

# LOCUS

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## Editorial Matters

Welcome to the largest issue of *Locus* ever. If the Bantam insert for the centerfold shows up on time, this issue will be 70 pages long. Of course, we don't count inserts in the actual page count, so it's only 60 pages, but we add text depending on the full size, so there's more material here than ever before. We've included both a foreign section and convention reports as well as a comprehensive Along Publishers Row covering most books through the end of 1987. The September issue will have updates through March 1988.

As usual, we had both too much and too little material for this issue. The deadline for the center 40 pages, the magazine section, was before the Nebula banquet and my trip to New York, so we can't run the photo spreads on the Nebula and Writers of the Future affairs until next issue. We had to stretch the foreign and convention coverage to fill the extra 8-page section dictated by the larger number of ads. On the other hand, the deadline for the outer 20 pages, the newspaper section, was *after* the Nebula banquet, so we could get it on the cover and some of the notes in the People & Publishing section. The outer section filled up all too quickly.

Next issue will probably be just the opposite. We need 5 center pages for the photo spreads, 3 for convention listings, and 4 for the *Locus* Awards, plus our usual 15 pages for columns and book listings (the first section finished for the printer). But so far we have no news or outside material left over except an interview with Ray Feist. We're not too worried; something always turns up. If not, there are always more space scenes.

**NEW YORK, NY**

I guess I'm not a New Yorker anymore. Although I lived there for 35 years, I now feel out of place, disturbed by the New York life where paranoia is a sur-

vival factor, and I get lost in the subway system!

I was exhausted after 10 days in New York, and need another month to collect my thoughts, if any. Book publishing is not in good shape. There are too many books; thus returns are up, sales and shelf life are down, and there are too many hardcovers fighting for what used to be paperback dollars. The price of paper went up 20% in the past 6 months, so there will probably be another round of price increases. The only good news is that the number of authors being paid a decent wage of \$20,000 per book has increased dramatically. Welcome back to the middle class, guys and gals!

### CORRECTIONS

I've barely had time to read the last issue, let alone find mistakes. One bad one, though. In the Mahaffey obituary, Ray Palmer was editor of *Amazing*, not *Analogue*. It's correct later in the same story.

The "Winged Wolves" mentioned in the Boskone Art Show report (April, p.23) were by Sandra Santara, not Virginia Dildine.

### MAILING

I missed my second *Locus* mailing in a row -- probably the first time that's happened in 20 years. It will get worse. Carolyn and I will probably be at ABA in Washington DC for the mailing of this issue; I'll be in Europe late in June, and in Brighton late in August. Somehow it gets done anyway. I don't know whether to be glad or worried.

Kristina Anderson took over kitchen chores and fed Chinese food to Carol, Connie, and Aaron Buchanan, Lisa Goldstein, Doug Asherman, Mikey Roessner-Herman, and the *Locus* staff of Faren, Carolyn, and Pam. The discussion seemed to be whether or not my absence helped or hindered.

Thank you all.

—C.N. Brown