

# What's WNU?

Something Wold, Something Newton, Something Borrowed, Something Pollutant

By

Dafydd Neal Dyar

## What Mad Wold Newton Universe?

Philip José Farmer (26 Jan 1918–25 Feb 2009) introduced the concept of the “Wold Newton Family” (WNF) and its now-fabled Family Tree in his landmark work *Tarzan Alive: A Definitive Biography of Lord Greystoke* (Mar 1972).

Win Scott Eckert (29 Nov 1966—) coined the term “Wold Newton Universe” (WNU) in 1997 when he launched his website *An Expansion of Philip José Farmer’s Wold Newton Universe* (PJFarmer.com), not to be confused with *The Official Philip José Farmer Web Page* (pjfarmer.com).

Eckert created the term “Creative Mythography” for his own speculative “metafiction” in *Myths for the Modern Age: Philip Jose Farmer’s Wold Newton Universe* (25 Nov 2005), *Crossovers: A Secret Chronology of the World* Parts 1 (May 2010) and 2 (Jul 2010) and inextricably melded the two concepts in *Tales of the Wold Newton Universe* (08 Oct 2013), published in conjunction with the Meteor House edition of *Doc Savage: His Apocalyptic Life* (deep breath) *As the Archangel of Technopolis and Exotica, As the Golden-eyed Hero of 181 Supersagas, As the Bronze Knight of the Running Board, Including his Final Battle Against the Force of Hell Itself* (Jul 2013, ISBN 978-0-9837461-4-0).

Eckert is also the co-author (posthumously with Farmer) of *The Memoirs of Pat Wildman* No. 1 “The Evil in Pemberley House” (30 Sep 2009) and author of record for both *TMOPW* No. 2 “The Scarlet Jaguar” (26 Apr 2014) and the forthcoming *Secrets of the Nine* No. 4 “The Monster on Hold” (Fall 2021).

Unlike Farmer, whose life is an open book full of autobiographical anecdotes and many biographical details, Eckert is a “ghost”. There’s no personal information online except his own work, which is mostly composite derivative fiction or analysis and critique of other writers and their work.

All we know of him is what he wants us to know, no more, no less.

From *Wikipedia-EN*:

**Win Scott Eckert is an author and editor, best known for his work on the literary-crossover Wold Newton Universe, created by author Philip José Farmer, but much expanded-upon subsequently by Eckert and others. He holds a B.A. in Anthropology and a Juris Doctorate.**

From the *Internet Science Fiction Database* (ISFDB):

**Author Record # 33710**

**Author:** Win Scott Eckert

**Birthplace:** Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA

**Language:** English

**Webpages:** Wikipedia-EN, winscotteckert.com

**Used These Alternate Names:** Win Eckert

**Author Tags:** vampires (4), Wold Newton (1), horror (1)

From *Comic Book Resources* (CBR):

**Friday at Pemberley House with Win Scott Eckert**

By Greg Hatcher

Published MAR 06, 2009

**Win Scott Eckert** is the webmaster of the **Wold Newton Universe** web page at [pjfarmer.com](http://pjfarmer.com), and we had corresponded once or twice after I recommended his book of essays about Farmer's Wold Newton work, **Myths for the Modern Age**. ...

—**Win Scott Eckert**

**Denver, CO**

March 3, 2009

From the *Win Scott Eckert* blog:

Sunday, July 21, 2019

**WIN SCOTT ECKERT** is the **legacy author** of science-fiction Grand Master Philip José Farmer's **Patricia Wildman** series, as well as the coauthor with Farmer of the upcoming Doc Caliban novel, **The Monster on Hold**. Eckert's other professional credits include **authorized tales** of Zorro, the Phantom, Honey West, the Avenger, and the Green Hornet.

“Legacy author” is Eckert’s own coinage to describe what he does for a living, which is *tie-in writing*.

