

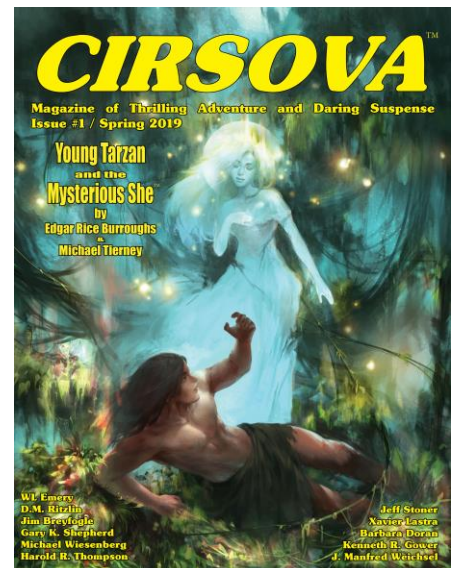
The GRIDLEY WAVE

CONTACTING THE WORLDS OF EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS

"Young Tarzan and the Mysterious She"

"Young Tarzan and the Mysterious She" is Michael Tierney's posthumous collaboration with Edgar Rice Burroughs, completing a short-story fragment started in 1930 with the authorization of ERB, Inc. The story appears in the Spring 2019 issue (Vol 2, #1) of the adventure publication, *Cirsova, Magazine of Thrilling Adventure and Daring Suspense*. Michael has been writing fiction for many years, and is known best to ERB fans as the editor of the four-volume *The Edgar Rice Burroughs 100 Year Art Chronology*. On 17 January, Michael provided the background on how the finished tale came to be, noting on his website (<http://thewildstars.com/YoungTarzan.html>):

"The Young Tarzan fragment was handwritten and partly typed by Edgar Rice Burroughs in 1930. It was left unfinished and, after his death in 1950, lay hidden until it was rediscovered in the early 1960s, along with many other 'treasures in the safe.' Many well-known writers were offered the chance to complete the story, but there were elements that they considered problematic, and they passed. In 2005, ERB's grandson, Danton Burroughs, offered me the chance. I found the problems to be opportunities to explain what I considered to be inconsistencies in the jungle lord's established history. But on the day of Danton's greatest accomplishment, when he became President of his grandfather's company, Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc., there was a fire that destroyed many of his father, John Coleman Burroughs' paintings – some of them lost forever without a record. Danton tragically died that night of a heart attack. What I didn't learn until recently was that the fire left ERB, Inc. with no record of the story. Fortunately, I still had my digital files. While I was creating *The Edgar Rice Burroughs 100 Year Art Chronology*, I'd asked current President Jim Sullos for an opportunity to do something with the story."



In an interview with Paul Hair published online on 22 January as "The Crazy True Story Behind the 'New' Tarzan Tale" at *Hollywood in Toto* (<https://www.hollywoodintoto.com/young-tarzan-mysterious-she/>), the founder and editor of *Cirsova*, "Alex" P.

H HOLLYWOOD in TOTO
The Right Take on Entertainment

Alexander, explained how his magazine was chosen to publish the story. Mike owns two comic book stores in the Little Rock, Arkansas, area, where Alex also lives. Alex was in one of Michael's shops when Mike mentioned the story he was working on. Ultimately, ERB, Inc. approved *Cirsova* publishing the tale. A momentary complication was ERB, Inc. believing that the story was wholly Mike's creation. This was when they realized that the company had no record of the fragment, and the fragment itself was not in their archives. Mike showed them the digital copy of the unfinished story, confirming that the first third of the completed story was indeed penned by ERB. After announcement of the plan to publish, "the original manuscript resurfaced – it had been in the possession of Bill Hillman, the webmaster of ERBzine.com. Danton had sent him the original to transcribe. Bill didn't know anyone was looking for it or that the estate had no knowledge of it."

Michael Tierney posted on his website: "Concerning why ERB abandoned the story, I'd speculate that it had more to do with *Blue Book* editor Edwin Balmer, who purchased ERB's previous *Jungle Tales* a decade before, suddenly leaving to edit *Red Book* the same year *Young Tarzan* was written. New editors meant different tastes and agendas, and while new *Blue Book* editor Donald Kennicott would turn out to be a big ERB fan, perhaps he preferred his novels. He certainly bought a lot of them!"

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The official publication date of the *Cirsova* issue was 15 March, but Michael hosted an early release at his The Comic Book Store with an official signing on 2 March with Mike and *Cirsova*'s editor. Local talk show host Shane Stacks of "Shane Plays Geek Talk" on 101.1 FM radio conducted a live remote show during the signing (<https://shaneplays.com/?s=tarzan>).

Digital copies and the paperback edition of the Spring 2019 issue of *Cirsova* is now available for \$9.99 at Amazon.com. The hard-cover edition with dust jacket can be ordered for \$30 at Lulu.com (<https://www.lulu.com/shop/edgar-rice-burroughs/cirsova-vol-2-no-1-spring-2019/hardcover/product-23983494.html>). Digital and print copies are also available at Barnes & Noble. ☞



Cirsova editor "Alex" P. Alexander (far left) with Michael Tierney (in the middle with the Olsen family) at the book signing.



