

Unremembered Loss

For all the news and information from the world of Rathrae, and for the story Unremembered Loss.

Issue 42

February 2013

Here's another newsy newsletter. Maybe next month I'll write another short story.

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Published ...

On Valentine's Day I became a published author. The book is called, "Giant Tales: Beyond the Mystic Doors," and is available only as an e-book today, but in a month or two will be available as a print book.

I have had mix feelings about the whole thing. I'm excited that it is published. I'm afraid that no one will buy it.

On Sunday the 17th it was 68,075 on Amazon's top selling e-book list. I didn't know it that was good or not - they don't say how many books are on the list. Monday it had dropped to 73,123 on the list. I began to wonder if it had already peaked after four days. I have to admit my spirits were a bit low that day when I read the ranking. But on Tuesday it jumped all the way to 23,353.

Now I wonder how high can it go. Of course I know that it will get exponentially hard to move up the list as we go. But there is some excitement building again.

Then there's the fear that people will buy it, but won't like it, or at least won't like my stories in it. I know this is silly and speaks more to my own insecurities than any reality.

Then I think of how much work I put into those stories and wonder if that was the best use of my time. Maybe I should be writing my iPad applications or finishing my novel. Then I remember that part of the reason I write is as an outlet for all the things I keep bottled up inside.

Besides the four stories I wrote, this collection of short stories also has four stories that I ghost wrote. There are some strange emotions in there, too. I'm only make about \$5/hour when I'm doing the ghost stories, so it hardly makes sense from a business point of view. It did get me four more stories published, but then again I'm already very busy. The big thing for me is that the author that I'm ghost writing for is extremely happy with what I've done, and is now a published author, too.

Then I look at the future. Volume One is out. Volume Two is with the editor. Volume Three is being written as I write this and will be finished in two more months.

If there is a fourth volume will I want to be part of it? Having written thirteen stories and ghost written another thirteen will I feel obligated to keep writing?

Then there are the other two anthologies that just started up this year. These are longer stories and I will only have two stories plus two ghost written stories in each. Will I want to keep writing for these longer anthologies? Only time will tell, and perhaps encouragement from all of you.

Do you think that I should keep writing short stories? Are you enjoying them? Are you buying them?

One final note for all the "Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" fans out there. Since this is issue 42 of the newsletter, which I would never have guessed I would be writing when I started these, I have to let you know that I found out what the "Question" is.

What is the rank of "Giant Tales: Beyond the Mystic Doors" on Amazon's fantasy -> anthology best seller list on February 19th?

You guessed it - 42.

If you want to get the book, and I hope you do, you can either follow this [link](#) or go to Amazon.com and search for "Giant Tales beyond the mystic doors."

Doug