

## For hire

“Don’t go back there!” my gardener warned me as he gestured toward one area of the garden. “There’s a BIG SPIDER back there!” As soon as he left, I grabbed my camera and *went out there*. Of course!

What I found was the charming creature now gracing the cover of this edition of THEMA. On research I discovered that it is an *argiope Arancia*, also known as a “writing spider” because it weaves a zigzag band of silk that resembles writing or letters of the English alphabet. What could be more perfect for an editor’s garden!

So, if your printer’s out of ink, not to worry. Consider hiring a writing spider to weave your tale.

Our authors in this issue dealt with the vexing problem in a variety of ways, but no spiders were involved.

— *VHoward*