SIX STORIES FROM THE MISSISSIPPI

TWO PUSHCART NOMINATIONS

New River Story

MY FANCY AND FUSS now appears in *The Magazine of History and Fiction Issue 4 December 2019* (**historyandfiction.com**). A white fur trader falls in love with a Dakota woman and practices white medicine in defiance of her traditions--circa 1819—while Indians and the new nation hotly contest the northern Mississippi after the War of 1812. The story's an excerpt from a novel currently shopped to agents.

Access ***MY FANCY AND FUSS*** at **https://magazineoftheoldwest.neocities.org/page55.html.** Or go to **https://historyandfiction.com/list-of-issues** and scroll WAY down to *Issue 4* and click on the title.

2013 Pushcart Nominations

THE ONE ABOVE THE BOTTOMS. A white woman and her children are captured during the forcible removal of Dakota Indians from the upper Mississippi. Appeared in *Prick of the Spindle Magazine*, March 2013. Currently at the **Short Stories tab** of this website.

RIVER SUN WARBLERS. North America's most luminous songbird, the prothonotary warbler, brings the first light and wildlife to the frozen and primal Mississippi. A creation story that appeared at *Front Porch Edition, American Athenaeum Spring 2013*. Currently at the **Myth tab** of this website.

More River Fictions

EDEN NEVER HEARD. Two gay entrepreneurs fall in love during early logging days circa 1855. Appeared in *Wilde Magazine Fall 2013*. Currently at the **Short Stories tab** of this website.

INDIAN PICTURES. Inspired by the "soldier-artist" Seth Eastman, his Mdewakantunwan wife Stands Sacred, daughter Great Spirit Woman and grandson Charles Eastman. Currently at

http://heartjournalonline.com/indian-pictures. A Dakota family survives removal from the Mississippi, flight to Canada, and the Wounded Knee massacre circa 1850-1890.

INJUN JOE AND PRINCESS WENONAH releases Injun Joe from Tom and Becky's cave and Princess Wenonah from her suicidal leap in Longfellow's *Song of Hiawatha*. (*Thirty-first Bird Review Summer 2010*.) Currently at the **Short Stories tab** of this website.

Editor's comments on Richie's river fictions

"**Indian Pictures** is astounding in its detail and symbols, challenging, swift moving and thrilling. Richie Swanson telescopes a poignant, misshapen and singularly American adventure in indigenous conquest and subjugation that *HEArt* offers as a standard for new social justice literature."—Daniel Morrow, fiction editor, *HEArt Online*.

"Richie Swanson's short story, **River Sun Warblers**, evokes a timelessness found within the natural world. Readers feel they are both witnessing the primordial beginnings of Nature—or life itself—while also glimpsing the often unseen natural world we're surrounded by every day. His work is reminiscent of writers like Kenneth Grahme (*Wind and the Willows*) or Rudyard Kipling (*The Jungle Book*). It is both intensely creative and refreshing. Wholly original and completely representative of the type of work we want to publish in American Athenaeum. If I had a wish-list this was at the top of it"—Hunter Liguore, Editor-In-Chief, *American Athenaeum*.

"It's all there in **The One above the Bottoms**—characters as we can imagine they really were in their time, writing that is lush and fertile, and sound research to give it all fortitude. And Swanson pulls no punches. The writing itself is as adventurous and unafraid as its storyteller, taking us into territory we would not dare venture ourselves, into unexpected into unexpected terrain that is sometimes frightening and sometimes heart-rending, and in the end, makes us glad we went there. [Editor's Note: **The One above the Bottoms** was selected as a Kindle Exclusive fiction feature in *Prick of the Spindle*, Vol. 7.1]—Cynthia Reeser, Editor-in-Chief, *Prick of the Spindle Magazine*, Publisher of Aqueous Books.

"A fascinating critique" of "Mark Twain and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow."—*Thirty First Bird Review's* comment on **Injun Joe and Princess Wenonah**.