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THE CRY
OF THE
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#23.5
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is a between mailing issue of the Official Organ of the Esoteric Order of Dagon amateur press association, and is intended as a means of communication between that group's OE (Joe Moudry P.O. Box 1205 Tuscaloosa AL 35401) and the roster.

Earthsea Publication #177.5

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ON DEADLINES AND THOSE TARDY BUNDLES
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For the first time in quite a few mailings I was able to prepare the members' bundles of a Mailing and have them ready to thrust into the maw of the Postal Service within two weeks of a deadline. The OO was printed the evening of

4 September (Labour Day) and the necessary stamps bought the next morning; the thirty-odd jetpacks went into the proper hole in the wall and I thought that everyone would receive them in time for the rather short deadline coming up in November (since I have always accepted submissions through the day that I cut the OO's table of contents I tend to think of the Hallowmas deadline as falling very early in November).

When buying stamps I took a sample bundle to the clerk at the window for weighing and had him sell me the multiple of that bundle's appropriate postage equal to the roster; when he gave me a price quotation of slightly over \$7.50, I asked him to recalculate, which he did, assuring me that he was correct. Stamps in tentacle I went back to Hastur (our faded metallic green Impala of decades age) and got everything ready to post.

And then within two weeks I began getting letters asking where the bundles might be. Looking at the calendar I realised that they should have been received by then, so I asked my normal postal clerk about possible problems they might have encountered. After mentioning the postal workers' strike that slowed everything down to less than a crawl, I remembered the low postage cost of the mailing, and asked him about that. To make a long story short, he said that the postage was correct, but calculated on the slowest possible rate possible. In short, the new clerk had thoughtfully saved me/the Order money on postage, but sent the bundles by carrier turtle.

Some members reported receiving their mailings as late as the third week of October.

Although the Order's next deadline was known for quite some time in advance, I feel that it would be less than gentlemanly to penalise anyone for missing minac outstanding with Hallowmas due to this error (on my part; I should have been more skeptical of the abilities of postal clerks (even when trying to be helpful), so no one will be dropped from the roster of the Order for minac violations with the Hallowmas mailing, and all activity due will be postponed to the Candlemas mailing (deadline: 2 February, 1979).

Also, I won't cut the table of contents for Mailing 24 until at least Saturday, 11 November, 1978, so if anyone can get material in by then, s/he may be assured of making the bundle.

Postage costs necessary to mail this fractional OO to the membership will not be charged against the Order's treasury.

This concludes the Official Business that necessitated this fractional OO.

The deadline for Mailing 24 (to repeat) is: Friday, 2 February, 1979 [50 copies].