

**THE ORIGINAL  
SCIENCE  
FICTION  
STORIES**

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# OH, THAT LOST SENSE OF WONDER!

by Isaac Asimov

When spaceships first discovered space  
In science fiction's rise,  
The authors never felt the need  
To sow a psychologic seed  
Or sociologize.

But oh, that wonderful new craze  
In good old Hugo's glorious days.

When he-men really met and clashed  
With ray-guns in each fist,  
The heroine was kept below,  
She scarcely ever made a show.  
What's more, she was not missed.

And, oh, the gorgeous happy blaze  
Of good old Orlin's glorious days.

But people call those ancient tales  
Sub-literate old trash,  
And writers now insist that they  
Must copy Joyce and Hemingway  
To get that ready cash.

For wonder by itself won't pay  
This modern literary day.