June 29, 1931

407 E. 183 St.
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dick.,

I'll be waiting for your package, but take your time in reading the stories. I'm in no hurry to get the books, since I have plenty to read now. I'm going to see about getting the Moon Pool very soon. You see, the second hand book stores are downtown and it takes over an hour to get there, and I want to go there when I have enough money to buy other books and magazines also. But I suggest you give me a list of all the Amazing Stories and Astounding Stories you need, and if I can't get The Moon Pool I'll get something else to fill up the bill.

Wesso does the covers for practically all the Clayton Magazines, Clues, All-Star Detective, etc. When I said Wesso was "deproving" I meant that he was paying as much attention as he might to all details. For instance take the illustration for Spacehounds of IPC. Notice how carelessly it's done. The outline of the ship is indistinct. You can compare other early issues, about the time of the late '29's and the early '30's and I think you will agree with me that Wesso is getting careless.

Well, at least we agree on Merritt! I consider him the greatest author of the day -- with no exceptions. I read his stuff very slow to get the full meaning and to appreciate his use of words. The first story I read by him was The Moon Pool, and immediately he became my favorite author. Then I followed this with The People of the Pit, The Face in the Abyss, And Seven Footprints to Satan. I immediately became Merritt mad, and I went on the warpath for some of his works. I picked up The Metal Monster in the 1920 Argosies, then in the 1917 All-Story Through the Dragon Glass, and in 1919 Three Lines of Old French. Then along came his ~~xxxxxx~~ Snake Mother. I found out later that he had a story published in Weird Tales entitled The Woman of the Wood. I had just located that issue when I wrote my last letter to you, and expect the story any day now. You asked if I have Three Lines of Old French. Well, you see from the above that I have. The Story takes place during the World War, a soldier passes on to the "here-after" and meets a bee-you-tea-ful girl etc. and she gives him a paper written in Old French. He of course doesn't know that he went into the "here-after" and when he wakes up again, then does he first realize it. It's a very beautiful tale, worth of Merritt. It also might interest you to know that Kline's The Metal Monster in the current Amazing is very similar to Merritt's story of the same name. And that Kline did not originally call it the Metal Monster, but the Metal Menace, but due to a typographical error it was named The Metal Monster. I'm still waiting for a sequel to Through the Dragon Glass. The story ends that the hero goes into the dragon glass to see the "girl" and to bring her out of it. The one who tells the story is still waiting for the hero to come out again, as far as I know.

Gee! Now that I look over the letter I see what a "gigantic" paragraph I have written. But I can't help it. When I go into a discussion of Merritt I simply lose myself. Can you blame me?

Glasser informs me that Miracle is not coming out any more.

There is a slight chance, I think, that the next issue might come out. Glasser sent them a letter asking them if they would consider any stories. The last time he sent a story they rejected it saying they weren't in the market for any stories at present. Now Heresy informs him that they have decided to "temporarily"discontinue to publish Miracle, which means that it'll never come out. Oh, well!

When P. Schuyler Miller wrote the Red Spot of Jupiter, he thought it was lousy. (I must agree with him.) He didn't want to publish it under his own name. It would ruin his reputation. So, he asked his friend Walter Dennis to send it in under the name of Dennis McDermott, to collect the money from Wonder and send it on to him. Lasser, and Gernsback don't know what it's all about. Miller will probably receive his money in the year 2,000. But seriously, Wonder is improving. Lasser is doing all the work now, and is doing a darn good job of it. Recently in one of the author's magazines he says he has raised the price for stories to 1/2 to 1 cent a word! Of course that isn't much, but he is making an attempt to pay his authors. I'm telling you...watch Wonder soar....

Thanks for telling me about Into the Fourth Dimension, but since I correspond regularly with Carl Swanson I of course knew about it. I'm not going after Science & Invention at present. I got my hands fill with Weird Tales and old Argosies, not to mention the current magazines.

Bates informs me that Strange Stories will appear about the middle of August and assures me that they will publish the same type of stories that now appear in Weird Tales only much better!!

I have some more author's biographies which you can add to the list. Otis A. Kline, Sewell P. Wright, Schachner & Zagat, Stanton A. Coblentz,

Name: Miles J. Breuer
Born: Jan. 3, 1889 in Chicago
Married: Yes
Vocation: Physician;Specialty:Internist
Avocation:Writing amateur photography, shop work
College, degrees: Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts,University of Texas--1911
Doctor of Medicine--Rush Medical College of University of Chicago--1915

Enclose find the review of Merritt's The Face in the Abyss. You may keep it. I wish you would try and locate another John Taine picture for me if it is at all possible.

Mr. Zagat, of Schachner & Zagat, asks me to distribute the following questionaire among the science-fiction fans. I wish you would please answer it and send it to me. You need not repeat the question, that is answer as follows 1.22 years, 2.High School and attending college etc. Please sign your name and address. If you don't mind you could pass it along to your science-fiction ~~fans~~ friends and have them fill it out too, giving name and address. Please do each one on a separate piece of paper.

Scientifictionally yours,
Julius Schwartz

1. Age
2. Education
3. Vocation (If still at school please so state)
4. Are you a regular or occasional reader of science-fiction
5. What magazines do you read (in order of preference)
   a-regularly
   b-occasionally
6. List in order of preference the following classes of stories
   a-interplanetary
   b-future
   c-fourth dimensional
   d-Weird - scientifically or rationally explained
   e-Weird - without scientific or rational explanation
   f-Stories of present or recent past with scientific elements
   g-Stories dealing with imaginative forms of life, such as giant insects, living plants, etc.
   h-synthetic monsters
   i-prehistoric " surviving to the present day
   j-War and secret service
7. Do you prefer tense, gripping action with no let up, to quieter stories in which emphasis is placed on the scientific aspects
8. Do you like long scientific explanations
9. Would you rather that scientific explanations be held to a minimum
10. Are you willing to take your science on faith, to permit the author to omit scientific explantion entirely
11. Do you prfer logical science, or would you rather that the author be illogical in his science where doing so makes a more thrilling story
12. Do you like some romance or would you rather that women be left out.
13. Who are your five favorite science-fiction authors--in order.