

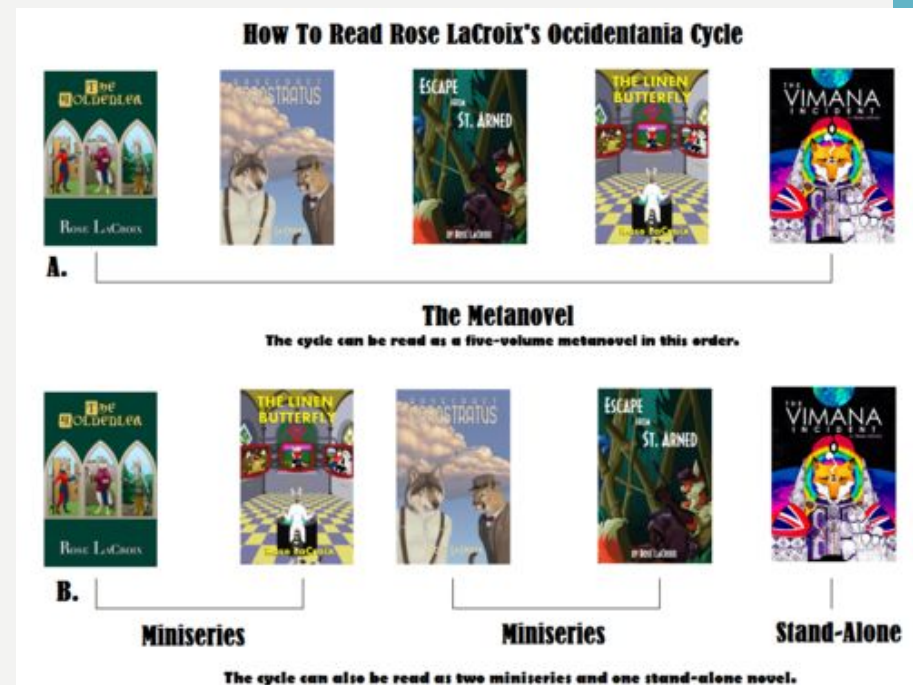
**MY
VIMANA
INCIDENT**

A TALK BY PRIMAEROS

**DR. FOXLOVE OR: HOW I LEARNED TO STOP WORRYING &
GOT PAID TO MAKE A GROOVY SCI-FUR BOOK COVER**

1. THE PROPOSAL

- “The Vimana Incident”
- **Rose LaCroix** aka **Threetails** – Author of a half-dozen books in the furry Science/Speculative Fiction genre. Wife of artist/musician **Kobi Lacroix**. She is also trans.
- The price I offered was **US\$80** for a two-page illustration, back in 2014. I had a day job. No special techniques were requested.



1. THE PROPOSAL

- **July 8th, 2014**
- “Hi, I saw your Philip K. Dick inspired work and I thought you might be interested in doing a cover for my next novel. Your work has a **strong compositional savvy** to it and your color schemes are **eye-grabbing and interesting**, the sort of thing you used to see on **book covers back in the 60s and 70s** when SFF got really interesting.
- I'm a writer with two furry books already out and several more on the way. I'm working on a book right now that is inspired strongly by **Philip K. Dick**. It ties in **psychedelics**, the **Tibetan and Egyptian Books of the Dead**, the Cathars, reincarnation, and alternate history.
- The story begins in an alternate 1939 where the **Second World War** has been averted by the outbreak of a **space race** and the inevitable arms race it leads to; the world is at peace but tensions are high; however, it jumps to **circa 2606 on an off-world colony**, to back to **1154 in Laon, France**, to London in 1946, to Northern California and Oregon in 2039.”



1. THE PROPOSAL

- “Come to think of it, how would you like to read the book before the proof readers get done with it? It'll be a very rough, raw draft but it would save a bit of waiting. I can have that done in a week or two at this rate.”
- So, like that scene in *The Devil Wears Prada*, I get to read a novel before it comes out because I'm drawing the cover.
- There is a lot to unpack, and as a book illustrator it really is up to you to pick what seems important and attractive.

2. IDENTIFYING ELEMENTS

- So, what is **The Vimana Incident** about?
- Firstly, **furry World War II** got cut short because furry Hitler died early. So instead they all chase for the Moon!
- **Ned**, a British red fox **rocket scientist** (and a **poofter**), is “recruited” by the government for an international mission to **the Moon**! They found a spaceship there and *Weird Things Happen* afterwards. He gets to *snog a wolf*.
- It’s also about **Godric of Hereford**, a French red fox monk who wrote a **prophetic book** after accidentally eating **hallucinogenic fungus** from bread. (It doesn’t end well for him.) Ned’s adventure is in it.
- It’s also about **Apollo Morrill**, an American red fox in the future who is looking for a rather important book by a French monk with an ankh on it.

2. IDENTIFYING ELEMENTS

- The Protagonist, **Ned**, is a Red Fox (who is actually several Red Foxes).
- Channelling the wily character **Reynard** from medieval literature.



