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January 10, 1991

Well, I am probably late for #28. If so, all I can say is check back to see what I am talking about!

Cheree, you hit the nail on the head when you talked about how a rut has developed, but part of the problem is the fact that we have a given situation by Lucas. Before the Trilogy, it was anyone's guess on how the stories would develop; after we had seen the three, it seemed to be, "well, that's how it is!", but there is a lot of room to use our characters and still develop the SW universe. And if Pat has any unpublished novels, I will be right there at her doorstep to get the first issue, even if they are about secondary characters or newly invented ones. And there have been some great stories, including the Lucas Fan's zine I referred to in an earlier issue.

I believe one of the problems here is that when prospective readers hear about stories that do not center on the main characters, they think of some of the earlier stories of the "Mary Sue" type, where the authors transposed their own alter egos into the Mary Sue Good Cookies that saved the universe type of thing --pardon me if I regurgitate! This we do not need! and we do not need the "let's change the name from Ben Cartwright to Obi-Wan and Adam to Han and Little Joe to Luke and we have a Star Wars story" -- PLEASE!!! But other characters in the universe are great! ESPER, the SW novel, is a great story and again it is mainly not about the main characters, but it is good. And I like alternate universes. My own stories, "The Future Imperfect", are in this vein, but again, please--no Buck Rogers!

Okay, so now I'm off my soap box. Several of the fans were talking about language. Yes, there must have been at least a nominal basic language, but besides that there would be the planetary language and the local dialects, and most difficult of all the accepted expressions in these groupings. Just try this on for size: "We had a man for dinner"; are you a cannibal if you say that? "Climb down;" pray tell, how do you accomplish that? There is a particular

type of wind that blows here in Southern California. Technically, it is called Santa Anna. But a local would tell you it is a "Santana". And if olive oil comes from olives and corn oil comes from corn, where does baby oil come from? If there were not some type of standard, an intergalactic universe would be impossible. Got to close; the Library does call--Go in peace with the Force and happy new year (probably late) to all.

BOOOOOOORING!

Mary Urhausen
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February 2, 1991

This will either be my Loc for SE#28--or SE#29--depending on how soon Cheree gets it and how generous she feels! I won't even bother trotting out my usual stable of excuses for why this is so late [again]; I'll just quote Hannah Cremaster and say, "Reality is fine--but it sure cuts into my fannish time!"

In a quick segue from that to Cheree's lead editorial: SW fanfiction is certainly one area where fandom and reality have rudely collided lately. I honestly don't know what it would take to pass the torch to a new generation of SW writers; I'd settle for just lighting a fire underneath some of 'em! It would be one thing if no one was writing SW fanfiction anymore, but that's not precisely the problem. There may be less SW fanfiction being written, but the biggest problem [as I see it] is more a matter of content than amount. Bluntly put, most of what's being written now is booooring! And I think Cheree's editorial did an excellent job of explaining why many of us feel that is true. Now, if someone would just come up with a way to blast people out of their literary ruts...

I hesitate to compare SW fandom with ST

fandom, but in some places the analogy holds up. Years ago, before there were ST movies, ST fanfiction had become pretty "rutty", too. Then along came K/S. No matter now you feel about homoerotic literature, I think you have to give K/S two things: One, it blasted ST fanfiction out of the ruts [some would say that now, years later, it's created its own ruts!]; and two, it kept ST fandom alive and kicking--and fighting--until the ST movies came along and revitalized the whole fandom. Now I'm not suggesting that SW fandom needs slash fiction to save it; although I'll admit I've always been puzzled by the lack of good SW slash fiction. I'm just suggesting that SW fanfiction can be saved--if the people responsible for producing it are sufficiently motivated. In the case of SW fanfiction, my personal feeling is that the "revitalizing agent" won't be slash; I think it might be original created characters. Not Mary Sues--I mean good, believable created characters, who not only add some zip to the stories but who also complement the Lucas characters. I think the only way we're going to be able to come up with some new plot lines and return to the kind of fresh, romantic, adventurous kind of stories we once had is through the judicious introduction of some "catalytic" [sorry, Jenni!] characters of our own making. End of sermon! Now, on to the Locs:

Z.P.: I found your question about why Vader took the risk of carbon-freezing Luke quite intriguing. I know this question was bandied about a lot after TESB came out, but I don't recall that anyone ever came up with the definitive answer! My personal theory is similar to yours; I think Vader did want to conceal Luke's "Force presence". But I'm not certain he was consciously thinking of keeping Luke from other possible interference by other Force sensitives. And what made Vader think there were any other Force sensitives, you ask? From his initial reaction over the Death Star trench, when Vader felt Luke's Force presence, I didn't get the impression he was especially astonished that there was a Force user out there--he was just surprised at how strongly the Force was with Luke. Perhaps Vader wanted the safest packaging he could find to conceal Luke from any possible detection by other Force sensitives who might try to rescue him.

Fiorenzo: I hope my comments to Cheree for her "How To Do a Zine" section will be helpful to you. Publishing zines has changed so much in the last few years, that getting into it now is nothing like it was when I stumbled into it! Best of luck to you!

Sarah: You hit the nail right on the head when you commented on the weird antipathy toward Leia in this female-dominated fandom. I've heard lots of explanations, ranging from "Leia really is a bitch" to "We're only in it for the guys, and we want them all to ourselves." None of the explanations seems satisfactory to me. Personally, I consider a SW fan story with a good characterization of Leia to be a rare jewel indeed; very few SW writers, even the good ones, succeed in pulling it off. On the other side of this coin, and equally irritating, is the dismally puerile nature of most of the created female characters in SW fanfiction. I know I said we need more created characters, but please! Make these women a little more real, please! And don't consider it obligatory to trash Leia to deify your created female characters.

Cheryl: I like your idea of an informal get-together for SE subscribers at MediaWest. If Cheree is willing to tackle this, I'd be interested. [I'll be the one there wearing the Groucho nose and glasses.]

Natasha: I agree with you about the flap over 2 Live Crew. The "Luke Skywalker" business aside, I cringe at the idea that any judge or jury can tell adults in this country what they can or cannot buy, read, listen to, etc. I haven't listened to their albums because--all right, shoot me!--I happen to think rap sucks the big one! But I have read the complete lyrics of the songs involved and they are extremely degrading and violent toward women. I often wonder how these charming "just joking around" lads would like it if a bunch of women were singing about how they'd like to hack their little ___s off with an axe, wear their ___s on a string around their necks, or ___ them so hard that blood dripped from their-- Well. You get the idea. Now, if only they would. I don't think these groups need less publicity; actually, I think if the actual lyrics of their songs were widely published, and the people who listen to their "music" [sorry, rap is not music!] could read just what

the heck it is they're listening to, 2 Live Crew might not be so big after all.

Another note, Natasha: I'm sure you didn't mean it this way, but from your comment offering to xerox out-of-print issues of WOOKIEE COMMODE for other fans, I feel you may have inadvertently given people the impression that issues 1 and 2 are also out of print. They are not! Original copies of issues 1, 2 and 6 are still available and not included in our permission to xerox our OOP issues. Just wanted to make this clear.

And to Tina B., welcome to SE! Hope you enjoy the zine as much as I have and I look forward to your LOCs.

