 10 years with over 80 issues. It is a large format (8.5 x 11) 'zine. Subscriptions are \$27/6 issues, single issues are \$4.50.

"Behind the Mask" reprints hard to find pulp hero fiction. Subscriptions are \$22/4 issues, single issues are \$4.85. "Behind the Mask" is published six times a year, No. 34 is most recent. Some back issues of both mags are available as are other booklets. Checks should be made out to Tom Johnson.

## ■ "Pulp Collector"; "High Adventure" (formerly "Pulp Review")

Adventure House [was Pulp Collector Press] (John Gunnison)  
914 Laredo Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20901; phone: 301-754-1589 email: jgunnison@aol.com

"Pulp Collector" is a digest-sized, high quality 'zine printing articles on all types of pulps. Has occasional theme issues. Most recent is No. 24. No subscriptions are available, comes out about once a year or so. Single issues are \$6.00.

"High Adventure" is a small (8.5 x 5.5) mag reprinting classic pulp stories. Formerly "Pulp Review," it changed names with issue No. 24. Subscriptions are \$35/6 issues, single issues are \$6. Most recent is No. 22. Some back issues of both are available as are other booklets. Make checks payable to Adventure House.

## ■ "Pulp Vault"

Tattered Pages Press (Doug Ellis) 6942 N. Oleander, Chicago,  
IL 60631; email: pulpvlt@ix.netcom.com

Large, high quality 'zine publishing articles, story reprints, and unpublished pulp stories. Subscriptions are no longer accepted, single issues are \$7.95. Most recent issue is No. 11. Some back issues are available as are other booklets.

## ■ "Pulp Adventures"

Pulp Adventures Publications (Rich Harvey), 104 Pine Cone

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Fanzines continued.

Trail, Medford, NJ 08055

New digest-sized pulp fanzine focusing on modern day pulp activities. Up to issue No. 9 so far. Subscriptions are \$12/6 issues, single issues are \$2. Not reviewed.

## ■ “Spicy Armadillo Stories”

Jerry Page, 193 Battery Place N.E., Atlanta, GA 30307

Recently started fanzine publishing articles and new fiction, up to issue No. 6 so far. Subscriptions are \$26/6 issues, single issues are \$5. Not reviewed.

## ■ “Fantastic Collectibles”

Fantastic Collectibles (Ray Bowman), P.O. Box 167, Carmel, IN 46032; email: ierb6@agt.gmeds.com

Fanzine devoted to collecting of pulp magazines. Most recent issue is No. 125. Subscriptions are \$12/12 issues. Not reviewed.

## ■ “Pulpdom”

Pulpdom Camille Erwin Cazedessus II, P. O. Box 2340, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147-2340; email: cazbooks@frontier.net

Fanzine devoted to pulps. “The Fantasy/Fantastic Collector” and “Erbdom,” the famous Burroughs fanzine, have been incorporated into this ‘zine. Subscriptions are \$24/6 issues, bimonthly.

## ■ “Aces”

Paul McCall, 5801 W. Henry St., Indianapolis, IN 46241

New fanzine devoted to pulp art and pulp fan art, up to issue No. 4 so far. Limited print run to about 100 copies an issue, so don't expect back issues to be available. Single issues are \$8 plus \$2 postage.

## ■ “Yawning Vortex”

Tsathoggua Press (Perry Grayson), 6442 Pat Avenue, West Hills, CA 91307; email: am119@lafn.org or perryg@pro-palmtree.cts.com

Small (8.5 x 5.5), quarterly fanzine devoted to the pioneers of

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Fanzines continued.

weird fiction, fantasy, and science fiction and newcomers to these fields. Most recent is issue No. 6. Subscriptions are \$15/4 issues, single issues are \$4. Limited back issues available, as are other booklets.

■ **“Lovecraft Studies”**; **“New Lovecraft Collector”**; **“Crypt of Cthulhu”**; **“Studies in Weird Fiction”**; **“The Dark Man: The Journal of Robert E. Howard”**; **“The Dark Eidolon: The Journal of Clark Ashton Smith Studies”**

Necronomicon Press, 101 Lockwood St. West; Warwick, RI 02893; email: necropress@delphi.com

These are a group of high quality amateur fanzines and amateur scholarly journals from a well respected small press. Most come out about twice a year or irregularly and are about 8.5 x 5.

