

## **The Exile of Darien**

Dear Agent

I note from Locus Magazine that you are highly successful in representing fantasy authors. I am looking for representation for my novel 'The Exile of Darien' and I wondered if you would be interested. 'Exile' is a fantasy work of approximately 102,000 words (complete).

Aron of Darien, raised in exile after his homeland is conquered by a treacherous warlord, makes his way in the world on the strength of his wits and skill with a sword. Both are sorely tested when he is impressed into the service of the Earl of Nandor to rescue his heir from captivity in the fortress of Sarazan. The rescue goes awry. Aron and his companions are betrayed and must flee for their lives. Pursued by steel and magic, they find new friends and old enemies on the road that leads, after many turns, to the city of the High King. There Aron must face his father's murderer before risking everything in a fight to the death with the deadliest swordsman in the kingdom.

'The Exile of Darien' is a fast-moving tightly-plotted fantasy adventure story with a strong thread of romance and the first book of a projected series.

I am a UK-based writer; my short fiction has been extensively published in the UK small press and has sold to such US professional fantasy markets as Black Gate, Marion Zimmer Bradley's Fantasy Magazine and Fortress Magazine. I have three times been Honourably Mentioned in The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror collections.

I enclose the first chapter of 'Exile' and a SASE for your response. The full manuscript is available immediately for your inspection.

Yours sincerely

Martin Owton