From *i am a tie-in writer: The Blog of the International Association of Media Tie-In Writers*:

*About the IAMTW*

*Tie-writers and their work are often overlooked and under-appreciated by existing organizations like the Mystery Writers of America, Science Fiction Writers of America, and the Romance Writers of America, even though some of their most respected members work in the field. Tie-ins represent a huge percentage of the books published each year, they are enormously successful and are widely enjoyed by readers. ...*

*Until the IAMTW. The name itself is a declaration of pride in what we do: "I AM a Tie-in Writer!" We say it with pride because we are very proud of what we do and the books we write. ...*

*The IAMTW was co-founded by Max Allan Collins and Lee Goldberg, who served as Vice-President and President respectively until August 7, 2018.*

From *International Association of Media Tie-In Writers Facebook page*:

*We write science fiction, westerns, mysteries, romance and thrillers and sometimes all of the above. Our work embraces just about every genre you can think of, from STAR TREK to CSI, from GUNSMOKE to MURDER SHE WROTE, from DUNE to James Bond, from RESIDENT EVIL to Lizzie McGuire.*

*Our books are original tie-in novels, comic books and short stories based on existing characters from movie, TV series, books, games, and cartoons ... or they are novelizations (books based on screenplays for movies and TV shows).*

***Tie-ins** and novelizations are **licensed works** ... meaning they are written with the permission and supervision of the creators, studios, or **other rights-holders** of the original characters.*

*Well-known tie-in writers include Kingsley Amis, Kevin J. Anderson, Raymond Benson, Gregory Benford, Lawrence Block, David Brin, Greg Bear, Max Brand, Orson Scott Card, Leslie Charteris, Arthur C. Clarke, Max Allan Collins, Peter David, Ian Fleming, Alan Dean Foster, John Gardner, Elizabeth Hand, Stuart Kaminsky, David Morrell, Robert B. Parker, Robert Silverberg, Theodore Sturgeon, and Jim Thompson to name just a few.*

*Our books are published by the major publishing companies, are available everywhere, sell tens of millions of copies worldwide and regularly appear on the New York Times, USA Today, and Publishers Weekly bestseller lists ... but the actual craft of tie-in writing goes largely unrecognized and is greatly misunderstood. The International Association of Media Tie-In Writers will change all that.*

From *Wikipedia-EN*:

*A **tie-in work** is a work of fiction or other product based on a media property such as a film, video game, television series, board game, web site, role-playing game or literary property. Tie-ins are **authorized by the owners of the original property**, and are a form of cross-promotion used primarily to generate additional income from that property and to promote its visibility.*

The key thing to remember about tie-in writing is that the authorization and licensing all-too-often comes not from the original creator or author, but the current rights owner. For literary works, this is generally the “Estate” of the original creator or author and fidelity to the source depends not on the expressed wishes of said creator or author but the *executor* of that estate, not the beneficiaries of it.

If the beneficiaries abnegate their engagement in and oversight responsibilities for the estate, or themselves neither know nor care what the original creator or author’s wishes were or might be, then the executor becomes the sole authorizer and licensor of what can and can’t be published.

Doc Savage fans bemoan the fact that there no involvement by the Estate of Lester Dent in the licensing of the literary “property” (now 205 novels), only the corporate entity Condé Nast owned by Advance Publications, which has used its licensing rights in all media as a cudgel against several competing media to extort payment in advance and indemnification against loss upon completion of any licensed project since the agreement between Condé Nast and Norma Gerling Dent (13 Jul 1901–23 Aug 1995) brokered by Geroge Pal (01 Feb 1908–02 May 1980) on Tuesday, 20 July 1971 that allowed him to make his ill-fated movie.

The result: no Doc Savage licensing at all unless and until Condé Nast gets its cut up front.

What happens when the executor of the Estate (the “legacy”) is not only the licensor of the “property” who decides what’s authorized and the only authorized and licensed publisher of same?

To paraphrase the sentiment attributed to King Louis XIV, “*L’État, c’est moi!*” (“*I am the Estate!*”)

## Who is ... Winn Scott Eckert?

To the world at large, Win Eckert is a strange, mysterious “Creative Mythographer” who spins the straw into the gold that is the Wold Newton Universe . To his amazing co-adventurers—the hive mind devoted to the “Great Game” of linking every pop-lit character to every other pop-lit character into a Grand Unified Family Tree—he has first and word as to what Farmer works and derivatives thereof get published with the exception of those that use the name “Doc Savage” in a literary fashion.