Of these, only “The New Lovecraft Collector” (\$5/4 quarterly issues), “Lovecraft Studies” and “Studies in Weird Fiction” (\$12/2 yearly issues) have subscriptions. Many back issues are available, along with other booklets. Write for their current catalog. “Lovecraft Studies” is devoted to serious study of H.P. Lovecraft and his work. Editor is S.T. Joshi, a well-know Lovecraft scholar. Comes out twice a year, most recent is No. 32 (\$5 each).

“New Lovecraft Collector” is a quarterly newsletter for collectors of Lovecraft publications. Most recent is No. 11 (\$1.50 each).

“Crypt of Cthulhu” is a Lovecraft fanzine that used to be published by Cryptic Publications. It publishes a wide variety of material, including both fiction and non-fiction. The editor is Robert Price. Comes out thrice a year, most recent is No. 90 (\$6 each).

“Studies in Weird Fiction” is devoted to serious study of fantasy, horror, and supernatural fiction subsequent to Poe. Comes out twice a year, most recent is No. 17 (\$5 each).

“The Dark Man” is an irregularly published journal devoted to Robert E. Howard and his work. Most recent issue is No. 3 (\$4.50 each).

“The Dark Eidolon” is an irregularly published journal devoted to Clark Ashton Smith. Most recent issue is No. 3 (\$5 each), but this journal is on hiatus and may not continue.



## Defunct Fanzines

Here are some of the now-defunct fanzines that have been published over the years:

- "Age of the Unicorn" (early '80s, eight issues)
- "Attic Revivals" (five issues)
- "Bronze Shadows" (Fred Cook, 1965-68, 15 issues, first fanzine)
- "Cloak and Pistol" (Joe Lewandowski, early '80s, one issue)
- "Doc Savage Forum" (Daryl Herrick, 1979, one issue)
- "Doc Savage: Inside and Out" (Bob Cotter, 1989-90, three issues)
- "Doc Savage Quarterly"/"Shadow Doc Savage Quest" (early '80s, 14 issues)
- "Doc Savage Reader" (1973, three issues)
- "Doc Savage and Associates" (one-shot)
- "Duende" (Will Murray/Odyssey Publications, mid '70s, two issues)
- "Echoes from the Pulps" (Joe Lewandowski, 1978, four issues)
- "Fantasy Mongers" (W. Paul Ganley, eight issues, adzine)
- "The Man of Bronze" (one-shot)
- "Megavore"/"SF Collector" (15 issues)
- "Nemesis Inc." [was "Doc Savage Club Reader" for first 12 issues] (Frank Lewandowski, 1977-91, 30 issues)
- "Prologue" (one issue)
- "Pulp" (Robert Weinberg, late '70s-early '80s, 13 issues)
- "Pulp Era" (Lynn Hickman, 1960s, 75 issues)
- "Pulp Letterzine" (four issues)
- "Pulpette" (Joe Lewandowski, early '80s)

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Fanzines continued.

- “Pulpster” (four issues)
- “The Rat” (one issue)
- “Savage Society of Bronze” (Joel DiGiacomo, seven issues)
- “Unicorn” (Michael Cook, ended in 1979)
- “The Wold Atlas” (early ‘80s, five issues, concerned with Philip Jose Farmer’s ideas)
- “Xenophile” (Nils Hardin, 1974-80, 44 issues)

— *Michael Rogero Brown*

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**Q.** Is there a list of sources for pulps, like dealers?

**A.** First, there is no comprehensive listing of pulp dealers. Pulps can be found at antique stores, garage sales, mail-order catalogues, used-book stores, comic book stores and a variety of other locations.

In addition to stores, pulps and pulp-related material can be found online. Often fans and dealers buy/sell/trade pulps through alt.pulp or one of the other pulp-related newsgroups, or through the Books Marketplace newsgroup: rec.arts.books.marketplace .

The following list of online sources, compiled by the proprietors of the **.Pulp** website, is certainly not a comprehensive listing. Addresses are subject to frequent change, so some may be out of date. A more up-to-date listing can be found at <http://members.aol.com/dotPulp/pulpsource.html> .

Also, neither **.Pulp** nor the alt.pulp FAQ vouches for the quality of service you might receive from any of these sources. If you are looking for a particular item, it is strongly recommended that you shop around. Prices can vary considerably between dealers. *Caveat emptor.*

In addition to the for-profit sites, this list also includes sites for fan trading and sites offering free electronic texts.

### **The Advanced Book Exchange**

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

*ABE gives you the chance to search the wares of several book dealers.*

### **Adventure House/In Tandem**

<http://www.adventurehouse.com>

*Adventure House's site gives visitors a chance to find out more about and order the pulp-reprint magazine "High Adventure" and original pulps. Also at the site, you'll find information about ordering In Tandem's CD-ROM of pulp cover art, "Lurid Lasses."*

### **Cobblestone Books Online**

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

*You can find pulps and pulp-related reprints at the website for this bookstore specializing in science fiction, fantasy, horror and mysteries.*

<http://members.aol.com/dotPulp/PulpFAQ>

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Pulp Sources continued.