To finish up, I want to try to update everyone on the current status of Double D Press projects. I apologize to everyone who had written to me recently inquiring about WC#8 and hasn't received a reply from me yet. I have been trying to hold off writing to people until I had a more concrete report to give. Well, this is about as concrete as it's gonna get!

Currently, WC#8 is not in production. I am not saying it will never go into production; I am just saying that we are not working on it at this time. That's right--there will not be a new issue of WC out for MediaWest this year [the first time that's happened since 1984]. Quite frankly, we do not have enough good material to put out an issue at this time. That's not to say that we don't have any good material; or that we have some good material and a lot of bad material. We just don't have enough good material to justify the work.

The only Double D Press project currently in production is Samia's Indiana Jones zine, NOT EXACTLY A KNIGHT. All inquiries about NEAK should be sent to Samia, not me!! New address: Samia Martz, 464 Winchester Place, Belleville, IL 62221. I will probably be selling the zine for her, but I have nothing to do with any other aspect of it--and no, I don't know when the heck it will finally be out!!

Finally, yes, we are still accepting submissions for WC#8; but please realize that all submissions are accepted conditionally, since the future of the zine is still very much up in the air. This is probably one of those rare cases where the writers seem to have burnt out before the zine eds did!

Cheryl Pryor
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January 16, 1991

Thanks for a great editorial. I gave a lot of thought to the issue of created and secondary characters. It would be great to read stories about other people in that galaxy far away but so much of what we get to read has an uncomfortable Mary Sue feet to it. "Wouldn't it be great if Luke/Han/Jabba fell in love with me--after I've lost 20 pounds and gotten long flowing tresses, of course!" And I think being branded a Mary Sue writer has frightened off many would-be writers. I have a pen pal who writes wonderful Imperial side stories that she dares not share because they involve a woman falling in love with a major character. The important thing is that even a Mary Sue story can be fun if it's written well, and if the writer can develop those new characters into fully fleshed creations. I'd like to try them.

What can the average fan do to help revive SW fandom? I don't write stories or draw. I buy zines when I can afford them or borrow them when I can't. Unlike a lot of other fandoms, there's not a network of fan clubs to keep newsletters circulating. I'm grateful to Lin Ward for introducing me to SE itself and MediaWest, or else I'd be out of touch with this fandom altogether! There are a whole lot of us average fans out here. We'll read those stories you've tucked away. We'll buy those zines you've been thinking of publishing. What else can we do?

Well, to move right along to other topics-- I loved the article you reprinted, "Raising Luke Skywalker." It was great to see a non-fannish writer using SW imagery--and only a non-fan would say "Hans Solo."

Z. P. Florian: You are so gross! When you come up with an image, you sure make it a strong one! When I think of your new method for the wampa to stick Luke to the ice cave ceiling--well, I'm just glad Lucas didn't film it!

I liked your image of Vader having grandeur in his disregard of guilt. Really good villains need a little grandeur--black leather

doesn't hurt, either!

About your carbon freeze question, I think Darthie didn't want to take any chances. After all, he'd lost Leia from the very depths of the Death Star and he'd seen what Luke was capable of. When he found out Bespin had carbon freeze capability, he seized the chance to secure Luke in a way that would put him out of touch with his ever-resourceful friends.

Debbie: Have you been going to Super Nova toy shows? They are right in Alexandria and are nearly all SW toys. The organizers are super active collectors and the last one even had a costume contest with a great wookiee. A lot of the stuff sells for collectors prices but there are are bargains to be had.

Fiorenzo: Loved your idea of Kiefer Sutherland as a young Kenobi. He has a great twinkle in his eye but he can be deadly calm when necessary.

Your bone-shaking questions were good, too. As to why Palpatine sent his guards away, I think it's because he didn't want word to get out that he was a Force-user. He knew he'd probably have to zap Luke so he made any witnesses leave. The Force, or knowledge of it, seems to be nurtured by only a few. The galaxy at large seems ignorant or mistrustful of the Force. Even Tarkin said the Jedi were just followers of an old religion.

Sarah: Intriguing idea that Yoda's syntax was a result of gradual changes in the language. I like that idea better than his race (there must be more like him...) just gets everything backwards.

Maggie: Sputter sputter... You don't understand Vader's sex appeal? Sweetie, it's got nothing to do with sex = power, and a lot to do with tall, dark and a great voice. Some of us just love the bad boys. I've liked the villains since I rooted for Maleficent in SLEEPING BEAUTY. Villains are always the most fun--a little dangerous, a little wild. It's the appeal of the rebel, someone who doesn't go by conventional mores and lives according to their own value system. It's the Vaders, the Draculas, and the Lex Luthors that make fiction fun and fun definitely = sexy.

Tim: I'm watching THE FLASH. It's practically a job requirement for those in the comic retail biz. In fact, my husband had dragged me to every comic-related movie of the last 13

years--SWAMP THING 1 and 2 and SUPERGIRL included. So it's kinda nice to see THE FLASH done in a non-campy way (they leave that to the villains). It doesn't hurt that John Wesley Shipp is a hunka hunka speed-demon love.

Tina: You horrible, frustrating person, you. I never realized there were words on Darthie's chest thingie! Ack! Your letter sent me scurrying to my scrapbook and I looked through a raftful of pictures of Vader and you're right--there are words. You can only see them in a few pix and all the artists leave them out altogether! The best view--and I checked them all, including my Ewok sized cardboard standup--is the close-up in the carbon freeze chamber where he has his hands tucked into his belt. I swear it looks like "wash, spin, dry." Now I'll never be able to rest until I know what those words say. Get cracking with that magnifying glass, woman! I must know!!

To everyone: If anyone is interested in doing a little tape trading, please write. This is just a general interest request. I was just looking through my videos and noticing a lack of SW stuff. I could trade BEAUTY AND THE BEAST or TREK or cartoon stuff or lots of weird odds and ends. I don't have a list but could give more details to anyone who's interested.

See y'all next issue.

NEW STORY LINES

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January 28, 1991

The reason why so much of our fan fiction is in a rut is because even the best writers follow the obvious trends. No one wants to go down the road less travelled! It's time to make a sharp left at the signpost up ahead. Try these on for size:

Luke decides not to worry and be happy. After mopping up what's left of the Empire, he opens a chain of pizza parlors. Han and Leia

don't form a permanent relationship; instead, they break up and make up more times than Taylor and Burton. Strangely enough, it is Han who tries to nag Luke into training his and Leia's children. Luke nags Leia into doing it. Luke has four kids by four different women named Michaelangelo, Raphael, Donatello and Leonardo (the kids, not the women). With the Empire long shut down, the central threat will be from invading Ferengi, who have decided to move in on George Lucas' merchandising rights.

Fan writers have plenty of options, if they don't reach for the obvious (having a warped mind could also help).

"Raising Luke Skywalker" by Richard Detrano was a nice read, but it couldn't help but evoke the image of Luke and Darth on the Oprah Winfrey Show--"Powerful Men and Their Rebellious Sons" or some such theme for the day.

Z. P. Florian: Wampa pee? Wouldn't it come out too warm to freeze fast enough, even in the sub-zero conditions? And could the Abominable Snow Poodle aim correctly while holding Luke?