Somehow, fictional biographies aren’t treated as works of fiction but as works of biography. Weird.

His Amazon biography reads like a public relations press release, and a self-aggrandizing one at that, building more of a personal legend than a true biography, much less a Curriculum Vitae.

From Amazon:

**About Win Scott Eckert**

*WIN SCOTT ECKERT is a novelist, editor, essayist, and author of short fiction. He is steeped in the works of famed science fiction writer Philip José Farmer, particularly Farmer's shared universe literary-crossover Wold Newton cycle and the Lord Grandrith/Doc Caliban series. He has a deep interest in studying fictional biographies, creating detailed chronologies of fictional characters and universes, and exploring the metafictional connections between seemingly unrelated works, which resulted in MYTHS FOR THE MODERN AGE: PHILIP JOSÉ FARMER'S WOLD NEWTON UNIVERSE (MonkeyBrain [sic] Books), a 2007 Locus Awards finalist, and the critically acclaimed, encyclopedic CROSSOVERS: A SECRET CHRONOLOGY OF THE WORLD 1 & 2 (Black Coat Press, 2010).*

*Eckert is also an expert on many of the authors and characters who inspired Farmer--such as Edgar Rice Burroughs (Tarzan, Pellucidar, John Carter of Mars, and more), the pulp heroes (Doc Savage, The Shadow, The Avenger, etc.), Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes and Professor Moriarty, Ian Fleming's James Bond, and Sax Rohmer's Denis Nayland Smith, Fu Manchu, and Sumuru--as well as other heroic characters whose adventures Eckert has chronicled, including Zorro, Sexton Blake, the Phantom, Honey West, the Scarlet Pimpernel, the Domino Lady, and the Green Hornet, all of which can be found in the pages of anthologies from Moonstone Books, Meteor House (THE WORLDS OF PHILIP JOSÉ FARMER), Black Coat Press (TALES OF THE SHADOWMEN), and Titan Books (TALES OF THE WOLD NEWTON UNIVERSE).*

*An accomplished essayist, Eckert contributed a new foreword the 2006 edition of Farmer's well-known fictional biography, TARZAN ALIVE: A DEFINITIVE BIOGRAPHY OF LORD GREYSTOKE (University of Nebraska/Bison Books), as well as several forewords and afterwords to Titan Books' reissues of Farmer's novels. As Executive Editor for Meteor House, he played a key role in reissuing definitive editions of Farmer's fictional biography DOC SAVAGE: HIS APOCALYPTIC LIFE (2013), and Farmer's authorized Burroughs novel, TARZAN AND THE DARK HEART OF TIME (2018).*

*Eckert is the authorized legacy author of Farmer's Patricia Wildman series (THE EVIL IN PEMBERLEY HOUSE, THE SCARLET JAGUAR), as well as the coauthor with Farmer of the upcoming fourth novel in Farmer's Secrets of the Nine series, THE MONSTER ON HOLD, furthering the titanic saga of Doc Caliban's battle against the dark manipulators who hold the secret to eternal life, the Nine. His latest release is an authorized Avenger book from Moonstone, HUNT THE AVENGER, while forthcoming in 2020 [sic] is an authorized novel in the new Edgar Rice Burroughs Universe, TARZAN: BATTLE FOR PELLUCIDAR.*

*Find him online at [www.winscotteckert.com](http://www.winscotteckert.com) and [@woldnewton](https://twitter.com/woldnewton) (Twitter).*

So, then, Win Scott Eckert ... writes for a living, claims a B.A. in Archaeology and Juris Doctorate without identifying his *alma maters*, fleshes out the outlines of unpublished Farmer works then publishes them as co-author if not under his own name, cites his birthplace as Colorado Springs, and apparently lives in Denver. I've only been able to find only a single confirmation of his J.D.

