

HE STANDS ALONE

Sirs:

Upon removing the envelope from this letter you will find a neatly wrapped and prepared brickbat; the first one off the assembly-line. Frankly, I have been reading **AMAZING STORIES** and *Fantastic Adventures* since the year one, and this is the first edition that I have come across which doesn't come up to par. First of all; one realizes that poor material published is not the fault of the editor. We all realize that most

of your best men have gone to war. But my chief gripe is that one of the usually fine authors has gone on the rocks. "Intruders from the Stars" by Ross Rocklynnne is not so good. Rather crudely written, unconvincing, and reads as if it was shortened from a much longer draft.

Next on the list: "Master of the Living Dead," by Ed Earl Repp. This would have been all right, but somehow the story leaves a bad taste in the mouth; there's something a little disgusting about the plot.

"The Mad Robot" by William P. McGivern is about the best in the January issue. This author is always good, this story was pleasant and interesting. But one thing: It was kinda obvious that Ho Agar would turn out to be responsible for the trouble.

"Island of Eternal Storm" by Berkeley Livingston. Nice plot, no crude description, well written; that idea of life and death reversed is something to think about.

"Phantom City of Luna" by Costello. I think everyone likes time travel stories.

"The Needle Points To Death" by Gerald Vance. The plot was so-so, but amazingly well written, and showed great promise.

In spite of the knocks dealt out the magazine is still a buy for a quarter. The covers are years ahead of any other publication, fine drawing and colors. What about getting some of Hans Bok's art? He's good.

PHILIP K. DICK
1411 Arch St.
Berkeley, Calif.

You are actually the only reader who did not rave about Rocklynnne's yarn. More of Williams is coming up. New artists, if good, are always welcome.—Ed.