## **Comics and Collectibles**

<http://www.mindspring.com/%7Edtacoll/>

*This site provides information on ordering pulp, comic and other paper memorabilia catalogs from David T. Alexander Comics and Collectibles.*

## **Cybertiques**

<http://www.nemaine.com/cybertiques>

*Cybertiques offers science-fiction and fantasy pulps, as well as vintage paperbacks and Big Little Books, for sale.*

## **Doc Savage book and fanzines**

<http://www.execpc.com/~lw/dsfile/knights.html>

*Larry Widen's site offers information on purchasing his book on Doc Savage, "Arch Enemy of Evil," and his fanzine, "The Bronze Gazette."*

## **Edgar Rice Burroughs site**

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

*If you don't find them at the Gutenberg Project link, you'll find plenty of links to electronic texts by Edgar Rice Burroughs at this site.*

## **Email sources**

Here are the email addresses of several dealers who currently don't have websites, but periodically post their catalogs on news groups. You might email your want list or ask for their latest catalog or listing.

- **Michael Canick Booksellers**, [canick@panix.com](mailto:canick@panix.com), for pulps, pulp-related books and pulp reprints.
- **Peter Infantino**, [diepool@aol.com](mailto:diepool@aol.com), for pulp reprints and fanzines.

## **Fantastic Collectibles**

<http://www.a1.com/sfbooks/>

*Ray Bowman's site includes his book and pulp lists, as well as classified ads from other people wanting and selling pulps.*

## **Fantastic Fiction Company**

<http://www.execpc.com/~bookman/>

*Chris Miracle's site offers a selection of science fiction, detective, sports, aviation, western and other pulps.*

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Pulp Sources continued.

## **Fantasy Illustrated**

[http://www.jetcity.com/~rocket/p\\_cat.htm](http://www.jetcity.com/~rocket/p_cat.htm)

*Fantasy Illustrated's pulp catalog has a good mix of science fiction, detective and other genre pulps, but few character magazines.*

## **The Forum On-Line Antiques Mall**

<http://www.the-forum.com/books/western.htm>

*There are plenty of 1940s Western pulps for sale at this site.*

## **Funk and Junk**

<http://www.funkandjunk.com/collectibles.html>

*Funk and Junk sells collectible antiques, including some pulps.*

## **The Gutenberg Project**

<ftp://uiarchive.cso.uiuc.edu/pub/etext/gutenberg/>

*FTP to the Gutenberg Project's directory of electronic texts. Here you'll be able to find many Edgar Rice Burroughs adventures, as well as many, many other novels. And they are all free! Or, you can visit the project's home page*

## **Graham Holroyd**

<http://www.a1.com/sfbooks/holroyd.html>

*Graham Holroyd's site has information on the pulps, magazines and science-fiction and fantasy books he carries.*

## **Hake's Americana and Collectibles**

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

*This appears to be a good source for pulps, but Hake's obscure naming convention makes it difficult to tell what you've found in your search without a bit of trouble.*

## **James Haack Collectibles**

<http://www.execpc.com/~jimhaack/pulps.htm>

*You will find pulps and more at the James Haack Collectibles site.*

## **Jon Bevans Collectibles**

<http://www.erols.com/jbevans/pulps.html>

*You'll find an index of pulps, Big Little Books, toys and*

<http://members.aol.com/dotPulp/PulpFAQ>

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Pulp Sources continued.

*more for sale here.*

## **Level 7 pulps**

<http://idibbs.com/bus/gemstone/l7m03.htm>

*Browse Level 7's catalog of science-fiction pulps. (They also have a gallery of cover art for your viewing pleasure.)*

## **Lost Dutchman Comics**

<http://www.netzone.com/~ldcomics/pulp/pulp.html>

*This Phoenix, Ariz., dealer in comics also features a selection of pulps (mostly science fiction).*

## **The Online Books Page**

<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/Web/books.html>

*Links to sites with electronic texts of books.*

## **Pandora's Books Online**

<http://www.mbnet.mb.ca/pandora/index.html>

*Pandora's Books list numerous pulps, particularly Doc Savage, pulp reprints and pulp-related books and fanzines.*

