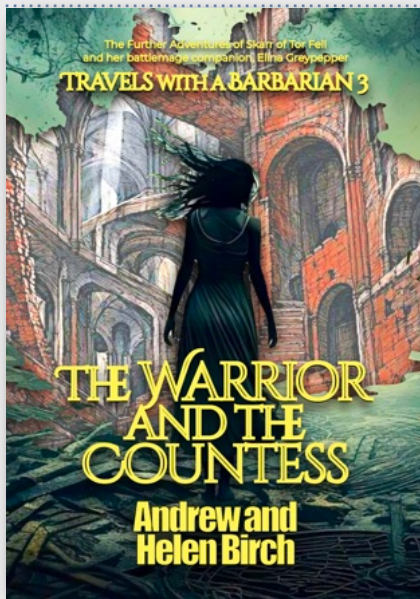


CLARENDON HOUSE PUBLICATIONS

‘The world is better with all this beautiful work seen at last.’ – A. Delf, author

This week from Clarendon House



Travels with a Barbarian # 3: The Warrior and the Countess

Tasked with dangerous deeds by the distant Empress Dan' Nor Chang, Skarr of Tor Fell and her ever-loyal companion Lady Elina Greypepper find themselves traversing land and sea from the legendary Spice City of Barazaar to the hazardous Gaussian Islands - and then on to Castle Wetskull, where deadly horrors lurk which threaten to engulf the whole world...

When trapped and facing her greatest foe alone in the dark, with her companion enslaved by the Chained Legion, will Elina's courage fail her? Or will she discover what it means to be a true battlemage?



Welcome!

This week: the third book in Andrew and Helen Birch's *Travels with a Barbarian* series is out! Don't miss this enthralling story! And don't forget to read the final entries in the Great Clarendon House Writing Challenge and VOTE for the winner in Issue # 91 of the Inner Circle Writers' Magazine! Stay tuned for more!

Feedback is welcome. Drop me a line at grant@clarendonhousebooks.com
Below is a popular blog item.



The Focus of Your Writing

One of the deepest lessons of being a successful writer is to do with where to place focus.

I don't mean the focus that the writer puts on his or her work, though of course that's linked. I mean the unspoken, often unconscious focus behind or around that.

Writing is a lonely affair. It has to be. To get those stories out onto the page or screen from wherever they dwell requires concentration, time and space. But surrounding that work is the invisible framework of thinking which is centred on the writer: the writer is doing this for his or her pleasure, or satisfaction, or fulfilment of yearning, or desire, or because of some partly hidden compulsion.

It's all about the writer.

This may have been voiced to some degree, like 'I'm writing so I can have freedom and flexibility, never have to work for anyone else again and perhaps escape from some restrictive or unpleasant things in my life.'

That statement orbits around the writer.

What results is fiction which is self-centred to some degree. It may act as a kind of therapy for the writer, but it's unlikely to be successful for readers.

What's needed is a mental 'switch' to another point of view. Those writers who can accomplish this switch - and many can and do - achieve something quite different in their fiction: they communicate something to another or others.

If this different viewpoint were put into words, it might read something like this: 'I'm writing so I can produce emotional responses in others, help them to achieve some kind of fulfilment and perhaps help them to escape from some restrictive or unpleasant things in their lives'.

The two frameworks can overlap, of course. What the writer wants and what the reader wants can be much the same thing.

But when writers change focus and start to write for readers - explicitly, consciously - what kinds of things happen?

Responses.

Reach.

Sales.

Positive testimonials.

Word of mouth to others.

A fan community.

Here's the underlying thing:

Readers don't owe you anything.

They are not going to 'buy into' your work just because it's there.

You have to provide something that they need or desire.

And the special reward, if you can do this?

If you can do this for one reader - just one - you can do it for many. And there's really no limit to how many readers there are in the marketplace.

So start with one reader in mind: you can even name him or her, or pick a real person

from the people you know. Then write the story that you know they would like to read. Predict their thinking; surprise them; delight them.

Bring one reader the fulfilment they need and you can bring that same fulfilment to thousands. Even millions. But it starts with that 'switch' from writing for you to writing for someone else.

How Stories Really Work

*Exploring the
Physics of
Fiction*
by Grant P. Hudson



*'I'm reading through **How Stories Really Work**. I've studied writing books for years but I've never seen anything like this! This book is REVOLUTIONARY. Everything is made so simple and precise that other methods of writing seem clumsy by comparison. It's not just a way of writing, but a way of seeing.'*

-A. P. (Author)

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Myth & the 'Now'

A journey into the heart of storytelling and life

Second Edition

Myth & the 'Now' takes the reader on a journey into the heart of myth and attempts to bring it into view in new ways. It's a voyage which will visit unusual places, from Asgard and the world of the Norse Gods, to Navajo plains and Finnish lakes;



along the way, be prepared to glimpse not only the evolution of human civilisation but the human soul and how it grows in individuals. Get ready to look beyond the edge of fiction's universe to an even wider world...