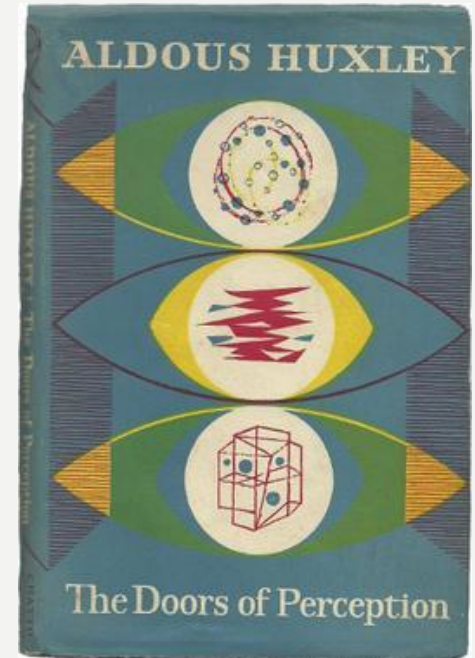
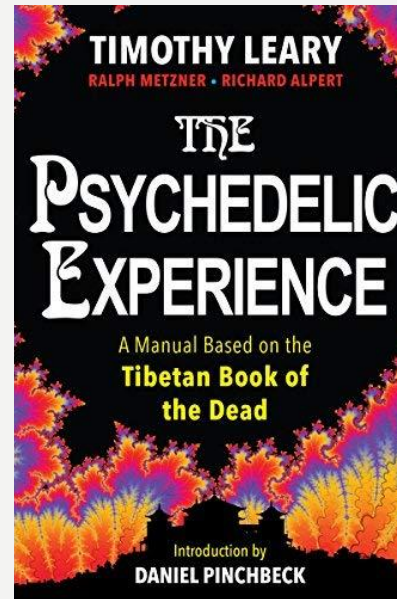
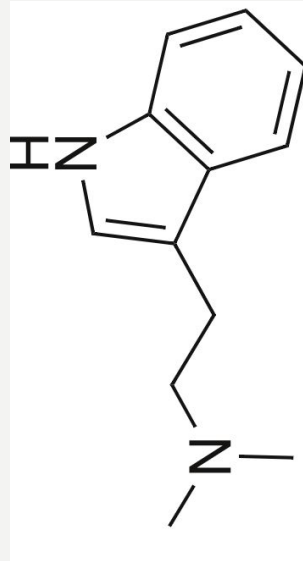
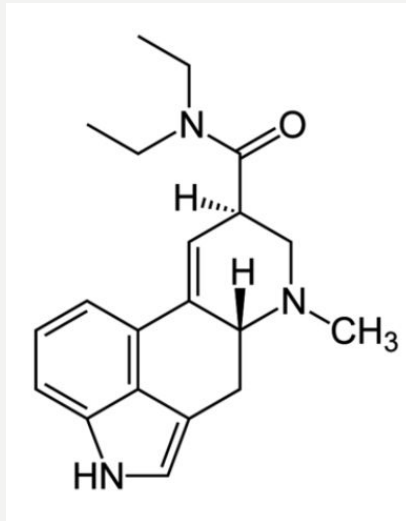
2. IDENTIFYING ELEMENTS

- The **Vimana** is a sort of flying ship from Indian mythology
- Part of the idea around **Ancient Astronaut**-ery
- Rama and Sita rode on one of these back home after her rescue, in the Mahabharata.
- As for the title of the book, it's about the spacecraft the funny animal crew found on the Moon.



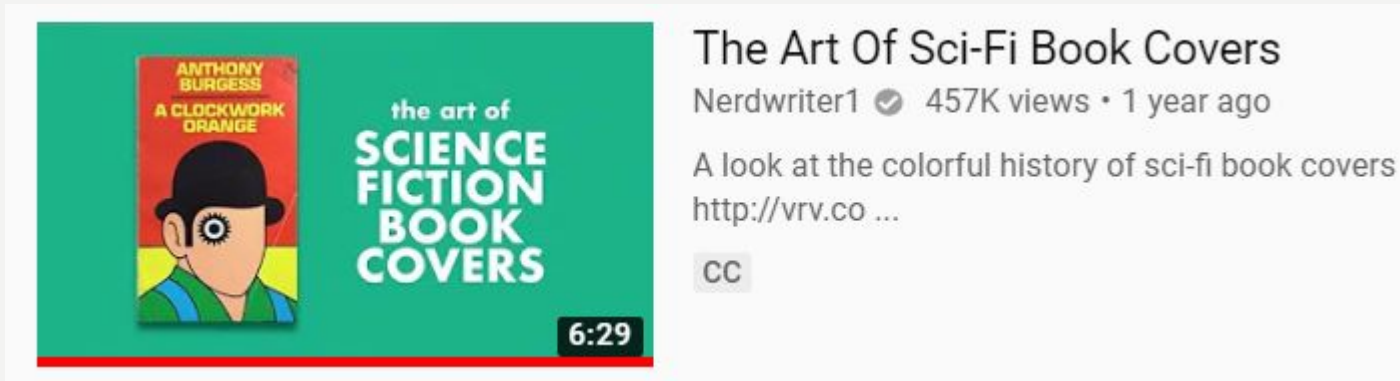
2. IDENTIFYING ELEMENTS

- **TRIPPIN' ON DRUGS.**
- 1970s America's notorious period of experimentation with hallucinogens and mind-expanding chemicals.
- **Dimethyltryptamine (DMT)**, Lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD)



