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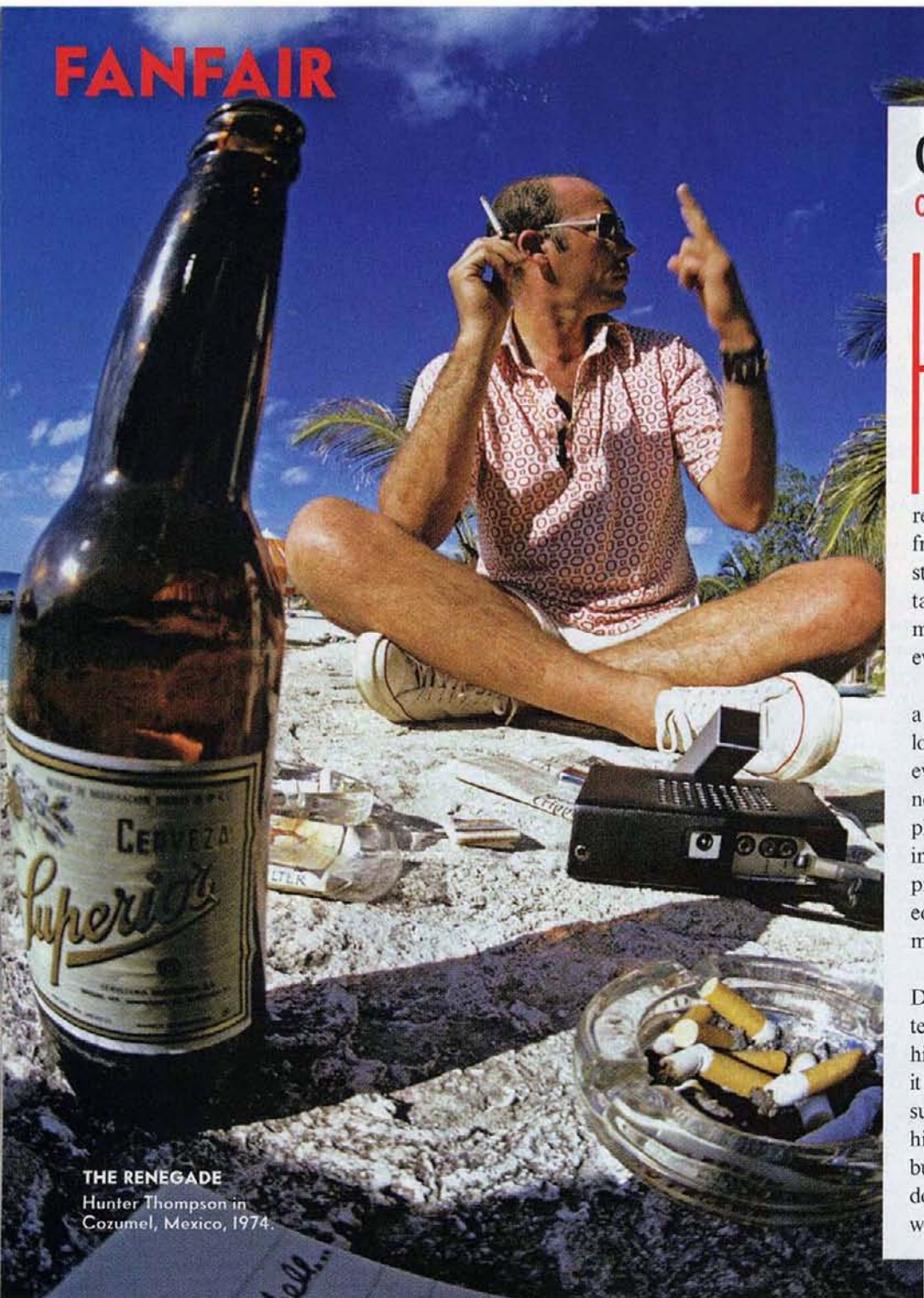
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GONZO by Hunter S. Thompson
as featured in VANITY FAIR, December 2006
www.ammobooks.com

FANFAIR



THE RENEGADE
Hunter Thompson in
Cozumel, Mexico, 1974.

GONE GONZO

CHRONICLING HUNTER'S ESCAPADES

Hunter Thompson was an inventive guy, and the most remarkable of all his inventions was Dr. Hunter S. Thompson, the character he played in life. Just because it was a role did not mean it was fake. The more he played and perfected it, the more real it became. But every now and then, when the friends in his kitchen in Woody Creek, Colorado, stopped goading him to be more gonzo, you could talk to him in a softer way and he would, for a moment, become earnest and appear (yes, really) even innocent.

Now comes *Gonzo* (Ammo), a book that gives a soulful glimpse of a younger Hunter Thompson looking beautiful and, despite his best efforts and evil glints, still exuding a few intimations of innocence. It's a luxuriously crafted visual biography, published as a \$300 limited edition with an introduction by **Johnny Depp**, that is filled with pictures by and of the good doctor, typescripts edited with his distinctive scrawl, mementos, and memento mori.

One night he came to *Time* magazine, with Depp in tow, to hand-deliver a story he had written. He had an ability to use commas so deftly that his pieces begged to be read aloud, so Depp read it for a small audience while Thompson consumed substances and played air drums to the rhythm of his prose. It turned into a little celebration, weird but sweetly charming. Depp and Thompson have done just the same with this book, a celebration of a weird, sweetly charming life. —WALTER ISAACSON