The reason you give for Vader wanting Luke frozen sounds good to me. What I'd like to know is why he wanted Leia and Chewie taken to his ship. He could have just killed them, or even kept his deal with Lando. Leverage against Luke after he defrosted him? Very likely. Could he have sensed something of the Force in Leia? Possibly, but it must have been a long standing suspicion, if he did.

Debbie Kittle: Luke's original lightsaber was built from a photographic lightgun with a name I can't remember or pronounce. At early MediaWest*Cons, I can remember quite a number of them had been found and dressed up just like the movie prop, some complete with plastic "blades". I haven't seen them for a few years now. What happened to them? I just wish I had access to the metal lathe and aluminum bars that I did in high school shop class.

The language we speak has an effect on our way of thinking, even what hand we favor; if Japanese is your native language, you will have a higher chance of being left-handed. Han may not be able to speak Wookiee, and it probably isn't his first language, but he might have to think like a Wookiee to know what "Gger-ughg-ArAug!!" means (hell, I can't even type anything that sounds like Wookiee-speak). I can't

help but wonder what "strange memes" the Wookiee language may have, and it's affect on Han's way of thinking.

Florenzo Delle Rupi: I have the ROLLING STONE interview with Lucas where he states that Darth Vader fell into a volcano, and that was why he needed all that armor and life support. Richard Marquand, on the other hand, said in STARLOG that GL had never said any such thing, and that the whole angle was bogus... Did Lucas change his mind? Was Marquand full of bluberry muffins? Did ROLLING STONE somehow misquote Lucas?

Regarding your questions, Luke took into the tree what he carried with him. What he seems to have confronted was not "evil" in a general concept, but his own "personal evil". I don't know what he would have faced if he had had the courage to leave his weapon behind, but he probably would have done better and not left the tree so confused. What do you think the guards in the throne room would have done when Luke and Darth started to slice everything into scrap? The Emperor could have told them not to interfere, but it would probably just be a better idea to get them out of the way, so they would be less of a distraction. Even Yoda couldn't get a perfect grip on the future, so I doubt that Luke foresaw everything as it happened.

Ming, Marti and Maggie: Like I said, I'd like to see Han in the First Trilogy, even if I can't see a clear slot for him to be there (Lucas said that only the droids would be in all the movies, and he may fudge on that). What might be done is to sneak Han in without identifying him until the end of the third movie. Han Solo probably isn't his original name, so how would you recognize him if you saw him? If Ben took Luke to Tatooine, who dropped off Leia? If their mother was still alive at that time, then she might have, but perhaps she needed the help of some scrawny gypsy-spacer kid?

Maggie Nowakowska: I don't have an answer for you on why characters like Vader and Avon hold such attraction with some women (I never understood why football players got all the girls in school), but it seems that the question has been voiced one way or another almost every year at MWC. I once suggested that if someone like Darth, Spock, Han or Avon were to

wander into the dealer's room, they would either be ignored or avoided, and I think that statement met with agreement at the time. In a "Men in Black" panel, someone said they didn't want to marry Dracula, they just wanted him to drop by on the weekends.

There is the "I could change him" factor, a totally bogus assumption some women make in real life. Sometimes, it's less equating sex with power than with danger; some women (and men, for that matter) like to play with fire. Deep down, I'm not sure any of us completely know why we are attracted to someone, and what we think we want, we don't like once we really get it.

When teachers or students make my life miserable, I used to imagine what their names really meant on the planet Zootek. As for SW, they can call it Science Fiction, Speculative Fiction, Space Fantasy/Legend, etc., but it's still rock & roll to me. (And if that wasn't the most baroque statement you'll find in this issue, I'll eat a zine!)

Matthew Whitney: Supposedly, Lucas has a notebook locked away someplace with the plots to the first and last trilogies. I'm sure he has notes alright, but I'll lay odds that it is more of a "list of ingredients" than a detailed "recipe". George has changed his mind far too often.

Marti Schuller: Han's manacles were frozen along with him, so anything hot enough to melt them should have been hot enough to bake him, frozen or otherwise. I think, though, this is one of the things we weren't supposed to notice; we shouldn't let "reality" detract from the point of the film. We aren't supposed to notice...but I do.

Pat Nussman: Cheree is right. Cough it up. Any new approach to SW fanfiction is needed right now. It seems that it's the peripheral characters who catch my eye, the ones you see but not meet.

Cheryl Pryor: I second the idea of a SE subscribers lunch/get together. The biggest problem would be finding the best time, a slot between most of the programming. Breakfast Saturday? Midnight raid on Denny's Friday? A banquet rendezvous? (*(Ed: There will be notices posted around the hotel when final arrangements are made for the SE party, but I am shooting for a Saturday night affair.)*)

Making fannish videos is an art I have yet to master, but I'm working on it. I should probably not talk about them, just do 'em, but a SW video that I will attempt will be a country tune that'll crack a few grins...if I pull it off. To any other music video makers out there, I have a request. My B&B tape collection is not as full as I'd need, nor my memory as vast, but I would love to see a B&B video to "Total Eclipse of the Heart", long version. (I just made a list of all the videos I'd like to make. I'll be lucky if I do a third of them. I just wish I had a partner in crime to help me out.)

"Carol Burnett & Company's salute to SW"—not a bad idea, really. Right now, I think I'd take almost anything.

Natasha Mohr: Recycled paper is more than just a good idea, but right now it can't serve everyone's needs. Another low impact source of fresh paper would be hemp. The problem with that is that hemp is better known as marijuana. If hemp for use as fiber could be permitted, we could get a higher quality of paper, that is easier and safer to process and can be grown on a quarter of the land pulp-producing trees take up. One acre of cannabis hemp in annual rotation over a 20-year period would produce as much pulp as 4.1 acres of trees cut down over the same time frame. The hemp pulp-making process would use one-fifth to one-seventh less sulphur-based acid chemicals to break down the lignin in the pulp fibers. The acid treatment is a prime contributor to water pollution, as well as acid riddled paper that would probably turn yellow and crumble inside of 50 years. Ninety percent of paper produced in the world before 1890 was made from hemp. I have heard tell of a strain of hemp originally grown for rope that now grows wild in the Midwest called "Iowa Ditch" that has almost no narcotic traits.

Fox TV used to have a program called BEYOND TOMORROW. Once they explained a rather exciting (well, to me, anyway) sewage treatment process; after the sediment was extracted, the liquid was pumped through a filter of diatomaceous earth, introducing bacteria so thoroughly that the sewage starts to boil with methane, which is drawn off and made use of. Hydroponics is used to finish the purification process. At the time, they were still searching for the

best plant to soak up the remaining impurities, but why not grow a cash crop while they are at it? Why not hemp? Each city could produce part or all of its paper needs, while at the same time keeping our rivers and streams clean.

Judith Yuenger: My dream would be to interface a laserdisc player and a projection TV, pop a bushel or three of popcorn, and invite a few friends over to see all three movies on the largest sheet we could hang up.