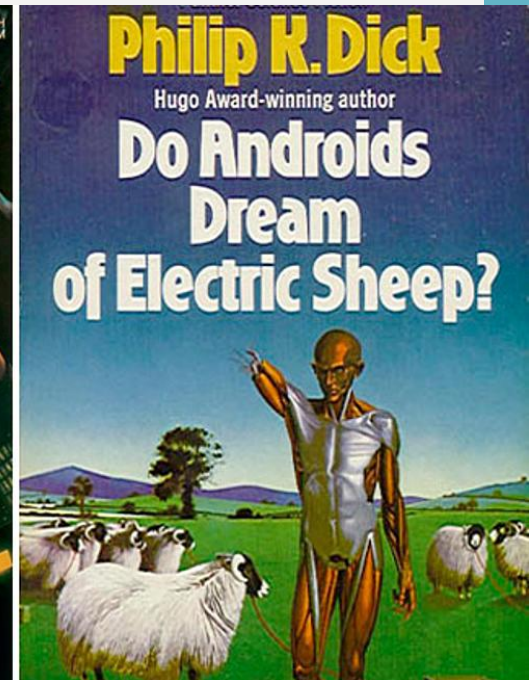
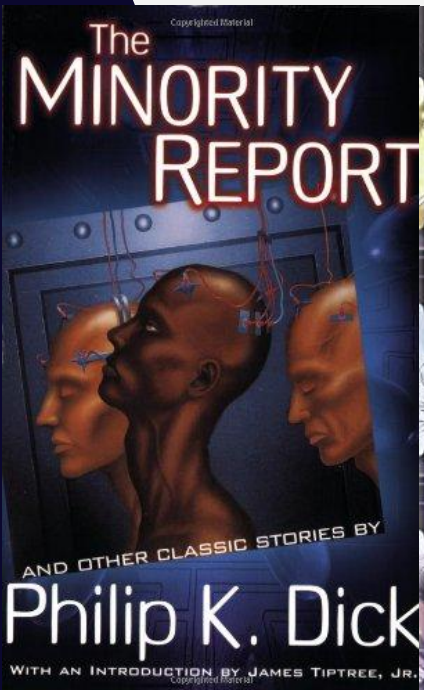
2. IDENTIFYING ELEMENTS

- **Science Fiction book covers of the 1970s / 1980s.**
- Allowed to get as weird as they can, half the time has **nothing** to do with the story, other times they have **everything** to do with the story.
- **The Art Of Sci-Fi Book Covers – Nerdwriter**
https://youtu.be/M7Qm_UJML54



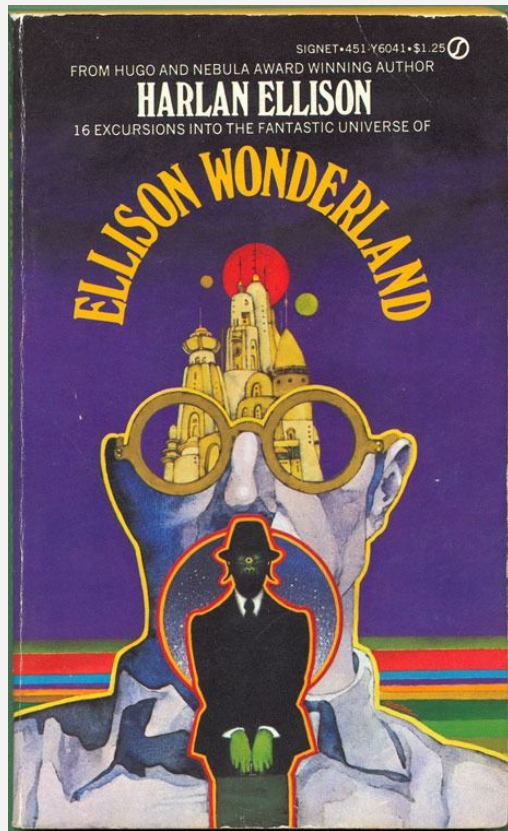
2. IDENTIFYING ELEMENTS

- **Philip K. Dick** was a Science Fiction / Speculative Fiction author who wrote about **shifting perspectives**, **very strange circumstances**, **definition of human** (it's empathy bih), women with dark hair (yeah), and the **search for the Real (Real) God**.



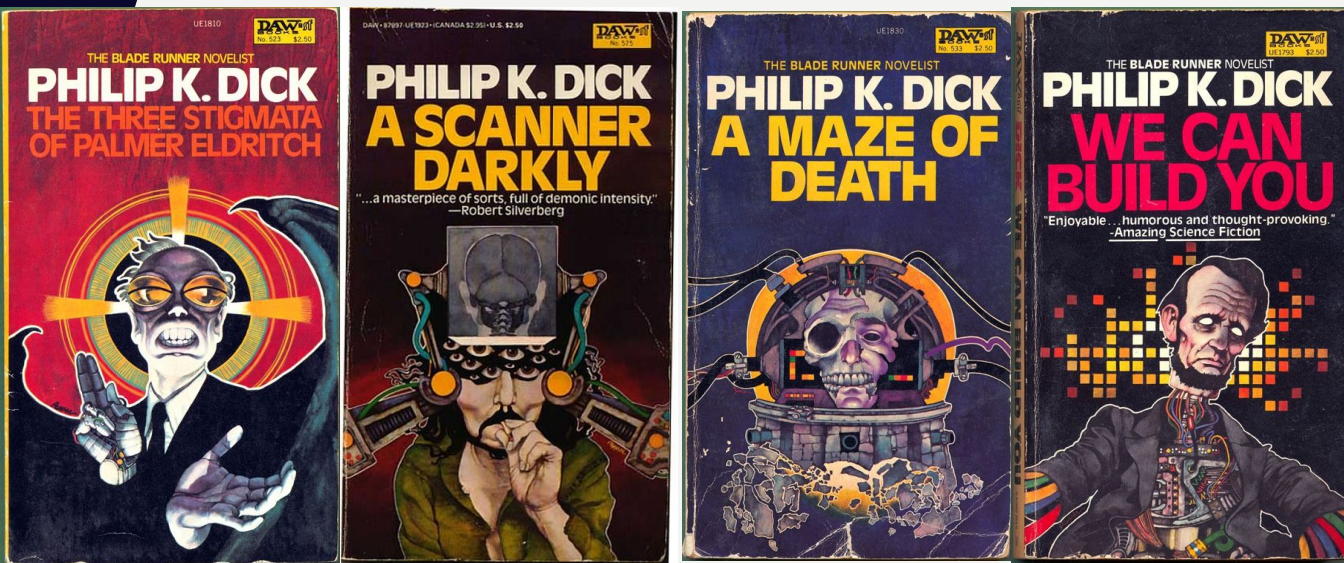
2. IDENTIFYING ELEMENTS

- At the time, I was very interested in applying two influences: **Bob Pepper** & **Jack Kirby**



2. IDENTIFYING ELEMENTS

- **Bob Pepper** designed book covers, music album covers, and the artwork for a several board games, active in the '70s/'80s.
- Did a series of covers for Philip K. Dick novel reprints.



