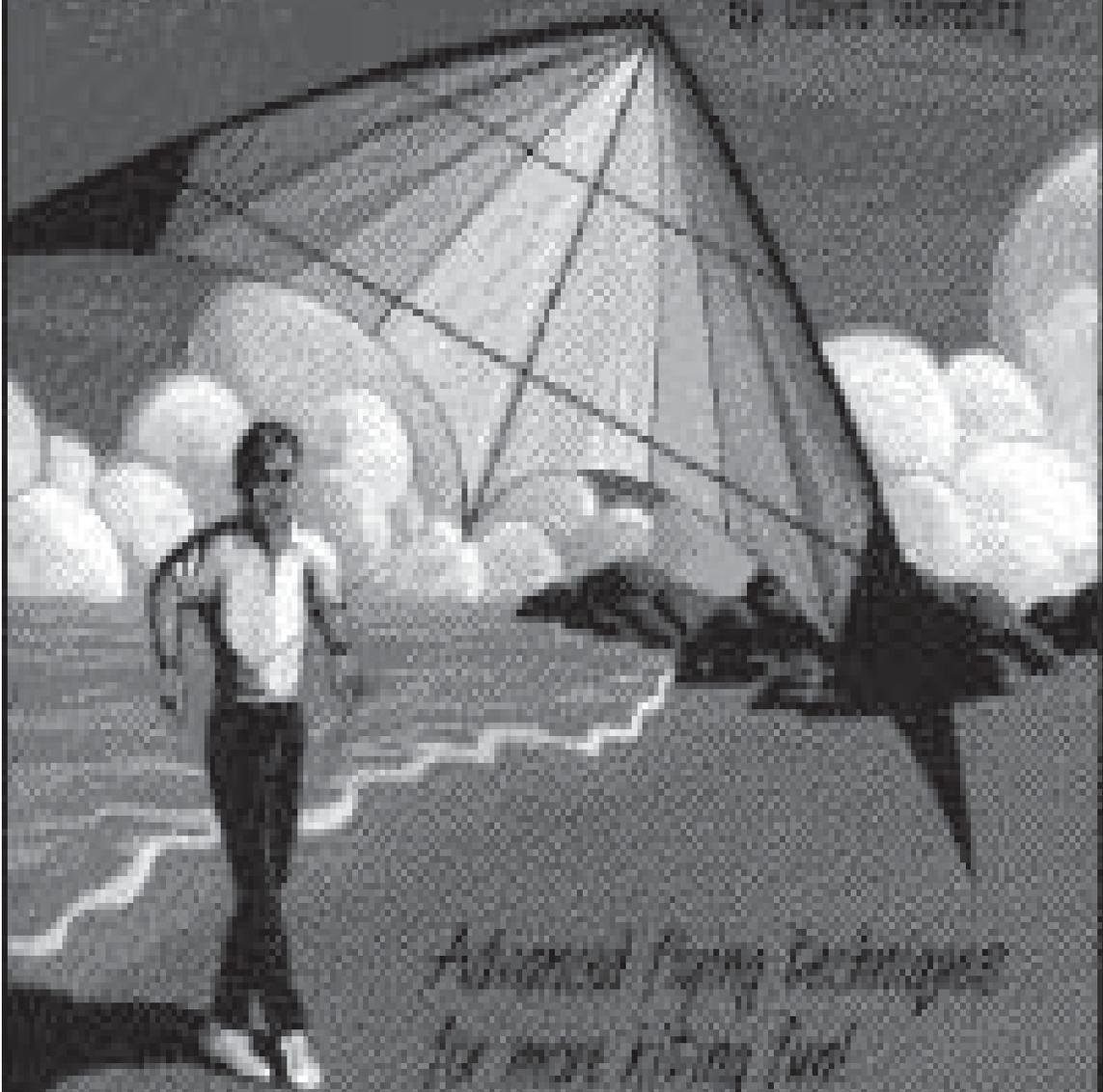


Sport Kite Magic!

by David Gooding



*Advanced Flying Techniques
for more flying fun!*

SPORT KITE MAGIC!

*ADVANCED FLYING TECHNIQUES
FOR MORE KITING FUN*

writing and illustrations by David Gomberg

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Kitetoon Original

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American Kitefliers Association
International Sport Kite Competition Rules, Fourth Edition

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The laws of physics apply to all kites; only the relative strength of forces, masses, and design -- both aerodynamic and structural -- vary from kite to kite. Because it is rare for any two kites or kitefliers to behave alike, exceptions exist to all general observations, instructions and guidelines in this or any other book on kite flying.

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Preface

It must be magic. How else can you explain the gravity-defying antics of a modern sport kite in the hands of a skilled practitioner?

Of course, what is magic, but slight of hand, illusion and practice? You don't need special powers to do these tricks, only a bit of special instruction. So think of this book as your magician's manual.

Much of this information is related to competition, but that doesn't mean we expect you to go out and compete. Far from it. The greatest joys of kiting are the simple thrill of flying, the satisfaction of accomplishing something new, or the rewards of flying with or entertaining your friends. If you are ready to move beyond "fun" flying and into high performance, we're here to help.