Catherine Churko: About a week before Thanksgiving, my mother became quite ill, and eventually had to enter the hospital. Fortunately, I had friends here to support me. One night, the son of one of these friends (let's call him Jake) and one of his friends (let's call him Pinhead) drove me over to the hospital to see my mother. Pinhead is just about the stupidest person I know; Jake once sent him into K-Mart on a mission to find a football bat. The tape Pinhead wanted to play in the car wasn't 2 Live Crew, but it was just as bad. Jake thought it was funny, "Listen to those stupid niggers." Sitting in that car, I could feel my blood pressure building and building, with no way to avoid the incredible hateful, pointless excuse for entertainment, short of ripping the tape out of the deck. Even after the car stopped and we were entering the hospital, Jake and Pinhead were laughing and joking about the tape and then Jake caught himself mid-syllable referring to my mother as a "bitch". He quickly apologized and said he didn't mean it. I told him he shouldn't say things he didn't mean. I don't know if he understood me. I stand by the First Amendment, also, but I can't help but ask, is this truly the music of the Young Black American Male?

Some books on the subject of the paranormal have an almost...incestuous quality about them. Rather than go out and research for themselves, some authors crib from other books on the same subject. This can lead to distortion that can only hinder legitimate examination of the unexplained. GHOST OF THE AIR: TRUE STORIES OF AERIAL HAUNTINGS by Martin Caidin has no such shortcomings. In all matters regarding aeronautics, Martin Caidin is competence defined. He has taken every step to verify every word he puts down. The only problem some of you may have with this book is Caidin's own expertise; he flings around the names of planes and some

technical jargon, mostly in an effort to clearly establish the situation. Don't let any of it rattle you, just glaze right through it. This book is a marvelous read, colorful and chilling. Although this is the first book of his I have read, I hope to pick up one of his SF novels soon.

Fly casual...

BLOODY SMUGNESS

Tina Bentrup
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February 5, 1991

I'm late! But it's not my fault! I had to read through eleven back issues of SE! Some punishment, eh?

And there's not one of those issues that isn't marked up with yellow highlighter and pink highlighter and stars and asterisks and exclamation points and scribbles in the margins! If I tried to respond to every item that intrigued me, it would take me as long as it's taking George to make the First Trilogy (sigh). So I'll just deal with a few.

Bev Clark: Thank you for your beautiful essay in #19.

Maggie: I love ALL your letters! Do you have a union card? You're my nominee to play Mon Mothma in the First Trilogy!

Catherine Churko: You've probably long since had answers to your question about James Earl Jones, but yes, he did give an interview to STARLOG (#128, March 1988). Were there any others?

Also, where can I find the "real good stories" about Palpie's ghost that you hinted at in #24?

Pat Nussman in #27: Me, too! Minor characters fascinate me. My favorites are Admiral Ackbar and Maggie No--, whoops, I mean Mon Mothma. I'd love to read some of those unpublished stories you mentioned, so I'll join with Cheree in urging you to submit them.

Also, I was impressed by the questions you

raised about the non-Jedi aspects of the Rebellion. You seem to have a military mind! How do you think the Rebel commanders felt about Luke's frequent disappearances: to Tatooine to rescue Han, to the Death Star to hobnob with the Emperor, to Dagobah to do God knows what? Did they just give him a free rein and forgive his eccentricities because he was a Jedi? Or did they consider him brilliant but unreliable?

Fiorenzo: Hello, over there! I'm glad Palpie is your favorite character. He's not my favorite, but he fascinates and terrifies me. I agree with you other Enclavers who see him as the real villain, the megaForcewielder of all time. Yes, I agree that his looks must have changed a lot since the days when he was kissin' babies and pressin' the flesh. "A good-looking older man with a sinister gleam..." Yeah! Wonder what altered his appearance so drastically? Maybe once he became Emp he just abandoned himself entirely to evil, withdrawing from public view into a reclusive life of dark meditation, reading the signs of the future, and controlling the souls of his minions from afar, like Sauron in LORD OF THE RINGS. Or maybe he was able to influence how people saw him.

Does he still exist out there in the Force somewhere? I fear the answer must be yes. "In the sunken city of R'lyeh, dead Cthulhu lies dreaming..." And waiting to be called forth again! Great subject for the Third Trilogy, perhaps?

Why did Yoda not do battle with him? Because it is the strength of the Good Side to be passive. If Yoda had fought Palpie, he would have had to alter his very nature. Luke, as the warrior, came close to losing the whole ball of wax in his final confrontation with evil; Yoda couldn't risk that.

Besides, he was a little short to be a Stormtrooper...

Everyone: While we're on the subject of Pruneface, why has nobody nominated Ian McDiar-mid, THE MAN HIMSELF, to play Palpie in the First Trilogy? He's still quite a youngish sort of chappie, though God knows how old he'll be by the time George, etc. I've ferreted out almost every movie he's appeared in: GORKY PARK, DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS, THE AWAKENING, DRAGONSLAYER. He seems to go for small "character" roles with a sardonic twist, like Pro-

fessor Andreyev in GORKY PARK. Terrific part! "Goodbye, pretty lady." Has anybody seen it?

Marti Schuller: Barbara Gardner in #18 mentioned a story you wrote called "Acceptance" that deals with the Vader/Anakin issue. Where can I find it? ((Ed: "Acceptance" appears in A TREMOR IN THE FORCE #5, which is still available. See ad in the back of this issue.)) Sarah Cohen in #27 seems to share your feeling that Darth and Anakin are not two sides of a split personality, not Possessor and Possessed, but simply two aspects of the same person. This is how I like to think of him, too. After all, when Luke says "You were once Anakin Skywalker, my father," Vader does not say (as he might have), "That man is dead now", but rather "That name no longer has any meaning for me." (God, I love that scene!!!) ((Ed: A side comment here about the two names/two personalities issue. When Anakin entered into his public/political life at his "rebirth", he probably just changed his name to divorce himself from his old life. There is plenty of historical precedent for doing so. For example, Vladimir Ilich Ulianov will forever be known to history as Lenin, but both names still refer to the same person.))

Come to think of it, it was Obi-Wan who got us all (Luke, too) in the habit of thinking "Darth vs. Anakin". In ANH, it was "Vader betrayed and murdered your father;" in ROTJ it was "The good man who was your father was destroyed." Now, I enjoy a good Ben-bash as much as the next Enclaver, but in all fairness to the man, maybe the whopper he told Luke was the same whopper he believed in himself: an elaborate defense-mechanism that made it possible for him to live with his guilt all these years. One thing I've never been able to stomach about Ben was his bloody smugness, his seeming lack of contrition for the stupendous mess he caused (after all, if the creation of Vader was what made it possible for Palpie to begin his reign of terror, Ben would have been responsible for the Empire, the war, everything). But maybe that smug self-righteousness resulted from Ben's conviction that he really wasn't to blame TOO much for what happened. If he had dwelt too deeply on his guilt, he might not have been able to function at all.

Was "Obi-Wan" a title or a name? I think it was a name. "Ben" was his nickname. How

do you get "Ben" out of "Obi-Wan"? The same way you get "Hank" out of "Henry". With forceps.

Z. P. Florian in #23: I like your idea that it was Anakin's "thirst for knowledge" that got him in trouble. The Faustian man, all right. I picture him as having a daredevil streak, not in a reckless way, but coolly professional like a movie stunt-man. Perhaps his fatal flaw was that he couldn't resist the call to danger. This, coupled with Ming's notion that the Jedi "establishment" might have been somewhat rigid suggests a scenario in which Anakin seeks out Senator Palpatine because he alone is willing to teach him things that fuddy-duddy Ben refuses to discuss. "Ben warned me about the Dark Side, but I've faced danger before and always come out on top." Maybe Anakin felt himself to be unique among Jedi, more powerful with the Force than any of them, powerful enough to bridge the gap between Dark and Light. But in Palpatine, he was to meet his match. And by the time he realized what was happening to him, he was in too deep to pull out.