2. IDENTIFYING ELEMENTS

- **Jack Kirby** the (forgotten?) King of Marvel Comics, who designed many of the characters we love reading/watching today, for Stan Lee to tell stories with.



MY BOARD
IS COMPOSED
OF COSMIC
ENERGY--

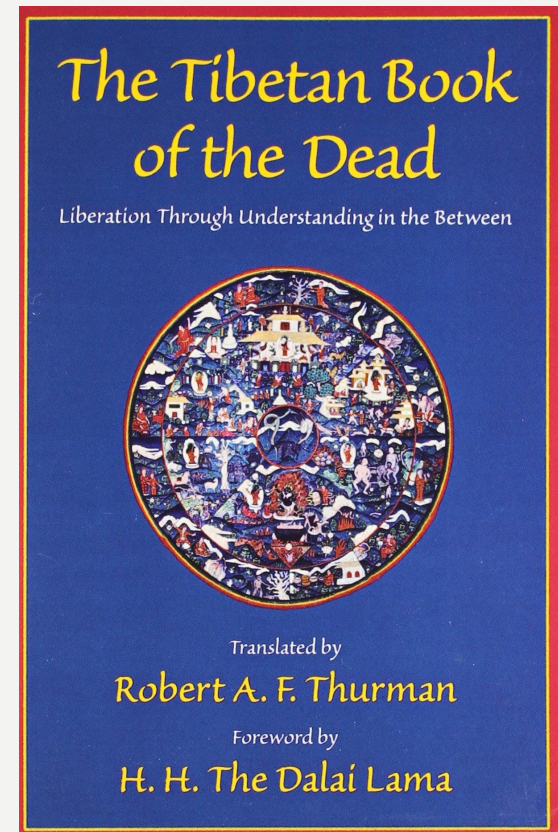
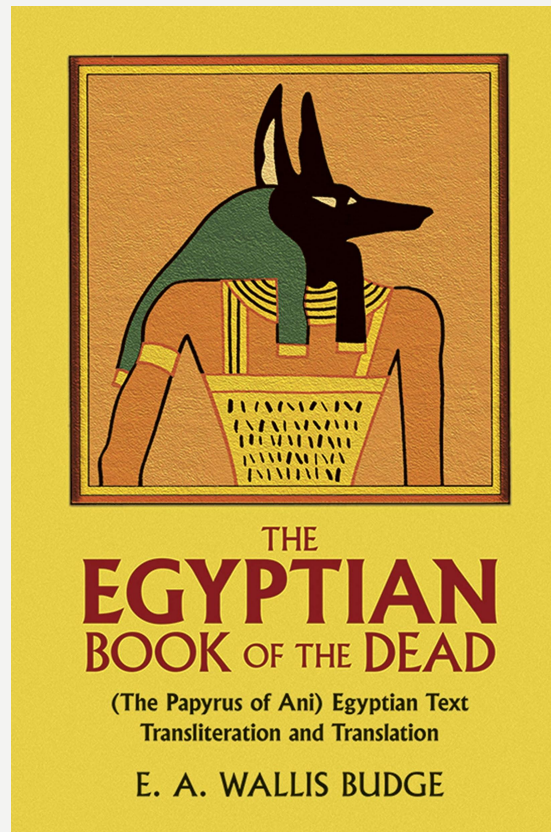
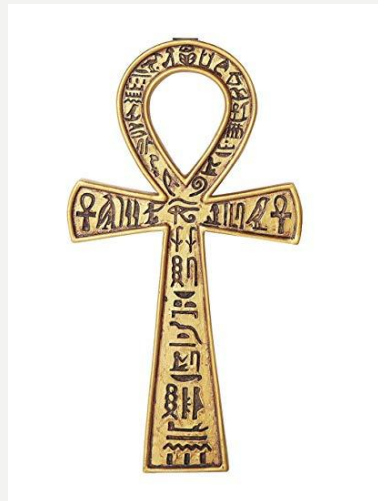
AND SUCH
ENERGY CAN
NEVER BE
DESTROYED--

NOT EVEN
WHEN IT
EXISTS IN
A
PHYSICALLY
SOLID
FORM!



2. IDENTIFYING ELEMENT

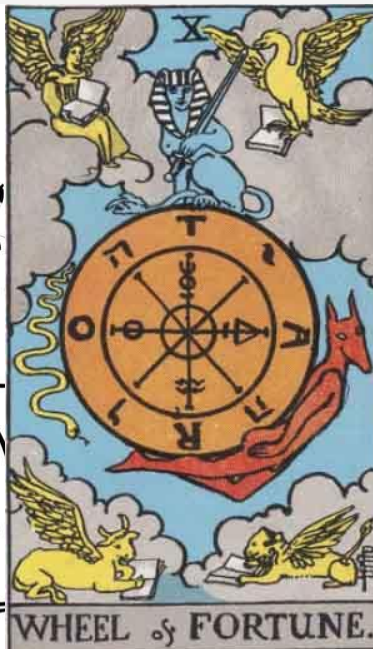
- The **ankh**, **Egyptian Book of The Dead**, and **Bardo Thodol**, the TIBETAN Book of The Dead



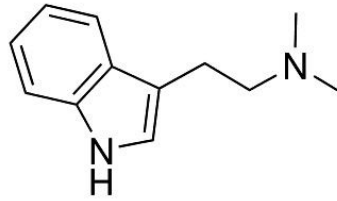
3. EARLY DRAFTS

- Based on the previous elements, I offered several early options for the author to choose from.

