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Editorial Matters

It's Locus Poll and Survey time again. The pullout ballot is in the centerfold. Please return to us by April 15, 1989--the same day you have to send in your income tax. As usual, we will add a free copy to your subscription if you are a subscriber when we count the ballots in late April. You have to at least make an attempt to vote in some categories on the poll as well as fill out the survey to qualify. Photocopies are fine, and we'll count ballots from second or third readers of your copy, but only one freebie per subscription. For those who keep their issues pristine (or at least in the condition the post office delivered it) we'll send an extra survey if you send us a stamped addressed envelope.

We've added two categories this year; "Horror Novels" and "Best Editor." The former because of the explosion in the category, the latter to bring the poll more in line with Hugo Awards. The editor category is open to

professionals, semi-professionals, and fans -- book editors, magazine editors, series editors, packagers, anthology editors, etc. We've never had the category before because it seemed redundant with the magazines and publisher categories, but there are now many editors at various companies and more independents.

The word count for stories is the same as for the Nebula and Hugo: novellas are over 17,500 words, novelettes are 7500 to 17,500 and short stories are under 7500. Counting is done by the method of assigning five characters and a space to each word, counting the number of words per column inch, and multiplying out. Please do not vote for any item more than once in a category, and put them only in one category. The only exception is that first novels are also eligible in the best sf, fantasy or horror novel categories.

In the best magazine category, please

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