

Who Needs Computers?

Have you ever been without a display
in a sea of endless whiteness
with no ability to communicate
unless you decrease your brightness?

Have you ever stood all alone
in a miasma of twisted cables
and wondered why the IT guys
love that junk on their techno tables?

Have you ever bought a new laptop
and listened to it beeping?
Did you get support within the shop?
Or were the staff too busy weeping?

Did you excite when you got logged in?
Play patience and use the Net?
Did you get Microsoft Error Five Million?
Have you solved it yet?

Did you cry when you bluescreened?
Have you been out to buy more RAM?
Was that when your techie brother intervened?
I bet you got rewarded by a inbox full of spam!

Have you gone back to pen and paper yet?
Blown the dust off your manual typewriter
How many viruses can one man get?
The future of the Internet isn't any brighter!

By Patrick Mackeown

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Mutilation Murders

The torso of a black child has been discovered in London's Kensington Gardens. Detective Chief Inspector Hawthorne and his men quickly discover that the boy was a victim of a ritualistic killing. At Heathrow airport a second child, Jubulani, and his mother disembark from their plane. On his arrival in London Jubulani is kidnapped. A Ju Ju witchdoctor in South London is preparing the new child, Jubulani, to be sacrificed. Hawthorne is racing against time to save the boy.

Midwinter's Children

Georg, a nine-year-old street child, has been captured by human traffickers from Moscow and is about to be sold to a child pornography ring in Amsterdam. Detective Chief Inspector Hawthorne, from Suffolk CID, is on the case...

The Black Daimler

Nexus, a London-based Chinese dissident, learns that his friend was found with an axe embedded in his head. As more of his politically active associates die, he becomes involved in a frantic struggle to understand and defeat the threat to himself and his organisation.

The Expendability Doctrine

Oil tycoon Keith Connors is found dead in the garden of his villa; undoubtedly the work of a pro. His ex-wife flees to Libya, where she is linked to the brutal murder of the White House Trade Representative. In his investigations, Inspector Hawthorne discovers a sinister web of treachery and greed in the international oil business.

The Devil's Brothers

Catherine Bronston, a fifteen-year-old girl, is snatched outside her local swimming pool. The kidnappers, ruthless Albanian mafiosi, issue a ransom demand containing dismembered body parts. Catherine's father fears that the ongoing police investigation could reduce the possibility of her being found alive.

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