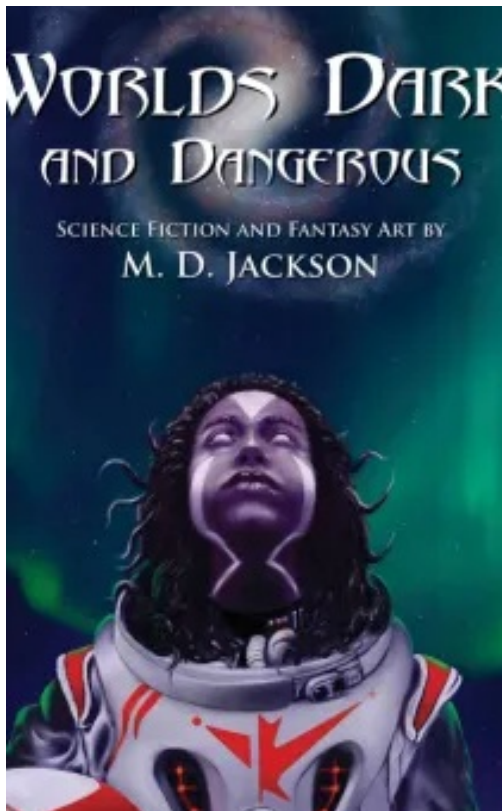


# RAGE machine Newsletter

## October 2025

New Releases

### NEW BOOKS IN OCTOBER



[Buy it here](#)

M. D. Jackson began his career as an illustrator in the late 1980's. With a passion for art as well as science fiction and fantasy, he combined these two interests and carved out a career of producing cover art for books and magazines as well as illustrations for magazines and for the web.

This volume presents the highlights of that career as well as commentary and insights from the artist himself as well as some of his clients.

Contributions to this book have been made by R. GRAEME CAMERON, publisher of Polar Borealis Magazine, STEVE DAVIDSON, publisher of

Amazing Stories Magazine, new pulp author JOEL JENKINS, science fiction author ALLEN STEELE, G. W. THOMAS, publisher of Rage Machine Books, and KERMIT WOODALL, art director for Amazing Stories Magazine.



From WORLDS DARK & DANGEROUS by G. W. THOMAS

I know there are some others who have written comments for this book. I haven't read them yet, but I have little worry they will be writing too close to what I have to say. This is because, unlike the good authors that M. D. Jackson has illustrated—and I am one of them—I can remember when the artist was twelve years old and drawing scenes from Edgar Rice Burroughs' *At the Earth's Core*. M. D. Jackson and I go back that far.

I know, for instance, that Mike as we all know him, was part of an artistic family. His mother Joyce was a watercolor artist of some skill. Her painting of Morfee Lake still sits on the walls of my home, a wedding gift given forty years ago. Joyce always encouraged "Michael", as she preferred to call him, to work hard at his drawing. She could see the potential. She had faith.

Mike and I liked to hang out in his basement, watching movies on laser disk (remember those?), listen to music and plan films we wanted to make. Our first collaborations weren't in print but on 16mm film. Awful and best forgotten. But there was other projects, like our first fanzine *Hyperspace*. One issue, half stolen from other books and sporting artwork by both of us.

Life goes on and with some practice you get good enough to let other people see what you do. For Mike, that turned out to be computer-supported artwork. (Let's not pretend that he doesn't also cobble more than a few words together as Jack Mackenzie. Not all that fanzine work was wasted.) The name M. D. Jackson can be seen on quite a few book covers these days. That's why this book makes sense.

That young teenager I first met back in the old days, when we would catch *Wizards*, or *Alien*, or any number of other movies in our one town theatre, still finds all these things interesting. The dinosaurs, the spaceships, the aliens and the laser guns, seen in comic books, on TV or at the flicks. (The Internet was twenty-five years away!) It all forms what makes Mike's art so exciting to me.

And that love of film-making, which Mike pursued long after I had given up on it for comic panels and manuscript pages, can be seen here, too. Mike brings a film-maker's eye to his art (as he does his prose), an eye for the fantastic and the humane. Over forty years later, we still remember those little things that made our hearts race when we were much younger. This book captures some of that magic, that love of adventure and the exotic, frozen in place for you to peruse.

Growing up in Canada makes most think an artist will end up painting ducks on a pond or huskies pulling a dog-sled with a Mountie running alongside. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Back in that basement in the middle of the forest of British Columbia, we dreamt of

the stars. And thoats running across the sands of Mars while green-skinned warriors fought duels with swords. Of spaceships locked in battle. Of the many stories written between the flashing lights. This is a book of dreams. Enjoy them all.

Art by M. D. Jackson

COMING NEXT MONTH .....  
DEVIL'S GULCH

We are in the final leg of the race for *Devil's Gulch*, our shared world Weird Western anthology. The cover and four illustrations are done and half of the book is edited. We are just waiting on yours truly to finish writing "The Ghost Gun". Now before you give me too much grief, I should explain that this novella is 25,000 words long with five separate stories buried within it. It's a lot of fun so I am trying to make sure it fires on all cylinders.

The book is four novellas:  
"Music Is the Food of Love", a Mythosian piece by M. D. Jackson to kick off our shared world. "Dark Raven" by T. Neil

Thomas is about the hanging Judge Galbraith's journey to redemption. "The Black Lake" by Jack Mackenzie follows Johnny Watson, a black man living in the West, and how he assists Esterhaus in investigating a very nasty place. And finally, "The Ghost Gun" has Deputy Sheriff Brett Hope (who had four tales in *Strange Adventures*) and his quest to fill the bullets of the ghost gun with demons and monsters, because something even worse is headed for Devil's Gulch.

[Buy it here](#)

That's about it, except to let you know that *Monster 3* is now available in ebook and paperback. Last month it wasn't quite done when we did the newsletter.

Until next month when we will do the last newsletter of 2025. See you then.

## RAGE machine Books



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