

Solar Pons, Off Trail
A Praed Street Dossier, 1969

Date

NA

Quotes

- *At one story every two years in the magazine, it would take a dozen years to accomplish publication of half a dozen stories. The project, interesting and challenging as it was, was not so much forthrightly abandoned as left to wither away.*

The Case

An explanation of how Mack Reynolds and August Derleth collaborated and published two science-fiction Pons pastiches, *The Adventure of the Snitch in Time* and *The Adventure of the Ball of Nostradamus*.

Comments

- In 1953, Mack Reynolds submitted a Holmes pastiche to *The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction*. It was deemed a good sci-fi story, but not in the Holmes style. It was given to August Derleth who reworked it and *The Snitch in Time* was published in the July, 1953 issue.

The second collaboration appeared in June of 1955 as *The Ball of Nostradamus*. However, the long delay, combined with a drop in quality of the third pastiche, derailed the project. A fourth story was submitted, but the project was not continued and no more Solar Pons science fiction stories were published.

More details can be found in each individual story entry.