

= Out of This World Adventures =

Out of This World Adventures was a pulp magazine which published two issues , in July and December 1950 . It included several pages of comics as well as science fiction stories . It was edited by Donald A. Wollheim and published by Avon . Sales were weak , and after two issues Avon decided to cancel it .

= = Publication history = =

The early 1950s saw dramatic changes in the world of U.S. science fiction publishing . At the start of 1949 , all but one of the major magazines in the field were in pulp format ; by the end of 1955 , almost all had either ceased publication or switched to digest format . Despite the rapid decline of the pulp market , several new science fiction magazines were launched in pulp format during these years ; Out of This World Adventures was one of these .

In 1947 Avon Books launched the Avon Fantasy Reader , a series of fantasy anthologies in digest format , edited by Donald A. Wollheim . Two years later , Joseph Meyers , Avon 's president , decided to launch a science fiction magazine , and Wollheim purchased six stories for it before it was cancelled for financial reasons . The following year , Avon 's printer , J.W. Clements , suggested to Meyers the idea of a pulp magazine which included a few pages of comics . Meyers asked Wollheim to try the idea , thinking that the additional section might draw comics readers to buy a pulp magazine , and in July 1950 Wollheim duly launched Sparkling Love Stories and Out of This World Adventures . The romance magazine was cancelled after a single issue because of poor sales ; but Out of This World Adventures seemed promising enough to try a second issue , which appeared in December 1950 , along with a third magazine in the part @-@ comic format : Pioneer Western . Neither sold well enough to extend their runs any further .

Donald A. Wollheim was the editor for both issues . His editorial policy was slanted towards interplanetary fiction , according to his editorial in the first issue . The magazine included stories by several writers who were either already well @-@ known or who would go on to more success ; the first issue featured A.E. van Vogt , Lester del Rey , Kris Neville , William Tenn , Mack Reynolds , Ray Cummings and A. Bertram Chandler . Science fiction historians Mike Ashley and Wendy Bousfield both regard Tenn 's story , " The Puzzle of Priipirii " , as the best in the magazine . The 32 @-@ page comics section , which was taken directly from an existing Avon comic called Out of This World , included comics written by John Michel and Gardner Fox ; the latter , a pastiche of Robert E. Howard 's " Conan " stories , was titled " Crom the Barbarian " and was illustrated by John Giunta . Michel , like Wollheim a member of the Futurians , a group of sf fans and aspiring writers , wrote the lead comic for both issues , though the second issue of the Canadian edition used a different comic section than the U.S. edition . The interior artwork was the responsibility of Avon 's art director , rather than Wollheim , and illustrators such as William McWilliam , who worked on Avon 's comics , were used .

= = Bibliographic details = =

Out of This World Adventures was intended to be bi @-@ monthly , but only two issues were produced , dated July and December 1950 . It was priced at 25 cents for both issues ; each issue was 128 pages and was in pulp format . The publisher was Avon Periodicals for both issues . A Canadian edition appeared , also priced at 25 cents ; the cover of the Canadian edition omitted the dates , but the issues appeared in November 1950 and April 1951 .