Chris Graham in #24: When did Vader realize that Luke was his son? I think when he got back to the Fleet after drifting around in space in his Bent-Wing, the first thing he did was order an Intelligence investigation of that young pilot who had blown the Death Star. As soon as he heard the name Skywalker and learned about his background (an orphan raised on Tatooine), he KNEW. Before that, he had had no idea. And I like to think that this is when Vader felt the first stirrings of goodness within him.

How common was the knowledge that Vader was once Anakin? I agree with Marti Schuller in #25 that only a handful of people knew. Palpie and Ben, obviously. And Yoda. I'm not sure about Bail Organa, Mon Mothma, etc. Owen and Beru? When they give each other that significant look in ANH, is it Irresponsible Anakin they're thinking of, or is it The Great Locomotive Face himself?

And if indeed the true story was known to only these few, then what did the Galaxy-at-large believe had happened to Anakin Skywalker? He was a war hero, after all, so his "death" would have been big news. Was there a cover-up? Did the other Jedi know? Did Ben spread

the story that "Darth Vader killed Skywalker," or was this just a one-time fib concocted especially for Luke? If so, what was the other version of Anakin's death?

Sarah Cohen: In #19, you asked how people felt about the Unmasking Scene and unleashed a deluge of discussion! This is a Major Issue for me, so here goes:

At first, and for a long time thereafter, I too was terribly disappointed at the choice of Sebastian Shaw to play Anakin. Not knowing what Dave Prowse looked like at the time, I was not expecting him, but it bothered me a lot that Shaw's face was so plump and soft. I wanted to see a rugged, Heathcliffy sort of face with good bone structure, a cross between James Mason and Jack Hawkins! I thought Shaw had interesting eyes, but that was about all I was willing to give him.

As the years went by, everytime I saw ROTJ, I kept trying to reconcile myself to That Face, but still I cringed and railed at the casting director. At the same time, however, Shaw's acting never failed to move me deeply. A wierd emotional cocktail.

Then, late in '89, during my SW "relapse" (see #27), I started tracking down other movies that Shaw had appeared in, and that's how I stumbled on HIGH SEASONS, a 1988 sleeper directed by Clare Peploe. Shaw had a marvelous part in it and was on-screen a lot (looking fit and tan), so I feasted my eyes and heart. In this film, he radiates the most beautiful quality: a fatherly warmth and profound kindness that really got to me. (I have a permanent hang-up in this area; my own father was such a lovable, twinkly man, and yet so emotionally frozen that I never could get close to him.) I rented the movie several times and finally bought it, my former objections to SS having melted away entirely.

I now accept him fully as That Face, and my concept of Anakin's character liberated from darkness is largely based on him. It really makes me happy that some of you Enclavers responded positively to him from the beginning.

But I still don't know, in spite of months of research in the University library where I work, why or how he was chosen to play that part! Did George choose him? Does anybody have any info on this?

Oh, my...this is SO much fun, and there's

SO much more I could say, but I'm a week late already, so I'll save it for another time. Thank you, Cheree, for making this possible!

LANDO COMMENTS

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January 12, 1991

Hello, and Happy New Year to all of the SE family. Peace and prosperity, caring and creativity, magic and miracles, silliness and serendipity are some of the things I wish for all of us.

I've been prompted to start this SE letter way earlier than my usual last minute dash. Let's see if I actually complete it. Two items left over from SE#26. First, re: Lando. My first written material of SW, other than the movie books, was the SW comic about 6 months before ROTJ was premiered. I was pretty excited about it, found most of the old issues, and bought the new ones every month.

Because Han was in carbonite and they didn't always resort to older chronologies for stories, Lando's character got highlighted more than he might have. I got to enjoy his character more as well, as they had stories where he and the rest of the gang were skirmishing with the Imperials and trying to track Han down. And once Han returned, Lando was still given good parts. So to me, Lando was around a lot longer than just the last half-hour plus of TESB.

This also means for me he integrated himself into "the ensemble", as I think of the seven (Lando included) heroes arrayed against the eighth main character, Vader, and watched over by the other two major characters, Kenobi and Yoda. I think I rather associate the seven with THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING. (Oops, forgot to include Palpie as another main character whose presence is there from ESB on if not his physical appearance.)

Lando conceivably could have escaped Cloud City on his own and left Leia, etc. to their own troubles. He was the administrator; some-

how he would have found a ship to sneak out on or to hide somewhere. Would Vader have been able to sniff him down like a bloodhound through the Force? I can't remember whether he can only sense those who radiate strongly in the Force. Would he have thought to take a mental notation of Lando's Force aura, in order to assure himself in case of such defect. Or was Vader too arrogant to think that Lando would have attempted escape at that point? But Lando was a friend of Han and Chewie.

IMHO, Lando began to make amends right away by helping Leia, Chewie and Luke and even Han by trying to get to him before Boba Fett took off with him. He was in anguish himself for what he had done, as he saw more and more what his actions had set in motion. I must say I have a little difficulty in understanding those fans who (IMHO) are a little short on the compassion and unwilling to see by the end of ROTJ that Lando is equal of hero status, as well, or certainly at least forgiveness since he was deeply pained by what he did and set about to remedy his actions. And Han forgave him, for Life's sake!

Item #2: Oops, one of those rushed written letters of mine was bound to get me misunderstood one of these days, with my somewhat sloppy sentence structure or shortening things for fit or to save time. Z. P. Florian easily misread me, what I was trying to joke about. Er, Z. P., I wasn't talking about suffering at all. I was referring to the line-standing so hilariously drawn by Rebecca Carey for Carolyn Golledge and Karen Estabrook's story in the zine we both shared illo duties in ["A Night in the Life of Han Solo" in WOOKIEE COMMODE #7]. I was referring to its imagined counterpart made up of Luke fen. And since the ratio of "serious" Luke fen to "serious" Han fen has always been way smaller, that line would be smaller, to our delighted advantage.

I think I'll start with hello's and comments in #27, before I do a better explanation of fan writing plotline questions than my rushed answer last issue.

First, a big welcome to Fiorenzo and Tina! Wow, more new fen either discovering SWzinedom and/or SE, to keep our fandom family growing. Fiorenzo, that's wonderful that Z.P. gave you a fannish hand with your area's zine (I looked up your location; I see it's 25 miles north of

Spoletto). Are you one of those who thinks Palpie didn't experience total destruction, including irreversible energy pattern disruption so that he couldn't even reassemble on the energy planes? So that he did survive to wreak havoc for another day? (See my later comments on plot.)

As I mentioned in another SE, according to the Hawaiian branch of Shamanic practice, those energy users who used the energies for consistent malevolent intent were sorcerers. And there were no old (chronologically speaking) sorcerers in Hawaii, just those whose malevolent intent had twisted their bodies to look old beyond their years. The reason being: all thought that is to be directed outward to another first originates in the sender. Such strong energies permeate into the denser energies (matter) and warp the body. (Conversely, they say, using energies for positive purposes (and just plain strong, reoccurring thoughts--for thoughts are energy) had harmonizing, healing effects on the body. There was no "Picture of Dorian Gray" on Hawaii and neither apparently in the SW universe. So Palpie could have been anywhere from say 40 to 60, depending on how old he was when he started out as a senator.