From *Martindale-Avvo*™ (online edition of the *Martindale-Hubbell*® *Law Directory Index*):

***Win Scott Eckert***

*Arvada, CO 80002-2183*

*Peer Reviews: No Reviews*

*Client Reviews: No Reviews*

***Education & Credentials***

*Law School Attended: University of Denver, J.D.*

*Year of First Admission: 1993*

*Admission: 1993, Colorado*

*International Standard Lawyer Number (ISLN): 913295975*

***Peer Reviews***

*This lawyer does not have peer reviews.\**

*\*Peer Reviews provided before April 15, 2008 are not displayed.*

***Client Reviews***

*This attorney does not have client reviews.*

***Other Practice Areas in Arvada, CO***

*Constitutional Law*

*Indians and Native Populations*

*Products Liability*

*Casinos and Gambling*

*International Trade*

*Entertainment Law*

*International Law*

*Nonprofit and Charitable Organizations*

*Housing Law*

*Contracts*

*Personal Injury*

*Property Law*

Beyond that deponent sayeth not. But then, darkness is a ghost's only friend.

Pay no attention to the man behind the curtain. Watch what he *does*, not heed what he *says*.

Farmer has always been an "unreliable narrator", but Eckert is what was once called a "humbug".

## The Evil in Meteor House

The 1997 expansion of Farmer's WNF Tree into the Internet-based WNU by Eckert has spawned a cottage industry of adding layer on layer of abstraction if not outright revisionism with a life of its own.

As a result, everything labeled as being part of WNU is doubly suspect, a dream within a dream.

From the cover text of *The Evil in Pemberley House* (Sep 2009):

*The Evil in Pemberley House, an addition to the Wold Newton cycle, plays with the Gothic horror tradition. Patricia Wildman, the daughter of the world-renowned adventurer and crimefighter of the 1930s and '40s, Dr. James Clarke "Doc" Wildman, is all alone in the world when she inherits the family estate in Derbyshire, England—old, dark, and supposedly haunted.*

*But Farmer, characteristically, turns convention on its ear. Is the ghost real, or a clever sham? In Patricia Wildman, Farmer creates an introspective character who struggles to reconcile the supernatural with her rational scientific upbringing, while also attempting to work through unresolved feelings about her late parents. He sets the action at Pemberley from Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* and ingrains the various mysteries in the Canon of the Sherlock Holmes stories.*

*The Evil in Pemberley House is a darkly erotic novel with broad appeal to readers of pulp and popular literature, particularly followers of Doc Savage, Sherlockians, and fans of Farmer's own celebrated Wold Newton Family.*

That's literally a "cover story". There are two people named "Patricia Clarke Wildman" in the WNF Tree, and the one in the 1979 outline is the grandmother of the one Farmer made Doc's cousin Pat.

"P.C.W." is the mistress of the Duke of Holderness in *The Return of Sherlock Holmes* "The Adventure of the Priory School" (30 Jan 1904). Their liaison produced the duke's illegitimate son James Wilder, and she is said to have died following the child's birth. This makes her the paternal grandmother of both Clark Wildman, Jr. and his cousin, Patricia "Pat" Clarke Wildman, make her a second P.C.W.

In *TA: ADBOLG*, Farmer identified the Duke as William Cecil Clayton, Sixth Duke of Greystoke, and "Wilder" as James Clarke Wildman (Clark Savage, Sr., father of Doc Savage). He also asserted that P.C.W. descended from John Shute Barrington, Viscount Ardglass, but doesn't take her lineage any further. In *DS: HAL*, he identified P.C.W., Adam Bruce Clarke Wildman (B.C.W.), and Alexander Clarke Wildman (A.C.W.) as children of Sir Patrick Clarke Wildman and Mavice Blakeney, daughter of Sir Percy Blakeney, eponymous protagonist of *The Scarlet Pimpernel* (05 Jan 1905) by Baroness Emma Orczy (born Emma Magdolna Rozália Mária Jozefa Borbála Orczy de Orci, 23 Sep 1865–12 Nov 1947), through whom P.C.W. is a WNF member.