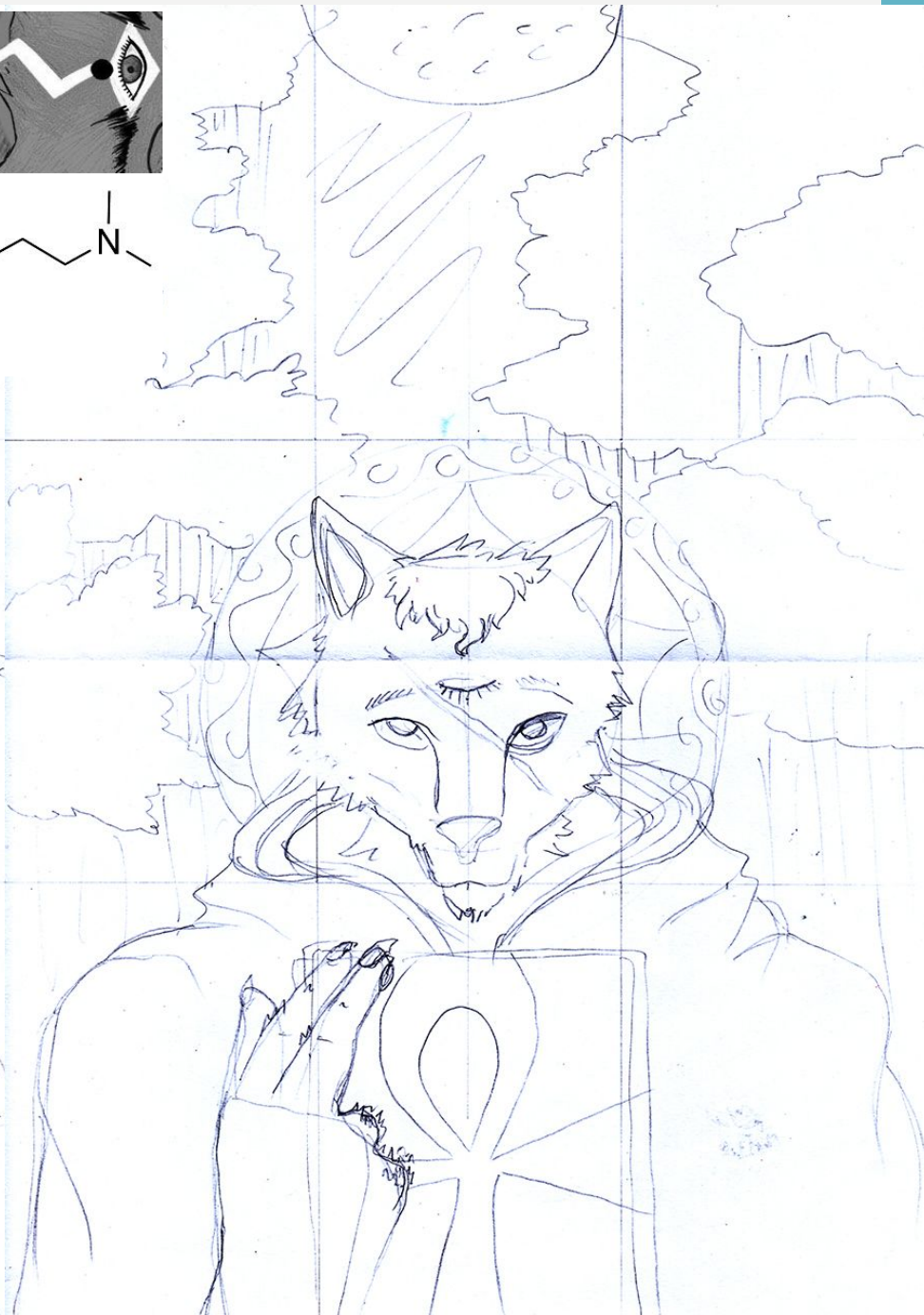
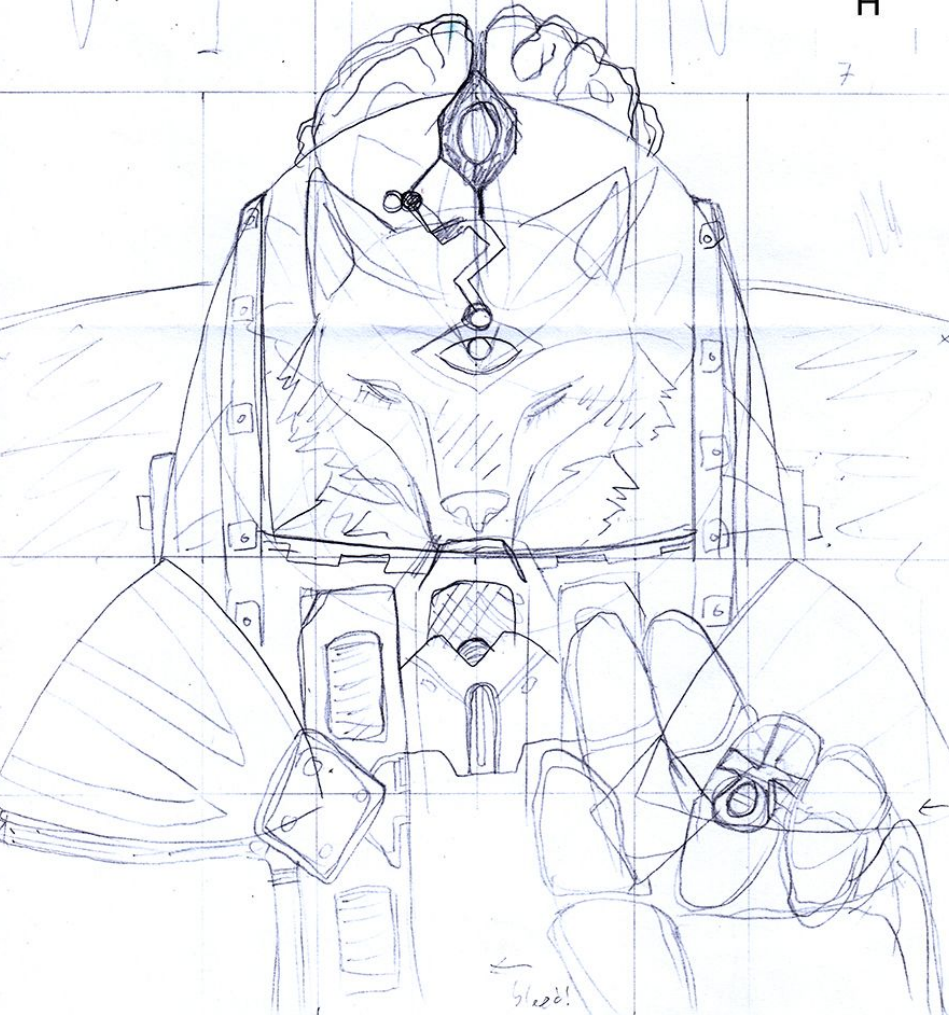