## **The Paper Collectors' Marketplace**

<http://www.tias.com/mags/pcm/>

*Look here for these classified listings:*

### ■ **Pulps for sale.**

<http://www.tias.com/mags/pcm/html/1698-1.html>

### ■ **Pulps wanted.**

<http://www.tias.com/mags/pcm/html/1699-1.html>

### ■ **Books, paperbacks for sale.**

<http://www.tias.com/mags/pcm/html/1290-1.html>

### ■ **Magazines for sale.**

<http://www.tias.com/mags/pcm/html/1498-1.html>

## **The Paperback Rack**

<http://www.nettally.com/therack/>

*The Paperback Rack in Tallahassee, Fla., offers a selection of pulp reprints scattered throughout its listing of books.*

## **The Popular Press book catalog**

<http://www.bgsu.edu/colleges/library/press/bcat.html>

*The Popular Press, the publishing concern of Bowling Green State University in Ohio, published much of*

<http://members.aol.com/dotPulp/PulpFAQ>

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Pulp Sources continued.

*Robert Sampson's pulp studies, including his thorough books on The Shadow and The Spider.*

## **Pulp Fiction Central**

<http://www.vintagelibrary.com/pulp/index.htm>

*Vintage New Media's site offers for sale: electronic texts of numerous pulps, including The Spider, Operator 5, G-8, Dusty Ayres and His Battle Birds, Carroll John Daly and more; some pulps; pulp reprints; and a variety of pulp fanzines.*

## **"Pulpdome" fanzine**

<http://stationlink.com/pulpdome/index.html>

*Editor/publisher Camille Erwin Cazedessus II provides information about his fanzine "Pulpdome," formerly known as "ERB-dome" and "The Fantastic Collector." It offers articles about pulps and reprints pulp stories. For more information, contact Cazedessus at [cazbooks@frontier.net](mailto:cazbooks@frontier.net)*

## **Tall Tales Fantasy and Science Fiction Bookseller**

<http://www.halcyon.com/msk/tlltales.htm>

*Operating out of Renton, Wash., Tall Tales specializes in collectible science-fiction and fantasy hardbacks. You'll find pulp reprints — a few of them in paperback — in their online listing.*

## **Trading places**

Check out these sites for fans trading pulps, reprints and more:

- **Jeff Sines' page**, mainly for Doc Savage.  
<http://users.aol.com/jsines233/private/DocSavageHomePage.htm>
- **Larry Widen's page**, for mainly Doc Savage.  
<http://www.execpc.com/~lw/dsfile/trading.html>
- **Mike Griffin's page**, for The Shadow.  
<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/3401/0forsale.htm>
- **The Science Fiction and Fantasy Swaplist**, by Kenny A. Chaffin, for pulps, paperbacks, hardbacks and other collectible books and magazines.  
<http://www.kacweb.com/swapwaplist.html>
- **Tim Hewitt's page**, for The Shadow.  
<http://www.scsn.net/users/thewitt/titles.htm>
- **Tomi Vaisala's page**, for The Avenger, Doc Savage, The Shadow and The Spider paperbacks.  
<http://www.cs.uku.fi/~vaisala/fs.paperbacks.html>

<http://members.aol.com/dotPulp/PulpFAQ>



Pulp Sources continued.

**Virginia Tech Speculative Fiction Project**

<http://athena.english.vt.edu/vtsfpilot/gtoc.html>

*As part of a class in 20th Century Speculative Fiction (i.e. science fiction) at Virginia Tech, this project has put the contents of six pulps from the 1920s through 1950s online. Included are "Air Wonder Stories," "Cosmic Stories" and "Super Science Stories," and authors such as Issac Asimov and Forrest J. Ackerman.*

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**Q.** Are there any pulp conventions?

**A.** Yes. Currently there is only one, the annual PulpCon; but pulps and pulp-related guests may appear at any number of science fiction, fantasy or comics conventions.

PulpCon usually is held each summer, with the next scheduled for the summer of 1998 at Bowling Green State University. For information on future PulpCons write: Rusty Hevelin, P.O. Box 1332, Dayton, OH 45401.

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### About alt.pulp FAQ

The alt.pulp FAQ was edited for stylistic, grammatical and factual errors in August and September 1997. Portions were extensively rewritten and expanded at that time.

The FAQ is in a state of continual updating. Comments, suggestions and corrections are welcomed. Please email them to [lampkin@freenet.tlh.fl.us](mailto:lampkin@freenet.tlh.fl.us)

This version of the alt.pulp FAQ is based on version 0.9.22, originated by Michael Rogero Brown and last updated in December 1995. Portions of that version which have been retained are credited to Mr. Brown.

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