Our first book, *Stunt Kites!*, was intended as a beginner's manual. "*Magic*" is for fliers who want to push their kite - and themselves - a little further.

In the pages that follow, we'll walk you through a series of advanced flying techniques, a variety of precision moves, and a collection of great tricks. We'll talk about how to tune your kite for high performance. And then just for fun, we'll show you how to fly to music or even indoors with no wind at all.

A large portion of our text is dedicated to specific precision maneuvers. Again, you can use these moves to compete, or just to extend your flying skills. Review the instructions for each figure before you fly it.

The three precision chapters weren't designed for recreational reading, but rather as practice guides. Don't try to read the figures one after another or they may put you to sleep. But even without these sections, we think we've provided a lot of good information and a bit of fun.

Our goal is to promote safe, responsible flying, and to advance technical expertise. And most important, we want you to enjoy yourself.

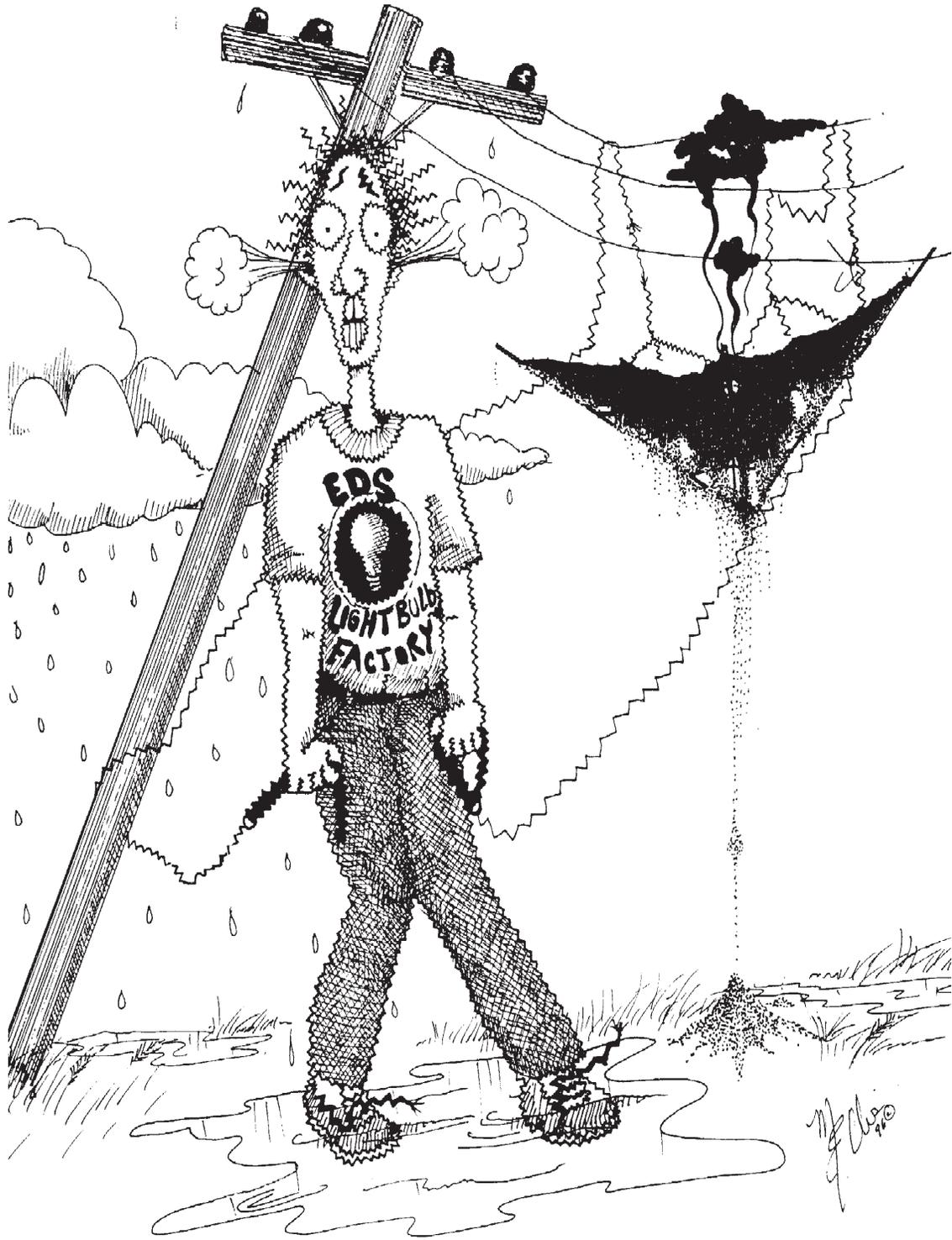
We hope we've been able to communicate our sense of exhilaration and wonder at what sport kites offer. Sometimes it's hard to explain to people until they try it for themselves. Then, before they know it, they are out there with that uniquely silly grin on their face.

The flying part is just technique. The joy of it all - now that's the real magic.

You've been there so you know what we mean.

Good Winds!

David Gomberg
April, 1996



Be Careful Out There...