B.C.W. is identified as the anonymous protagonist of *The Time Machine: An Invention* (07 May 1895) by Herbert George Wells (21 Sep 1866–13 Aug 1946). A.C.W. is identified as Clark Savage, Sr.'s brother Alex Savage, introduced in "Brand of Werewolf" (Jan 1934), along with his daughter, Clark Savage, Jr.'s

first cousin, Patricia “Pat” Savage. Per WNF, she’s the daughter of A.C.W. and May Renfrew, sister of Douglas Renfrew of the Royal Northwest Mountain Police, introduced in *Renfrew of the Royal Mounted* (Jan 1922) by Laurie York Erskine (23 Jun 1894–30 Nov 1976).

He also identified James Clarke Wildman’s wife—Doc Savage’s mother—as Arronaxe Larsen, the daughter of Wolf Larsen, the eponymous sea captain in *The Sea-Wolf* (1904) by John Griffith “Jack” London (born John Griffith Chaney, 12 Jan 1876–22 Nov 1916), and Arronaxe Land, the daughter of harpooner Ned Land in Verne’s *Vingt Mille Lieues Sous les Mers: Tour du Monde Sous-Marin* [*Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea: A World Tour Underwater*] (Nov 1871).

All this would’ve made the outlined adventure of P.C.W. into a period Gothic romance explicitly linked to *Pride and Prejudice: A Novel of Manners* (28 Jan 1813) by Jane Austen (16 Dec 1775–18 Jul 1817) a generation or so after the original protagonist Elizabeth Bennet, with echoes of *Wuthering Heights* (Dec 1847) by Emily Jane Brontë (30 Jul 1818–19 Dec 1848) under her pen name Ellis Bell, with P.C.W. finding herself at the Darcy estate at Pemberley, haunted by ghosts both literal and figurative of the prior inhabitants, spiced with Farmer’s signature dark eroticism on fuller display in *SOTN*.

Instead, Eckert created Patricia “Pat” Clarke Lupin Wildman, the daughter of James Clarke Wildman, Jr. (Doc Savage) and Adelaide Lupin, daughter of Arsène Lupin, a fictional gentleman thief and master of disguise introduced in *Je Sais Tout: Magazine Encyclopédique Illustré* [*I Know All: An Illustrated Encyclopedic Magazine*] “The Arrest of Arsène Lupin” (15 Jul 1905) by French writer Maurice Marie Émile Leblanc (11 Dec 1864–06 Nov 1941), setting the action in the Seventies, when Pat Wildman, born in 1951, is in her twenties, her parents long missing and presumed dead.

Having time shifted *TEIPH* two generations into the future, Eckert then did the same for Farmer’s “notes about the adventure in the jungle in the Amazon basin in 1923” for a proposed Young Doc Savage between “Escape from Loki” and “The Man of Bronze” tentatively title *Crimson Jaguar* into the second Pat Wildman adventure *The Memoirs of Pat Wildman* No. 2 “The Scarlet Jaguar” (26 Apr 2014), reprinting his version of *TEIPH* as *TMOPW* No. 1 “The Evil in Pemberley House” (11 Jul 2014).

Everything Farmer had ever written that could be linked to WNF became grist for WNU’s Dark Satanic Mill. Eckert wasted no time capitalizing on his authorization to use and expand the WNF Tree. He partnered with Titan Books to publish authorized prestige trade paperback editions of *Time’s Last Gift: A Wold Newton Prehistory Novel* (22 Jun 2012), *Secrets of the Nine: A Wold Newton Novel* No. 1 “A Feast Unknown” (08 Oct 2012), *SOTN: AWNN* No 2 “The Lord of the Trees” (12 Nov 2012), *Khokarsa Series: AWNPN* No. 1 “Hadon of Ancient Opar” (14 Jan 2013), *The Wind Whales of Ishmael: A Grand Master Novel* (11 Mar 2013), *The Other Log of Phileas Fogg: AWNN* (08 May 2013) *SOTN: AWNN* No. 3 “The Mad Goblin” (11 Jun 2013), *Venus on the Half-Shell: AGMN* (09 Sep 2013), and *Tales of the Wold Newton Universe: A Wold Newton Anthology* (07 Oct 2013).

