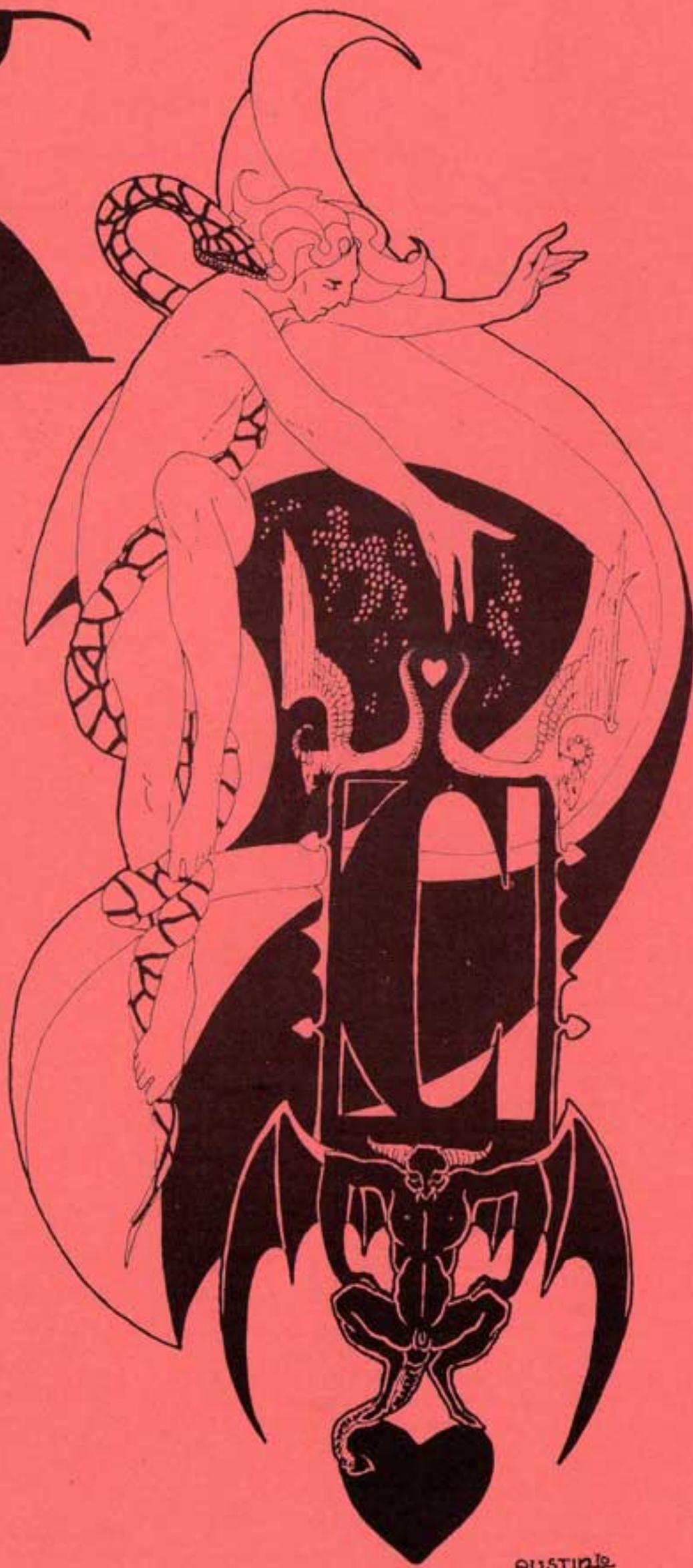


FRANK  
MILBURN

Vol. IV  
No. 3  
Whole  
No. 15



AUSTIN

one or another of the publishers who are now bringing JBC back into print at so remarkable a pace. Let us indeed begin to consider, right now, what essays we would offer to such a publisher - - and, perhaps, try them out in draft form in KALKI - - J.B./W.L.G.

### *Those Islands*

A cluster of mythical pleasure islands is mentioned in Baring-Gould's *Curious Myths of the Middle Ages*, which are those seen by Jurgen in the mist of Anaitis' hour glass of time. "In the remote Ogygia sleeps Kronos gently, watched by Briareus" (p. 535), and Avalon, the Garden of the Hesperides, Meropis, and the Fortunate Isles, like Atlantis, became for their abundant fruit, "Enchanting beauty," and "joy, song, and minstrelsy" (p. 536). The association with splendid edibles became so great that "it was nicknamed Cocaigne," or cookery-land (p. 537).

Jurgen sees these lands and more, but with the wisdom of a tired Tanhäuser has no more desire for "glorified brothels" filled with "fantastic animals and overgrown flowers" (p. 143, Avalon ed.).

