A Biography of Jim Pinkoski cont'd . . .

The Most Valuable PRINCE VALIANT Original on the Planet !

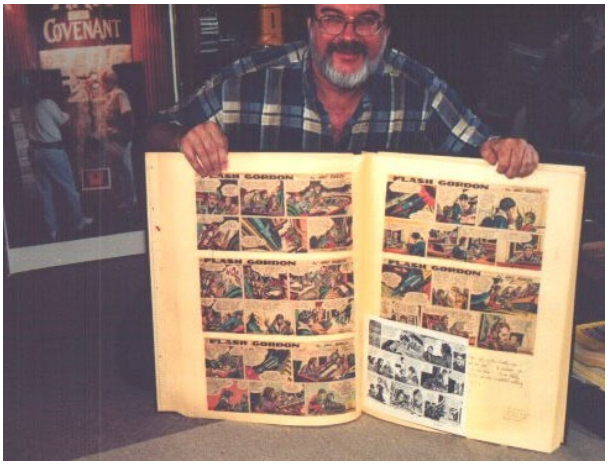


Hal Foster did the **PRINCE VALIANT** comic strip from **1937** until **1971**, a beautiful work of art that stressed family values, the beauty of nature, and the story of a Christian knight "fighting the good fight." I have collected nearly the entire run of Foster's strip, and back in **1978** I had the chance to see and hold the **original art** to the high-point of the strip, the **1939** page where **PRINCE VALIANT** was knighted on the field of battle by King Arthur! This page is worth thousands of dollars — and it was nearly destroyed when a basement in Oakland was being cleaned out in the 1970s, but it was saved at the last moment! As an artist/cartoonist, seeing this original was a high-point of my early life!



ABOVE: Some of the **PRINCE VALIANT** panels I copied and colored in the **1970s**.

Mac Raboy's FLASH GORDON



ABOVE: I grew up collecting the **FLASH GORDON** Sunday comic strip from **1960-1967** — the artist was **Mac Raboy**, and I STILL consider his work to be some of the finest artwork ever done! I put together a giant folder of his work, plus I own around 7 of his originals. Mac died in 1967, so I never had the chance to meet him.

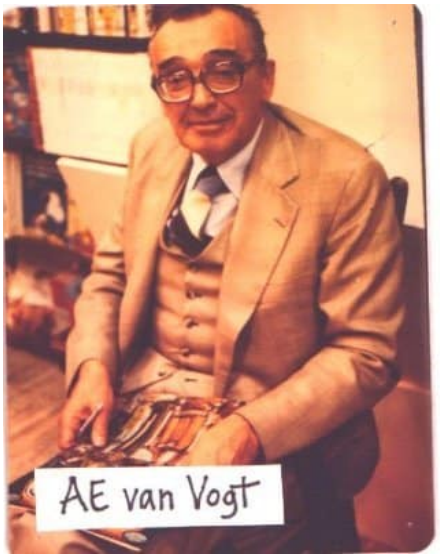


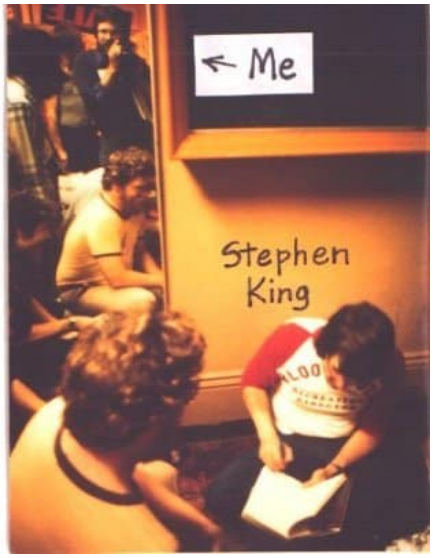
ABOVE: This was how I learned to draw — by copying other good artists! I traced and copied this scene of Flash Gordon and Dr. Zarkov when I was 14 in **1965.**



Speaking of cartoonists, here's a **1978** photo of me and **Sergio Arigones**, one of the **MAD** magazine artists — we had a lot of artists come to our comic shop to meet their fans and sign autographs.

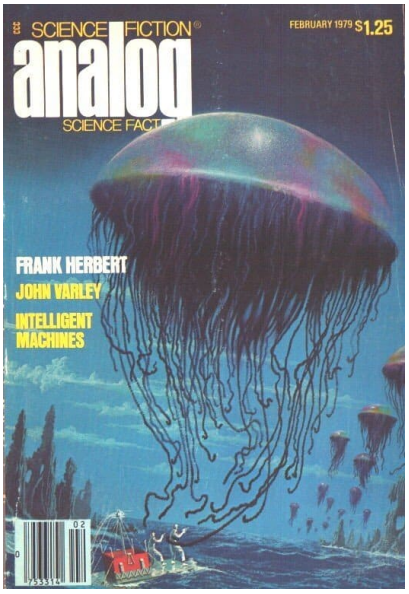
A.E. van Vogt … and … Stephen King !





I read a lot of science fiction in the days before I became a Christian — my favorite SF book was **A.E. van Vogt's *"The Voyage of the Space Beagle"*** (it inspired the movie ***"Alien"***) — and yes, I even read a lot of **Stephen King's** work. My two favorite novels were ***"The Shining"*** and ***"The Stand,"*** and I took this photo of King when he was in Berkeley for a writer's convention (you can see me in the mirror taking the picture).

"Pinkoski" in ANALOG Magazine !



A friend of mine who worked at our comic shops was also a struggling SF writer — his name was **Eric Vinicoff** — and Eric liked to use the various names of his friends as the names of the characters in his stories. That's how **"Pinkoski the whaler"** showed up in this **February 1979 issue of ANALOG!**



ABOVE: This is a **1971** photo of me holding an original **Frank Frazetta painting** — Frazetta was the artist who did a lot of amazing work on the **TARZAN** and **CONAN** pocketbook covers in the **1960s.** Yep, I had

hair down to my shoulders and rimless glasses back then.



ABOVE: "Money" — *the 2nd most frustrating thing in the world to deal with!!!!!!* ("Women" are #1, of course — <grin> –) This photo was taken in **1976** as I put together the last deposit from the **San Jose Comic Shop** just before I went to New York to spend 2 months trying to get into the comic book field (DC and Marvel Comics are in N.Y.) — "Money" has always vexed me — it has been a real PAIN to deal with, like when I ran out of money after being in N.Y. for 2 months and had to return home to California at the time! It has always seemed that I have mostly been paid **"1930 wages"** for my artwork throughout my life — *oh well, maybe SOMEDAY I will be "appreciated" and actually be paid well for my art . . . sigh . . .*



Yes, SOME jobs have been OK — in **1989** I got a chance to do some freelance work for the **Review and Herald** in Maryland on their ***"Evidences: The Record of the Flood" video*** — I've owned several motorcycles, mainly because I was TOO POOR to afford a car! (*Then there was the time in **1982** when I ran over a nail on the freeway and had my rear tire blow out . . . !*) I just did the line inking of the sectional diagrams on Mark Ford's ***Evidences*** video.



BELOW: My favorite art desk! Most of my life I have just used a **lap board** to draw on — but in **1981** I found this great drafting table in a used furniture store! All those drawers were GREAT! Unfortunately, in **1985** when I left California I had to sell the table — and I've regretted it ever since! Someday I'd really like to find another one of these desks!



*BIO concluded in **Part 6** . . . (click on right sidebar link) . . .*

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