Under his own Meteor House imprint, he published his expanded edition of *DS: HAL* (09 Jul 2013); *Khokarsa Series Prequel* “Exiles of Kho” (16 Jan 2014), *Khokarsa Series: AWNPN* No. 2 “Flight to Opar” (01 Jan 2015), No. 3 “Song of Kwasin” (11 Dec 2016), No. 4 “Hadon, King of Opar” (15 Feb 2017), and No. 5 “Blood of Ancient Opar” (31 Mar 2018) by Christopher Paul Carey; *TMOPW* No. 2 “The Scarlet Jaguar” (26 Apr 2014) by Win Scott Eckert; *Phileas Fogg and the War of Shadows* (22 Apr 2016) and *Phileas Fogg and the Heart of Osra* (31 Mar 2020) by Josh Reynolds; *Khokarsa Series: AWNPN Edgar Rice Burroughs Universe* No. 1 “Tarzan and the Dark Heart of Time” (26 Jul 2018), *Two Hawks From Earth* No. 2 “Man of

War: A Two Hawks Adventure” (28 Mar 2019) by Helen Ruby Miller, *ERB Universe* No. 2 “Carson of Venus: The Edge of All Worlds” (21 Apr 2020) by Matt Betts and Christopher Paul Carey.

The only section of *DS: HAL* that is routinely contested and argued is Addendum 2: “Chronology”.

From “Introduction” to *The Revised Complete Chronology of Bronze* (2010) by Rick Lai:

*In the first paperback edition (Bantam Books, 1975), Mr. Farmer revised his chronology even further. In a later and slightly revised edition (Playboy Paperbacks, 1981), Mr. Farmer indicated that he was “not satisfied” with his chronology and was working on a revision. ...*

*In a letter published in **The Bronze Gazette** #13 (October 1994), Mr. Farmer conceded that he had abandoned all intentions of revising his chronology. In fact, he would eliminate the chronology if the book was [sic] ever reprinted. ...*

*DS: HAL* was subsequently reprinted by Meteor House and touted as the “Definitive Edition Edited by Win Scott Eckert” with Addendum 2: “Chronology” intact, with a disclaimer from its “compiler” ignoring Farmer’s published wish to eliminate it altogether.

From Addendum 2: “Chronology” in the Meteor House edition of *DS: HAL* (09 Jul 2013):

*NOTE: This chronology had been criticized, sometimes justly, sometimes unjustly, as having discrepancies. **Your compiler** is not pleased with it, and **he** is working on a revision that **he** hopes will please everyone. However, **he** knows that there is a crabbed and cracked minority that always finds fault where none exists.*

This Eckert ignoring Farmer’s expressed desire to drop the Chronology altogether in future editions of *DS: HAL*, then, assuming the mantle of “authorized legacy author” and “compiler” to not only reprint the Chronology with which Farmer himself was unsatisfied and had given up revised to tout his own revision that will “please” rather than satisfy his readership.

The problem with “cash cows” is that the quality of milk goes down as the quantity goes up, especially when one is milking them for all they may be worth.

The only challenge to the primacy of the WBF/WNU Doc Savage lineage has been Will Murray’s *The All-New Wild Adventures of Doc Savage*, Book VI (No. 195) “Skull Island” (26 Feb 2013). Here, all the American Savages are descended from the first to set foot in Colonies back when “America” was still the entire continent, not a nation, much less sovereign States, united or otherwise.

The likeliest candidate is the historical figure Thomas Savage (sometimes spelled “Salvage” or “Savadge”, ca. 1595–Sep 1633) who arrived at the Jamestown colony on 02 January 1608 at age thirteen, survived by his son, who inherited his name and land, and his wife, who by 1638 had married a planter named Daniel Cugley, beginning an All-American lineage culminating the marriage of Clark

Savage to Kendra Robeson, possibly the sister or cousin of Kenneth Robeson, the nominal author of adventures published in *Doc Savage Magazine*, and their son Clark Savage, Jr.