Grant P. Hudson

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CLARENDON HOUSE AUTHOR
ALEXANDER MARSHALL

A Marilyn 5 Adventure

Heaven's Shield



Heaven's Shield: the most expensive space cruiser ever built, is about to be launched on its inaugural voyage around the Solar System...

But Marilyn 5, advanced simulated human and Chief Operative of Special Services, detects something is wrong.

When she boards the vessel on the night before its launch, she finds that her former owner, genius inventor Harold S, has been expecting her for a while - but what no one is expecting is a ruthless attempt by renegade sim terrorists to steal the incredibly powerful Kruptos plasma which powers the ship's engines, an attempt which puts the lives of all

the passengers at stake, including that of Marilyn's beloved Harold...

Marilyn escapes the attention of the terrorist gang and goes solo in an effort to save everyone - but then discovers that the enemy have some dreadful secrets, one of which is that their number includes the psychotic war-droid, Despot 6.

What begins as an attempt to save Heaven's Shield becomes a terrible mission to stop another Hume/Sim War...

Another exciting novella from the pen of acclaimed author Alexander Marshall.

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CLARENDON HOUSE AUTHOR ALEXANDER MARSHALL

CHRONICLES OF BELTH
BOOK ONE

FALL OF THE RED WARRIOR



A new space fantasy novella, based on William Shakespeare's Macbeth, from acclaimed author Alexander Marshall.

The planet Belth, bombarded millennia ago by crimson rays which affected the biological codes of its creatures, is similar to Earth in many respects. Its dominant species is basically humanoid in shape, though many biological functions are different. Civilisations have risen and fallen among the floating continents over the ages.

At the time of this narrative, Tarsna the Red Warrior is Belth's mightiest hero. The current Commander of Belthian forces, Dasar the Dark Cloak is failing in an attempt to defend the planet from twin incursions. Leading the defence are the Red Warrior and his female battle-companion Firebrand. They savagely defeat both invasions.

But when Tarsna and his companion have a sinister encounter after the battle, the machinations of the story become more complex...

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CLARENDON HOUSE AUTHOR ALEXANDER MARSHALL

Who is Miss Starlight?
And can her
tremendous powers
prevent the Nega Wave
from overwhelming
Earth?

Chicago, 1942: the
dawn of the Atomic
Age. Private
Investigator John
McLeod has to find out
what gangster moll
Carol Wyland's terribly
scarred arm has to do
with a Nazi conspiracy
to create superhumans
on American soil,
before it's too late.

What is the dreadful
mystery of the lonely
streaming station of
Kern, far out in space?

The Eye of Lyubov, a
mysterious artefact in
the heart of Siberia: will
Ursula Stone, uniquely
trained agent from the
British Museum's
Department of Select
Antiquities, be able to
obtain it before she
freezes to death?

Waking after two
million years of
quantum displacement,
will Senior Technician
O'Malley be able to
work out why the Red
Seven Ark has overshot
its target and is deep in
intergalactic space?

The 25th Century:
Earth rules over a
hundred worlds
assisted by the
superpowers of the
Enhanced Class. But is
there something
fundamentally rotten at
the core of the system?
A cosmic entity known
as the Challenger has
arrived with one
question: Who exactly
is responsible for the
death of the woman
without a name?

All these questions and
many more are
addressed in this
unique collection of
superpowered tales
from the author of *The
Sword Sundergost*, *The
Phantom Sword of Rondar*, *Raven Stark*:
Hyperean Wars and
many more.



SUPERHEROIC STORIES

ALEXANDER MARSHALL Selected Writings Volume 2

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CLARENDON HOUSE AUTHOR

ALEXANDER MARSHALL

From the world of the
**Sword
SUNDERGOST**

A PHANTOM SWORD OF RONDAR
ADVENTURE

**Annua is devastated when her lover
Castagath is stolen from her by the pirate
chieftain Harabund -devastated because she
didn't realise just how vulnerable love had
made her...**

When Harabund sends her on a quest to the
edge of the world in search of a fabulous jewel
from the ancient world, she discovers that
others are also emotionally tormented on the
journey: Zard wants to use the jewel for
revenge against Athbar, the would-be Emperor
of Turgal, but Zamatar, of the Order of the
Serpent, seeks the same gem to find
salvation...