Tina: Ah, that's an advantageous attitude to have re: your comments about being "married with no other children other than my husband and myself"; very humorous. That boundless sense of wonder/play/joy/discovery all children are born with (some lose it very fast, some slower, some never) is a "secret" for preventing, slowing down, reversing decrepitude of the mind (and its echoes into the body).

Yes, that fabulous rush on discovering fandom/zinedom! How sweet the find! I remember thinking, since the first zines I found were from the NY area and Florida, that that's where I thought all the fans were. I didn't even realize it was a national and international love affair until I found "the Commode" and SE and saw all the other fans.

Oh, I too went nearly cross-eyed trying to decipher what the words were on Vader's chest-plate. I guess they would have to have been function indicators for the various switches. Maybe he knew them by heart but if he was ever injured perhaps those would be of help to continue to regulate his vital functions, damaged

long ago in the fight with Kenobi, by anyone who came upon him.

Debbie: Glad to see you had a great trip. Any Northern Lights? Thanks for the info on Star Tours. (Someday!)

Ming/Maggie: Since Han trusted and loved Chewie, these potential soul qualities were already activated, just way too narrowly applied. By the time he turns back to help Luke destroy the Death Star, his sphere of caring had begun to widen even if most of him didn't know it, perpetuating its denial in such slipped comments to Luke as "I couldn't let you get all the reward!" (paraphrased here) (as for Greedo--perhaps Han could have gotten out of there without killing him, I'd like to think somewhere deep inside he could feel a bit of sorrow for having to kill. It certainly raises one of those "big questions". Did/could any of the rebels hold the paradoxical emotions of relief at their survival at Yavin and yet sorrow at so many deaths up on the Death Star? Is part of maturity the ever-widening circles of compassion?).

Sarah: Welcome back! I too have pointed out my unhappiness with the way a lot of authors (especially early on, I think) made Leia into a bitch or turned her into a dewy-eyed dependent "yes woman" after she fell in love with Han. My other main complaint was her instant pregnancy after one night of bliss with Han (the sex itself didn't usually bother me). Had she thought of having a family at that point of her life? She was young and her life had been diplomacy and rebellion up to that point. And she did have social contact with some men, anyway (her "nice men" comment) outside her official duties. And did she want a family at all? (With GL's family values paraded through SW that would seem to be a given--I have a slight aversion to that phrase having had it waved in my face from the super rightwing religious fundamentalists...to lay on an array of prohibitions I reject).

But just in human and practical terms, we don't even know if Endor was the first battle of the rebels' war. How many outlying regional Imperial groups were going to regroup and go after the Alliance and our heroes? Would it be days, weeks, months, a year or two? I'm pretty sure Leia would not want to be pregnant then, until the Alliance could really set up

the new government. (Ed: I once did a trio of short stories called "Choice" that appeared in a couple of issues of FAR REALMS, which dealt with just this theme. In my stories, Leia and Han had made love on Bespin and she had conceived. But by the time she found out, Han was in carbon freeze and the war was pressing on her; it just seemed an impossibly bad time for this to happen. She couldn't afford to be pregnant in the thick of battle, yet she couldn't bear to abort Han's child, knowing that she might never see him alive again. The solution was pure science fiction and I thought resolved the dilemma quite satisfactorily. However, many people took me apart for having the gall to suggest that Leia wouldn't be absolutely thrilled to be pregnant and informed me roundly that children had always been born during wartime, etc., etc. Oh, well...can't please everybody...))

Then, I'm pretty certain Leia would want to be there to help start at least the beginning weavings of the government. Diplomacy and senatorial work is in her blood the way the "starsense" is in Han. When things seemed settled in, then I could see her considering a family. She might want to lower her work or take off altogether for a few years, while her kids were young. And given she would have all this energy expended (willingly) on all these other things, she might even just want some time alone before she and Han took on the responsibility of raising a family.

And we don't know how Leia feels about becoming a Jedi. That also will have an effect on her decision. Thank goodness (IMHO), there are some authors who have portrayed her complex, vital, intelligent, interesting character well.

Marti: Hang in there, we are with you. I remember some comments Hamill made in a print interview that he and the others had informal options when the third trilogy was to be done, if they looked the part that GL wanted them to portray (sorry this is so vague--7 years ago). He also said something about the discussions he had with GL, fleshing out Luke's character and Force stuff, that there was also another print piece where GL said he envisioned Luke making a brief Kenobi-like appearance.

Tasha/Sarah: I liked your comments on translators as a source of status symbols re:

Jabba.

Judith: Thank you in general for your kind comments on the SW artists. There's nothing like illoing a story you really like. It's a high! I've lugged my zines down to the copy shop to make copies of my fave artists' illos to hang up on the wall in my studio. I also put up a few xeroxes of the illos that I've done that I still get a charge out of.

Melanie G./Z. P.: I will have to defer my comments on Luke/Palpie for another SE since I want to talk about SWzine plotting. Since I went through my zines (dated '83-'90), I will take stories that feature Luke as main character or in there in a strong way. Maybe you'll see a story you hadn't heard of yet.

Maggie: We were on similar wavelengths re high ranking Nazi kids finding out their parentage later on. After I read the Kenobi/Luke discussions, I thought, well...what if Hitler had had kids and they found out much later, because they were whisked away and not raised by him but by anti-Reich Germans or whoever. Or further extrapolation, what if the Third Reich had won? And there was an active rebel movement, and some kids now coming of age and using their various organization/fighting talents and suddenly finding out just who they are fighting against (a bombshell with unpredictable reactions, as you pointed out in your scenario) (I was thinking Alternative Earth idea).

Cheree, Pat N., Mary U., interested parties: I started to write Cheree some more comments in between #26 and #27 on the SWzine plot issue. I'm going to semi-repeat and expand on them here. For me, it comes down to 4 basic aspects: characters (my favorites, the ones I like and am intrigued by, the villains that are formidable); the general themes/areas that the Saga portrayed, that interest me, various planets and cultures and starscapes, and finally skill of the writer.

I will outline my particulars and you'll at least, from one SWzine fan's view, see how all these aspects blend together into what I will read. (I think I'm pretty flexible but you'll be the judge.) My two favorite characters are Luke (admiration/empathy/lust) and Leia (even before their sibling link) (admiration/empathy/inspiration as a woman). I have great affection and admiration in various ways for the

rest of the gang plus Ben, Yoda, Mon Mothma, Reeiken, Dodonna, Wedge (particularly through the comics), and Palpie and Vader as strong villains.

I love all kinds of fascinating starscapes, worlds (landscapes/seascapes, vegetation, animals) and cultures (architecture, clothing, arts/crafts, philosophies, etc.). In SW, our heroes can go out to meet and learn from all the various peoples (human and all other beings), have exciting or subtle adventures in their lives. Here is a wealth of great breadth to play with, for writers and artists to depict.