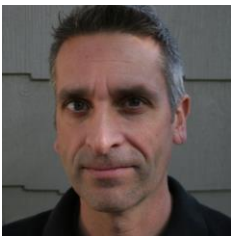
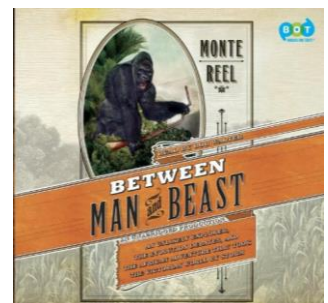
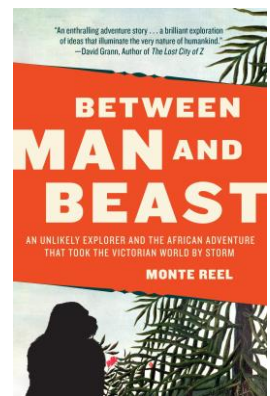
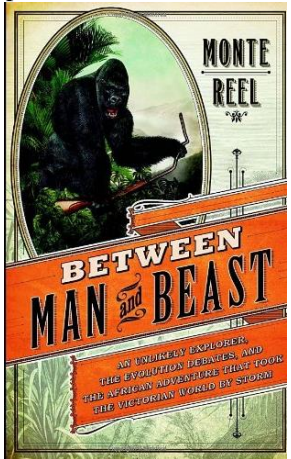
"BETWEEN MAN AND BEAST"

Although this book was first published in 2013, this is the first time we've reported on Monte Reel's *Between Man and Beast: An Unlikely Explorer, the Evolution Debates, and the African Adventure that Took the Victorian World*, which "tells the story of Paul Du Chaillu, a young 19th century explorer who emerged from expeditions in Africa with the first specimens of the gorilla – an animal that previously was the subject of myth and legend. Du Chaillu's adventures, both in the jungle and in the showrooms of Europe and America, coincided with the publication of Darwin's *On the Origin of Species*, and they helped ignite the evolution debate." (Wikipedia.com) Two fitting reviews are:

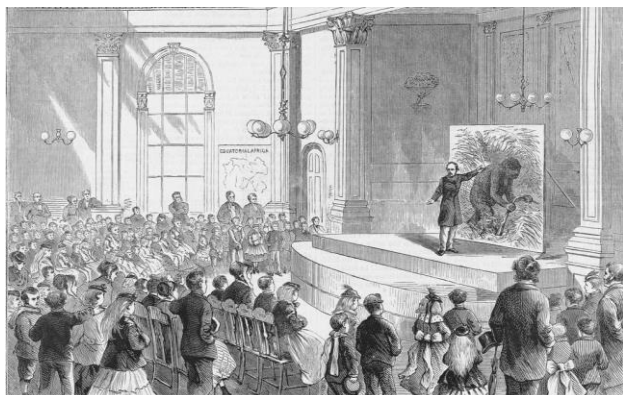
"You'd half expect a Bela Lugosi mad scientist or a Johnny Weissmuller Tarzan to pop up in this Victorian-era drama, which travels from the London of Darwin and Dickens to unexplored Africa to Civil War-ravaged America." – *New York Post's Required Reading*

"Before there was Jane Goodall, or even Tarzan and King Kong, the gorilla was a creature of mystery. . . . Reel retraces his life and work with the spirit of curiosity and adventure that drove du Chaillu in the first place. What results is a celebration of accomplishments too far-reaching to be understood in their time." – *The Daily Beast*

The first edition hardcover (Doubleday, 352 pages, ISBN 978-0385534222) was published on 12 March 2013 (*above right*). The first trade paperback (*right*) was released on 3 December 2013 (Anchor, 432 pages, ISBN 978-0307742438); the unabridged Audible audiobook, narrated by Bob Walter, on 12 March 2013 (Random House Audio, 10 hours and 39 minutes, ASIN B00B4G0ON2); and the audiobook on CD by Books on Tape (*below right*).



In addition to being an award-winning journalist, Monte Reel (*left, photo courtesy Mei-Ling Hopgood*) has written three nonfiction books. In addition to *Between Man and Beast*, he penned *The Last of the Tribe* (2010) and *A Brotherhood of Spies* (2018). An excellent book review by David Quammen, "Planet of the Ape," was posted at <https://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/07/books/review/between-man-and-beast-by-monte-reel.html> on 4 April 2013. An interview of Reel, "An Unlikely Explorer Stumbles into Controversy," was broadcast on NPR's "All Things Considered" on 31 March 2013 (listen at <https://www.npr.org/2013/03/31/75581456/an-unlikely-explorer-stumbles-into-controversy>). ☞



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(left) "Mr. Paul Du Chaillu Lecturing to the Young Folks of Boston," an engraving from Harper's Weekly, 1869. (from The New York Times Book Review)