Hand ↓
2nd eye no?



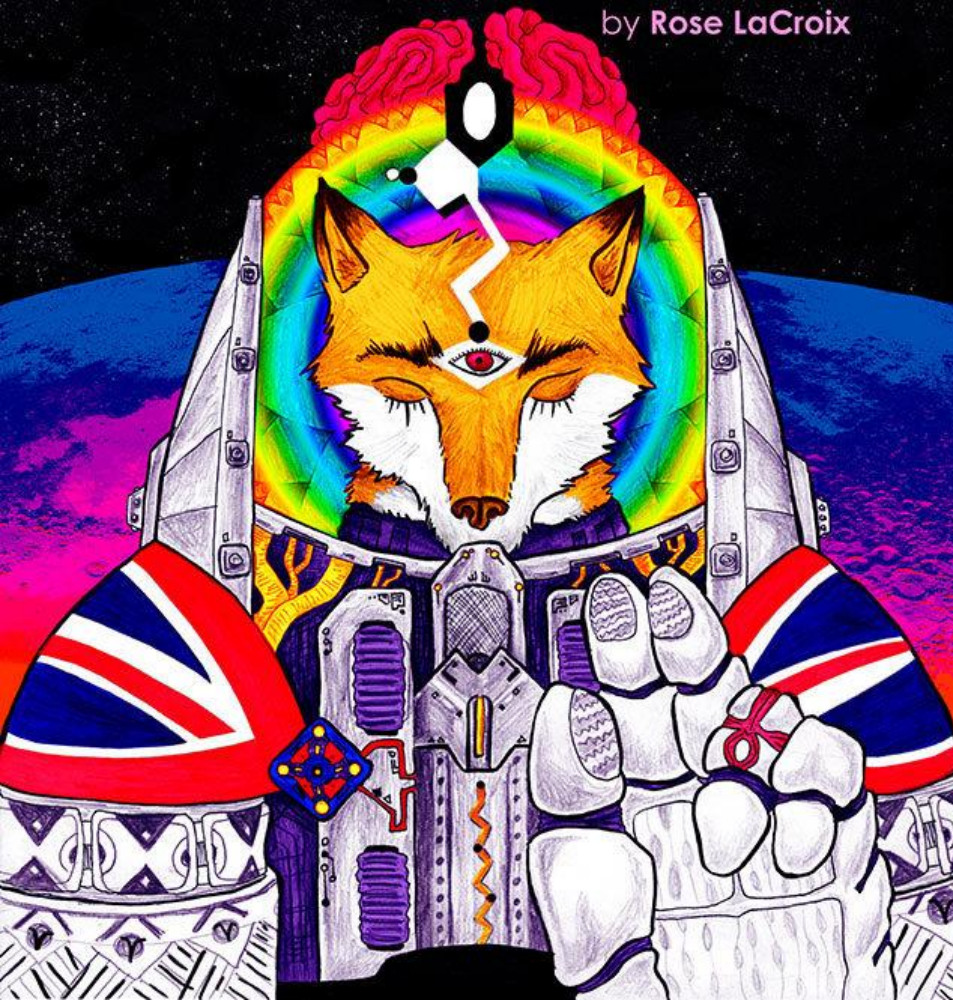
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THE VIMANA INCIDENT

by Rose LaCroix



0.125" Trim Area
0.25" Title Safe Zone

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0.25" Title Safe Zone
0.125" Trim Area