The themes that grabbed me almost subliminally by the gut/mind were the Force and the Jedi. (It makes perfect sense for me. SW was a stimulating foretelling/reawakening of my search for metaphysical teachings and studies of "energies" and the "parasciences" just a few years down the line from ANH. What could be a more compelling image than a space-faring technology-using society acknowledging (sometimes more, sometimes less) the very Unseen Energies (powers) that scientists continue to battle against/scoff at and worse, on this planet (Western techno-society in general). Then there are the themes of fighting for freedom from exploitation, domination, etc. and questions around that.

I'm sure I'd be interested in reading medium short stories (20-40 pages) of purely created characters dealing with joining the rebellion or not, becoming a Jedi or not (whether pre-Clone Wars/post-ROTJ), especially if the writing was of high calibre. (I think that would definitely apply if it was longer than 40 pages in a zine.) I would not buy straight zine novels (tight budget), but would read them as part of a zine. (There might be some exceptions with created characters I already have a liking for from various zine writers--but not now, just for low dollars reasons.)

Here's a skilled writer example: I'm not a big fan of Free-spacer stories in general, but Patricia D'Orazio's story, "High Stakes" (KESSEL RUN #3), tells how Sybelle (free-spacer Corellian) wins a young Han from possible bounty hunters (and anti-Corellian Wookiees?). She constructs a whole series of Corellian Clans as free spacers and shipbuilders. And they are wonderfully "crazy" and fun to read

about. (Trish is no longer doing SW, but they pop up in several of her stories.)

Catriona Campbell's "Missing, Part 2" (WOOKIEE COMMODE #7) is a Luke story but I want to hear the stories of the farmer's wife as a little girl with her father (a historian) during the purges. And Bryon (Imperial interrogator/technician) and Tank (Imperial doctor) whose politics are slowly turned around through their contact with Luke as their prisoner. I want to know what happens to them. I could read (don't groan, Melanie R.) more of Melanie's pantheon of past Jedi masters and their lives/methods.

Let me list more of the stories that meant something to me to give you better ideas. Prequels: "Descending Darkness" by Marti Schuller (STAR QUEST)--Good tale of Ben, Yoda, Anakin, Mon Mothma, Palpatine, and created Jedi. "At First Sight" by Pat Nussman (KESSEL RUN #3)--Very young Leia, young Han and younger Reeiken in a kidnapping and politics on Alderaan and a hilarious epilogue. "The Legend" by Marti Schuller (SHADOWSTAR #30)--Excellent story of Yoda's life as he became a Force User. "Castling" by Mesarthim and Stardancer (A TREMOR IN THE FORCE #5)--Sprawling big story with Bail, Ben, Anakin, Vader, Mon Mothma, and various created characters (Jedi, government people, mothers for Luke and Leia, etc.). "Chewbacca's Dance" by Z. P. Florian (WOOKIEE COMMODE #7)--Inventive AU/ROTJ story. "Ultimate Right" by Patricia D'Orazio--Leia's growing relationship with Han and her challenge with a pacifistic planet to get needed Rebellion aid. "Edge of Darkness" by Patricia D'Orazio (FAR REALMS #8). Jaspin (Corellian clan member), Torian (Palpie's minion), and others fighting for Luke's body and soul. "Highflight" by Diane Duane (GUARDIAN #6)--Alternative ROTJ Luke and Vader, fascinating beings. "Forms Reversal" by Carolyn Golledge (CIRCLE OF LIGHT #4)--Wild ROTJ ending with an undead Palpie. "Graven Image" by Mary Jean Holmes and Mary Woods (SHADOWSTAR #27, 28 and 30)--Excellent political, emotional tale of Luke attempting to set up Jedi school in the face of politics and racism (to non-humans). I've enjoyed almost every Mary Jean Holmes, Karen Ripley and Carolyn Golledge story I've read because of their portrayals of the gang with so many fascinating created characters and cultures

that meet/assist and learn from and are assisted by.

On your article, Cheree, I am not tired of #'s 2, 3 and 5 because as a newer SWzine person and one who only has so many dollars to spend, I have not had my fill of those themes, although, yes, I want them done well and innovatively. But I think there is a bit of a gully between those who have played in the field for 2 times, 3 times longer than I. I hope, though, that my comments that I have made appeared somewhat flexible and encouraging. Keep writing and drawing.

All of you heading to MWC in May, have a great party, be fun, be creative and hoist one for me! In the Light...

SUGGESTIONS

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February 6, 1991

I'm either very late for one issue or very early for the next. The delay being that last month I started a new job that I'm still in the learning curve on, moved to Alexandria to be nearer my job (and yes, I hate moving). I had started a LOC before all that started, but Real Life intervened.

Anyway.

First, I agree with every single word of Cheree's editorial. When I first got into fandom, there were a lot of interesting and fun stories and discussions on a variety of subjects. For some reason, ROTJ seems to have closed the door to fun and speculation...leaving us with an endless round of rather predictable stories. Perhaps this is inevitable, but it doesn't mean I have to like it. I don't. The doldrums in SW these last few years actually make me look back with something like nostalgia to the Church of Ford/Cathedral of Luke feuds. They weren't pleasant, but at least I was sure everyone was alive.

Partially, perhaps, this is because ROTJ closed many of the doors to "what if's"...what will happen to Luke confronting Vader, how will Han get out of carbon freeze, what's the future of Han and Leia's relationship. But I still think there are not only still "between"-film stories to write (and alternatives...why not?), but also more about what happens after ROTJ than has been touched on. Hardly anyone's really explored the period between Endor and the actual end of the war...and anyone who thinks Endor marked the end of conflict is more than a bit naive.

Moreover, I propose an entire moratorium on "Han and Leia in the Ewok hut" stories. I'm a romantic myself (in fact, I've been accused of being a Blatant Romantic in non-too-complimentary terms), but enough is enough. As a friend of mine pointed out, if Han and Leia had gone at it with all the enthusiasm some fan stories suggest, they'd probably end up in (separate) monasteries just in reaction.

Suggestion: How about some pre-ANH stories that don't have to do with Anakin's fall? Something just before the film begins, for example. Two ideas have occurred to me that I don't believe have been touched. One is connected to Vader's statement: "You're not on any mercy mission this time." Is that perhaps the reason Leia's a senator at what seems to us (in contemporary terms) a young age? Did she pull off something so spectacular that it catapulted her into a Senate seat? And did she use that reputation later in missions for the Alliance? That seems to me a singularly underused line...just hanging there, waiting for someone to do something about it.

Second, the intro to ANH mentions a "first victory" of rebel troops against the Empire, during which the Death Star plans were stolen. Who initiated this...how did it come about? How did Leia get in the middle of it, enough so that she'd be in possession of the Death Star plans? There has to be a story there somewhere.

And--just a vagrant thought--why in the hell was Han Solo in Mos Eisley in the first place? Or on planet...later on, we find out Jabba's headquarters is reasonably close--at least by that technology's measure. You'd think he'd want to be on the other side of the galaxy from Jabba, since he owed him money.

Was he going to see Jabba (doesn't seem like a good idea) or was Mos Eisley simply the most likely place, for whatever reason, to pick up a job? Or is there some third or fourth reason that doesn't immediately occur to me?