Why does the mysterious Jewel seem to have
chosen her?

And what other age-old secrets await on the
enchanted atoll of Ubatar, last of the Twisted
Isles?

QUEEN OF THE TWISTED ISLES



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CLARENDON HOUSE AUTHOR

ALEXANDER MARSHALL

For lovers of J. R. R. Tolkien, C. S. Lewis, Ursula K. Le Guin and epic fantasy on a grand scale...

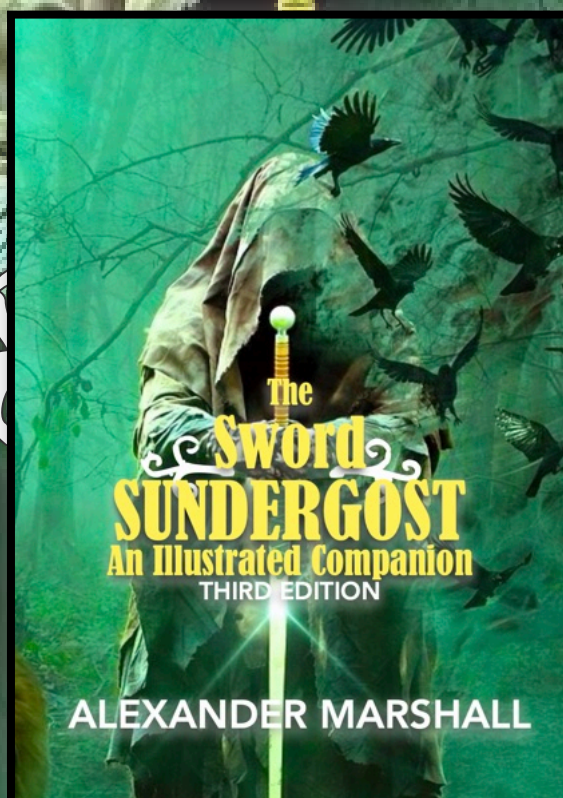
And now, for FREE, comes this lavishly illustrated e-book to give you a glimpse into the wide world of Gandria - from the mighty mountains of the Penning to the deserts of Turgal; from the heroic and tragic Valkurn to the twisted and burned Dare-kor; from ancient and powerful gemstones to the Sword Sundergost itself, herein are many windows into the imagination of Alexander Marshall.

THIRD EDITION: now with updates to include *The Phantom Sword of Rondar* and *Queen of the Twisted Isles*!



The SWORD SUNDERGOST

An Illustrated Companion
REVISED AND EXPANDED



PLUS

A MAP OF GANDRIA
Download a map of part of the world of *The Sword Sundergost* for free

<https://www.clarendonhousebooks.com/free-items>

CLARENDON HOUSE AUTHOR

GARETH MACREADY



THE BONES OF MY UNIVERSE



In this unique collection of short stories, Gareth Macready demonstrates both tremendous skills as a writer and an extraordinary understanding of both the Australian and Japanese cultures, blending them together to create science fiction like nothing else you will have ever read, including Dragon Tech, alien police procedures and dramatic martial arts, as well as a fine sensitivity for the human condition.

Gareth Macready lived in Japan, working as a variety act, and built a small studio theatre there. He received the Key to the City from Osaka City Council and collaborated with Japan's biggest comedy company, advising the council on the city's inaugural PerformaFest. Ten of his short stories have been published in Galaxy anthologies. One of his short stories received an Honourable Mention from The LRH Writers of the Future Competition. His short film script, Frank Sees Grandpa, won the Best Screenplay Short at the Ardélion Awards Gala 2025.

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Stay tuned for much more in 2026!
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Over seven years ago, I launched Clarendon House Publications from my home here on the edge of the Yorkshire Moors in England.

Since then, I have published almost **300** high quality items - books, magazines, course modules - and helped hundreds of authors and poets achieve publication, some for the first time.

Over 30 authors have had individual novels or collections produced through me - some of these have had several books published and have gone on to carve out careers for themselves as writers.

With the best-selling books **How Stories Really Work** and **Become a Professional Author** (and the **Become a Professional Author Course**) I have helped writers understand exactly what it is they are doing and how they are doing it - and boosted their confidence to do more of it.

Many Clarendon House writing tools have been released for free download, fully illustrated, in order to assist writers create real careers for themselves.

Now, here collected for the first time for your convenience, are all those publications with links to take you to wherever you need to go to acquire them. They make great gifts - for yourself and others!

Please email me if you have any questions or feedback:
grant@clarendonhousebooks.com

Here's to many more publications and many more years helping you achieve your dreams!

Grant P. Hudson

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