

= Miracle Science and Fantasy Stories =

Miracle Science and Fantasy Stories was a pulp science fiction magazine which published two issues in 1931 . The fiction was unremarkable , but the cover art and illustrations , by Elliott Dold , were high quality , and have made the magazine a collector 's item . The magazine ceased publication when Dold became ill and was unable to continue his duties both as editor and artist .

= = Publication history = =

In 1931 , Harold Hersey , who had been working in the pulp magazine field for over a decade , decided to launch a new science fiction (sf) and fantasy magazine . Hersey had been the editor for the first half of The Thrill Book 's run of 16 issues in 1919 , and had also worked for Clayton Magazines , where in 1928 he had proposed a sf magazine to William Clayton . Clayton turned down the idea , but the following year changed his mind and launched Astounding Stories of Super Science , with Harry Bates as editor . After Hersey left Clayton and started his own publishing company , he returned to the idea , probably with the encouragement of Elliott Dold , an artist who was providing artwork to Astounding .

Hersey launched Miracle Science and Fantasy Stories in 1931 , with Dold as editor . Dold also provided the cover artwork for the first issue . Dold 's brother , Douglas Dold , also worked on the magazine ; some sources credit Douglas as editor instead but sf historian Howard DeVore argues this stems from a misreading of Hershey 's autobiography . Only one more issue appeared : Elliott Dold fell ill and was unable to continue working on the magazine . Miracle included stories by Victor Rousseau and John Miller Gregory . The lead novel in the first issue is credited to Douglas Dold and the lead novel in the second issue to Elliott , but sf historian Richard Bleiler suggests both stories were collaborations by the two brothers . The quality of the fiction was generally very poor , but Elliott Dold 's artwork in both issues was of much higher quality , and is the reason that the magazine remains a collectors ' item to this day .

= = Bibliographic details = =

The editor for both issues was Elliott Dold ; the publisher was Good Story Magazine Co , based in Springfield , Massachusetts . The two issues were dated April ? May and June ? July 1931 ; both were printed in pulp format , priced at 20 cents , and 144 pages long .