And as if you did not have enough contributions to the pigeon and mirror puzzle, here is another from the same book by Baring-Gould (also the 1892, N.Y. ed.). Solomon was obliged to consult Asmodeus, king of the devils who is also called a Jin, to find the Schamir, a worm which can cut better than iron. The mysterious worm was entrusted to a moorhen, and must be tricked away from her: "he must find the nest of the moorhen, and cover it with a plate of glass, so that the mother bird could not get at her young without breaking the glass." The bird is

variously a raven, eagle, or ostrich, and the character of the glass differs in other versions (p. 392 for quote). - Jeanette Driskell, 404 Taylor, Moscow, Idaho 83843.

### *Edward and Pigeons*

In KALKI 111:33 and 1V:29 there is mention of a supposed error in Cabell's chronology. He is alleged to have dated the birth of Manuel's son Edward 11 to the year before Manuel's own death in 1239, yet it is an historical fact that Edward 11 was born in 1239. This is a misinterpretation of what Cabell actually says.

Chapter 34 of FIGURES OF EARTH related how Manuel visited Alianora in September, and then ends with a note that the stork brought her a son the "following June", and that Manuel never saw the son, nor did he ever see Alianora again. Chapter 35 returns to Manuel on "the last day of April". Both G.N. Gabbard and James Blish assume that this April follows the June when Edward was born, and is therefore almost a year later, yet all other chronological data in the book proves that it is the April before the birth of Edward, and that the note on Edward's birth was placed where it is because it is more suitable as a conclusion to the meeting between Alianora and Manuel than as an interruption in the story of Manuel and the third window.

"Sir Thomas reflectively scraped the edge of the glass with his finger-nail. 'You would be none the happier for knowing Philip. Yes, that is a blood-stain here. I see. And Herrick, so far as we know, had never in his life loved any woman'" (p. 116)

That the "crystal of Venice glass three inches square" is related to the "mirror" in e

the other books is obvious, but it is interesting to note that the source discovered by James Blish in KALKI II:97 specifies that the mirror be of "fine steel", but has nothing to say about its dimensions. If it were not for Cabell's other books we would never connect Herrick's glass with the spell in the *Grimorium Verum*. Therefore I suspect that either Cabell had some other source which related a spell similar to that in the *Grimorium Verum*, or that Cabell knew both the *Grimorium Verum* spell and some other spell, used the latter as a source for Herrick's magic, and combined

the two for later books. I suspect an attempt to find source material for "Concerning Corinna" could lead to a solution.

By the way, you misspelled my name in KALKI IV, No. 1. It seems that I have one of those names that everyone knows how to spell, and therefore they don't look at it and see that it ends in -an instead of the expected -en. At least half of the times my name has been printed, it is misspelled. James Allan, 10 Kingsgrove Blvd., Toronto 590, Ontario, Canada.

#### CABELL IN PRINT

Compiled by Paul Spencer

FIGURES OF EARTH. Introduction by Lin Carter, cover by Robert Pepper, illus. Frank C. Papé. Ballantine Books, New York, 1969; #01763.095, xxii + 290 pp., paper, 95¢.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. Books for Libraries Press, Freeport, N.Y., 1968; x + 305 pp., boards, \$9.50.

QUIET, PLEASE. Introduction, "The Portrait", by Marjorie Burke, photo of sculpture of JBC by Hollis H. Holbrook, drawings by Richard Neidhardt. University of Florida Press, Gainesville, 1952; xxxv + 105 pp., boards, \$3.00.

THE SILVER STALLION. Introduction by Lin Carter, cover by Robert Pepper, illus. Frank C. Papé. Ballantine Books, New York, 1969; #01678, xxvi + 284 pp., paper, 95¢.

THE WAY OF ECBEN. In *The Young Magicians*, ed. Lin Carter. Ballantine Books, New York, 1969; #01730.095, 280 pp., paper, 95¢ (the Cabell novella, in the 1948 edition plus introduction by Carter, occupies pp. 45-85).

THE HIGH PLACE. Introduction by Lin Carter, cover and illus. Frank C. Papé. Ballantine Books, New York, 1970; 01855.9.095, xx + 234 pp., paper, 95c

THE LINE OF LOVE. Books for Libraries Press, Freeport, N.Y., 1969; from the Kalki edition; boards, \$12.50.

Forthcoming: BEYOND LIFE (Johnson Reprint, ed. Godshalk), THE CREAM OF THE JEST (Ballantine, ed. Carter), DOMNEI (Ballantine, ed. Carter), FIGURES OF EARTH (Tandem, ed. Blish), JURGEN (Avon, ed. Rubin; Tandem, ed. Blish); THE SILVER STALLION (Tandem, ed. Blish); SOMETHING ABOUT EVE (Ballantine, ed. Carter).