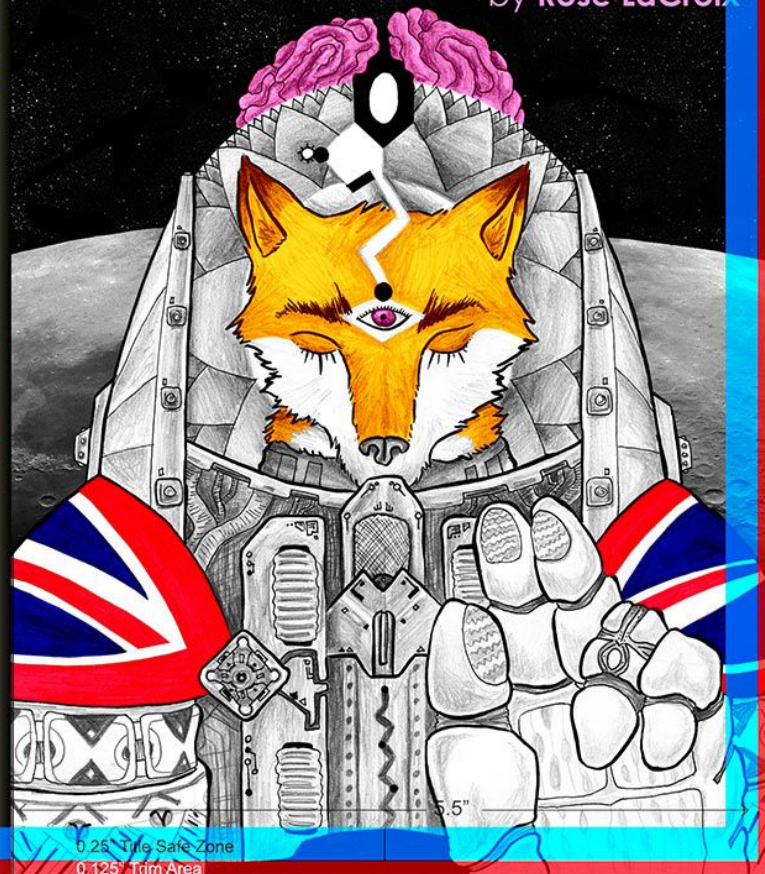
0.125" Trim Area
0.25" Title Safe Zone

THE VIMANA INCIDENT.