The backlash to the very idea a non-WNF/WNU lineage was immediate and strident. Given that “Skull Island” had necessarily been bylined “Will Murray” rather than “Kenneth Robeson” because it followed the writing style of *King Kong: A Novel* (Dec 1932) by Delos Wheeler Lovelace (02 Dec 1894–17 Jan 1967) but credited for publicity purposes to Richard Horatio Edgar Wallace (01 Apr 1875–10 Feb 1932) and Merian Caldwell Cooper (24 Oct 1893–21 Apr 1973) rather than being another of his “posthumous collaborations” with Doc Savage authors Lester Dent and Walter Ryerson Johnson (19 Oct 1901–24 May 1995), Murray chose discretion as the better part of valor and declared the work to be just as “noncanonical” as WNU, an alternative explanation that readers could take or leave as they chose.

WNU has been knowingly feasting on Doc Savage, and all branches of the WNF Tree, ever since.

From Philip José Farmer’s “Afterword” to Doc Savage Omnibus No. 13:

*In 1973, when my biography came out, I wrote therein that I'd like to write a novel about Doc when he was sixteen years old. In this, to be entitled "Escape from Loki", Doc would lie about and join the U.S. Air Service shortly after the U.S. entered World War I. ...*

*But at that time, Bantam still had years to go before the end of the series was in sight. The editor thought it best not to buy a brand-new Savage.*

*So, when the printing of the final book in the series was not so far off, I asked Bantam if I could write the new novel proposed sixteen years ago. Bantam was receptive, and the manuscript is now (April 1990) in the hands of Bantam.*

*When it's published, it'll bear my name, not that of Kenneth Robeson, the Bantam house name for the magazine writers of the Savage stories.*

*This novel is not what I would have written at the age of, say, twenty or even thirty. It's longer than any Savage novel so far printed, and it's more realistic. I'm not bound by the tabus [sic] that Dent other writers had to respect when they wrote their sagas.*

Farmer’s Doc Savage ambitions only began with “Escape from Loki” and still live on within WNU.

From Farmer's "Afterword" to *Doc Savage Omnibus* No. 13:

*I also have in my files notes about three original Docs, stories I'd like to write if circumstances permit.*

*The one I'd write first would be the sequel to "Up from Earth's Center," 1949. ... It's the only one in which Doc is both puzzled about the identity and powers of his antagonists and in which he is defeated. ... I would like to write the sequel, solve the puzzle, and have Doc be victorious. ...*

*My files have notes ... about Doc's search for and final confrontation with the supervillain who caused the Stock Market crash of 1929 ... Tentative title: **Dark Satanic Mills**. ...*

*... notes about an adventure that takes place in 1930 ... a group of world-powerful industrialists which hires professional killers to eliminate Doc after he stumbles across ... their organization. Tentative title: **Bloody Hands**. ...*

*Then there's **Invisible Nation**, in which Doc finds out that a hidden subculture exists in America ... [acting] as both parasites and symbiotes ...*

*... notes about the adventure in the jungle in the Amazon basin in 1923. It should be, if it goes as planned, a wild and colorful exploit. Tentative: **Crimson Jaguar**.*

*As you can see, *The Man of Bronze* is, in my mind, a man as real as you and I and perhaps even more real.*

*Doc Savage still lives!*

While Farmer got "Escape from Loki" published ten months after *Doc Savage Omnibus* No. 13, it's his *only* authorized Doc Savage novel, just the one and done. It took twenty-two years before *Crimson Jaguar* was published posthumously as *The Memoirs of Pat Wildman* No. 2 "The Scarlet Jaguar" and thirty years to get "Down to Earth's Centre" posthumously published as *Secrets of the Nine* No. 4 "The Monster on Hold".

That leaves *Dark Satanic Mills*, *Bloody Hands*, and *Invisible Nation* yet to be extrapolated and written from Farmer's notes as Meteor House editions credited to Eckert or one of the other Usual Suspects. I expect them to be divvied up to bring the total novel count for *TMOPW* and *SOTN* to five each.

Prove me wrong!

—end—