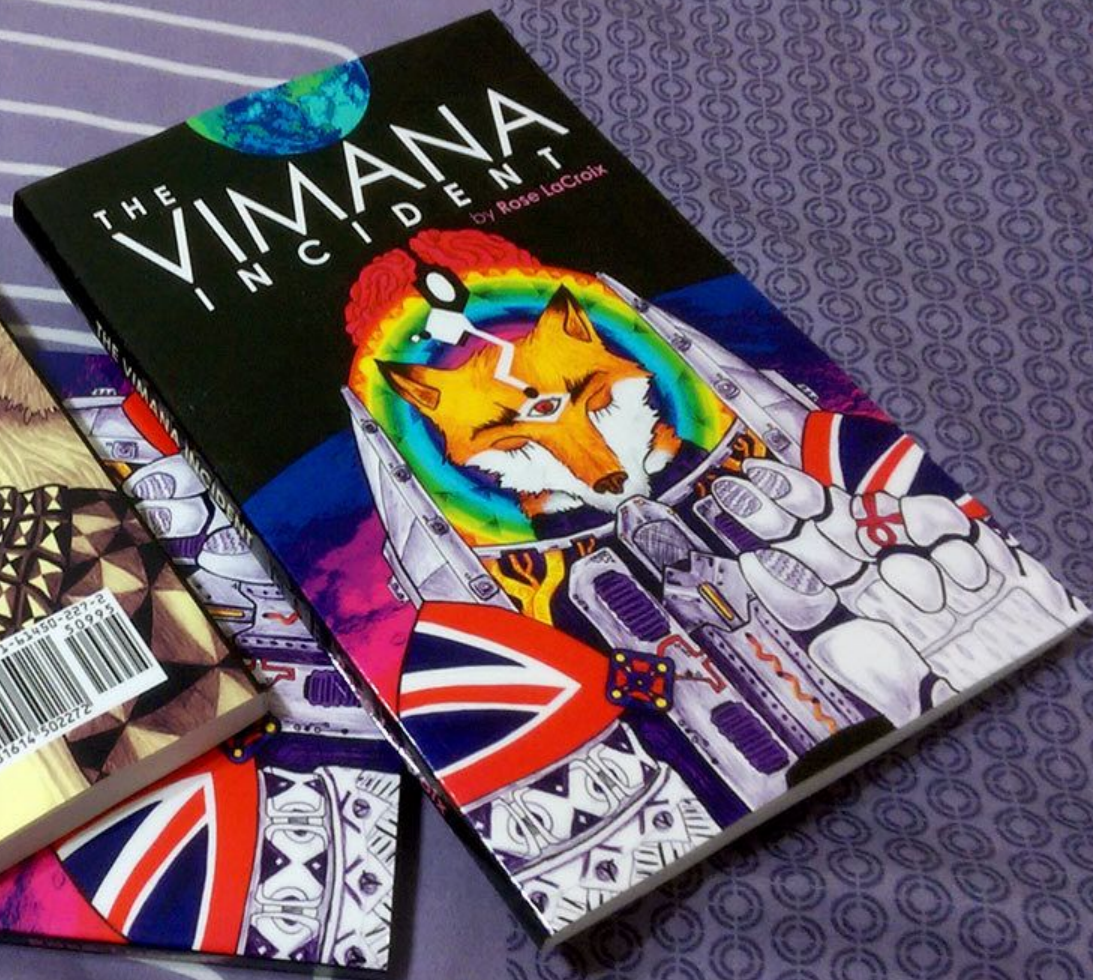
by Rose LaCroix

THE VIMANA INCIDENT

Rose LaCroix



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0.125" Trim Area

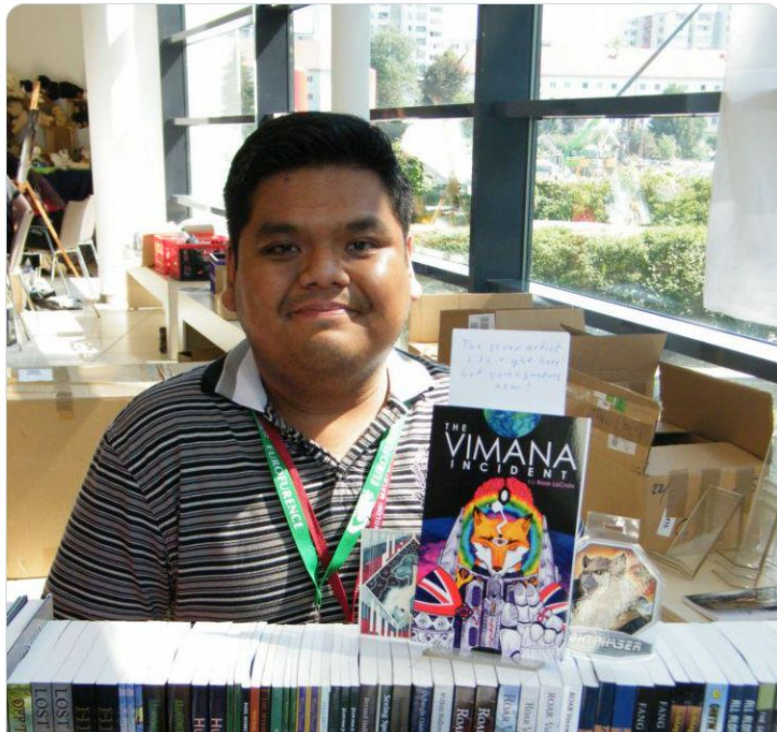


5. PROMOTION/ AFTERMATH



Fusselschwarm
@Fusselschwarm

Highlight of the day: @primaeros signing THE VIMANA INCIDENT by @threetails at our table.
Thanx buddy! #Eurofurence



The Vimana Incident, or what really happened on the Moon in 1939

written by Alice Dryden

The Vimana Incident

By Rose LaCroix

Cover Art by NightPhaser

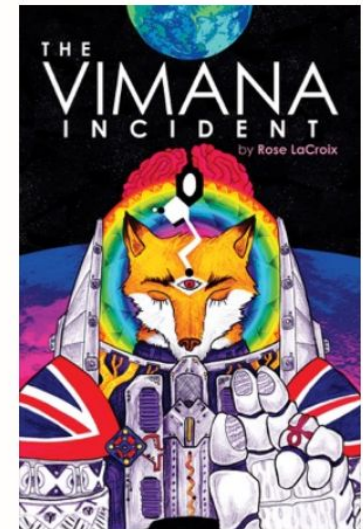
208pp, \$9.95

FurPlanet Productions, February 2015

The Vimana Incident features alternate history, time slip, and a deliberate homage to one of the most respected names in science fiction. By her own admission, author Rose LaCroix has set herself some ambitious goals with this novel. Has she bitten off more than she can chew?

The cover by NightPhaser is rich in tiny details and psychedelic in design, recalling the more out-there covers of science fiction from the 1960s. But where those fanciful images often bore no resemblance to the contents of the book, everything pictured on the front of *The Vimana Incident* is imbued with significance.

The action opens in an alternate 1939, where instead of preparing for war, the big players on the international scene are vying against each other in a space race. Flamboyant fox Edward 'Red Ned' Arrowsmith is an engineer and a civilian, but he finds himself pressed into a top secret mission to the Moon with another civilian and three military lunanauts.



5. PROMOTION/AFTERMATH



Ton Inktail rated it ★★★★★
Shelves: furry

Feb 14, 2016

Imagine P.K. Dick wrote about talking foxes in outer space, and you'll come close to the feel of this novel.

The writing has some rough edges here and there, but overall it's a fun, imaginative read with good pacing. Recommended if you enjoy SF and/or anthropomorphic characters.

Like · see review



Alice rated it ★★★★★
Shelves: historical, furry, scifi

Feb 22, 2015

Full review at <http://clawandquill.net/2015/03/the-v...>

In short: fun furry timeslip alt-history sci-fi.

Like · see review



Penyu & Biru (Primaeros) SOON LIFC 2019
@VoidChelonian

Set up my stuff. Can be seen through the door, even.
Hope you enjoy the little Art Show (Greenway G) and happy bidding! #MnFM2017



12:39 AM · Aug 26, 2017 · Twitter for Android



LUNCHEON ORB
@crashheartlives

Replying to @zarpaulus @VoidChelonian and @threetails
it's a really surreal journey that reads maybe like Phillip Pullman wrote a gayer, angrier Time Machine. I really liked it, but I wanted it to keep going!

5:04 AM · Jan 30, 2018 · TweetCaster for Android

CONCLUSION

- Maintain a **very personal art portfolio** not just about your technique, but themes/subject matter and what you can offer what others don't.
- Be a **Culture Omnivore**. It's amazing how much ground still haven't been covered by the fandom, and if you have a stake in something new, you'll be the go-to person for it.
- Consider **where you can put furry art**. It's not just pinups and YCHs. Book covers, music album art, card decks, see how you can use your medium.
- Where to get the book:
 - **FurPlanet** , **Amazon** (USD10)
 - **Bad Dog Books** (e-book, USD8)