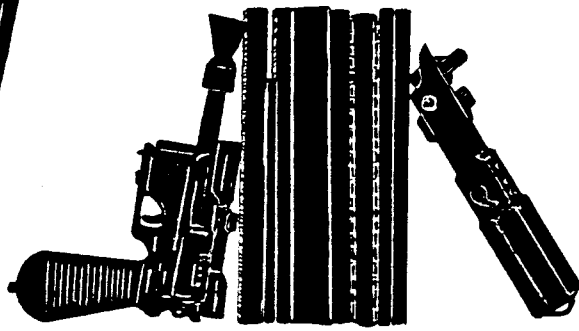
Jumping forward to TESB (my personal favorite)...the glimpses of military life (about the most we ever see) are rather intriguing. One thing that's always amused me is the way individual rebels walk in between Han and Leia while they're arguing...just as if it's the most natural thing in the world for two well-known figures to be shrieking at each other in the middle of a hallway. That gives me the idea that--like in any close-knit society (like fandom, for instance)--people in the Alliance might be amusing themselves with gossip of various sorts and Han and Leia's "disagreements" would be well-known. Perhaps soldiers are taking bets in the messhall about the outcome--whether they'll kiss or kill each other. Somehow, I think there'd be very little privacy

in the Alliance.

Off on another subject: I wonder if there'd be any merit in people reviewing "classic" SW stories in SE. I don't mean review in a critical sense (the sense that starts fights), but rather retrospective. I know a lot of the names I see in SE came in after many of the older zines went out of print, so that might be helpful in providing, say, a historical perspective. Then, any fan who wanted to could query Ming's Archives to see if she has a copy of the zine in question. Just a thought.

((Ed: Excellent thought, Pat. I'd love to see some of the great, but forgotten, stories be brought back to light. Catherine Churko sort of started the ball rolling in her letter this issue. Alright, all you dinosaurs out there, get those dusty zines out of your closet and rediscover the delights therein--and then sent me a short blurb on your particular favorites!))





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BETTER IDEA ZINE. Dedicated to bringing the serious Harrison Ford fan a concentrated dose of news and information covering Mr. Ford's films

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CHOICE PARTS #1--(all Harrison Ford). Featuring "Chance Encounter" by Kate Birkel. Tommy Lillard was minding his own business when the strangest looking thing he'd ever seen fell out of the sky--with a beautiful, sharp-tongued princess on board. "The One That Got Away" by Cypher. Han had a lead on the most fabulous jewels in the galaxy. Now, all he had to do was dive to the bottom of an ocean, contact the local piscine inhabitants and convince them to lead him to their treasure. "Remembrance" by Carolyn Golledge. Han and Leia had returned to Corell to find a sacred icon that had belonged to Han's family, shortly before the family holding was destroyed by Imperial troops. Without it, Han could never proclaim his true identity. Much more by Ann Wortham, Marci Erwin, Jeannie Webster and Elizabeth Wilson. Poetry by Martie Benedict-O'Brien, Pat Nussman, Jacqueline Taero, Patricia D'Orazio, Sarah Macht-Dewitt and

others. Art by Wanda Lybarger, Martynn, Dianne Smith, Dani, Jim Markle and Barbara Frances-Simon. Note--some material is slightly on the adult side. \$15.00 first class. Make checks payable to Cheree Cargill, 457 Meadowhill Drive, Garland, TX 75043. CHOICE PARTS #2 -- SOLD OUT.

CHRONICLES OF THE HOUSE OF ALDERAAN. The Empire may have fallen, but Han and the Princess aren't exactly leading a quiet life together. In "On Board the Millennium Falcon", Han and Leia tend to each other after the escape from Tatooine. "Princess Leia Goes Shopping" and learns that not everyone is happy with the downfall of the Empire. During a layover on the misted planet Bliris, Lando Calrissian discovers a "sleeping angel" who bears an uncommon resemblance to the Princess of Alderaan, and "The Failed Execution of Shallist the Assassin" is revealed. Stories by Susan Deborah Smith. Illustrated by Joel Sweeney, the man with the coolest hair in the galaxy. 100+ pp, perfect bound. \$10.75 fc, \$15.00 Canada; reply coupon for overseas price. Checks payable to Susan Deborah Smith, Pisces Pig, Ltd., 3538 Mentone Avenue #3, Los Angeles, CA 90034-4820.

FLIP OF A COIN. The zine dedicated to the characters portrayed by Harrison Ford is ready with issue #13. Offset printed and perfect bound (288 pages), the selections include: "The Last Retirement" by Barbara Anderson. Deckard is in a desperate struggle to survive and obtain credentials for he and Rachel to travel off-world. He strikes a deal with an underworld contact...but his payment requires retiring one more "skin job." "Interruptions" by Catherine Anson. The rebels and the Ewoks are celebrating the triumphant Battle on Endor, but all Han has on his mind is spending some time alone with Leia for his own kind of celebration. Unfortunately, the entire universe seems to be plotting against him. "Winter Witness" by Cypher. In the urban wilderness, John Book and Martin Riggs are right at home. But when they and two dangerous prisoners are stranded in the wilds of Alaska in the middle of the winter, the big city cops find their street smarts are useless--and if the killers don't get them, nature just might. "They Shoot Banthas, Don't They?" by Cypher. A seemingly innocuous contest turns into a dance of death for Han and Nova as their partners Chewbacca and Phloth the fungus race to the rescue. "R & R" by Phyllis Milby. En route to Hawaii for some much needed rest and relaxation, Kenny Boyd inadvertently boards the wrong plane

and lands in Australia instead. What begins as a disaster turns into a soul-searching stay in the Land Down Under when Kenny is "adopted" by a young retarded man, Tim Melville, and his family. "Castellon" by Pat Nussman and Jacqueline Taero. Han and Luke have rescued Leia from Vader's grasp but the three of them must now destroy the Emperor--and must seek additional training from Yoda to do so. Will they be able to accomplish the task? And will Leia's rescue from the Dark Side prove lasting? Also: "Execution" by Elaine Christiani (Han Solo); "Raiders of the Lost Sun God" by Melody Womack and Jan Slusher (Indiana Jones); "New Horizons" by Michelle Worley (Barnsby). Poetry by Jacqueline Taero, Cypher, Elaine Christiani, and Susan Zahn. Art by Dani, Wanda Lybarger, Dianne Smith. And loads and loads of cartoons. \$20.50 FC (SASE for overseas postage). Make check or money order payable to FLIP OF A COIN, Paula Truelove and Jenny McAdams, Editors, 502 McKeithan #4A, Tallahassee, FL 32304.

GUARDIAN 8. Material by Kate Birkel, Lynda Carraher, Susan Farrell, Debra Doyle and J. C. MacDonald, Jeanine Hennig, Susan Matthews, Ellen Randolph, Roz, Jean Stevenson, Marcia Brin, Barbara Gardner, Maggie Nowakowska, Jacqueline Taero, and many, many others. Art by Gordon Carleton, Catherine Churko, Marilyn Johansen, Pam Kowalski, Jean Kluge, Leah Rosenthal, Marti Siegrist, Dianne Smith, and many others. \$12.50 first class. Overseas, send SAE + 2IRCs to request current postage rates. Checks payable to MAZELTOUGH PRESS, c/o Deneroff, 704 East Thomas #103, Seattle, WA 98102-5434. Also available: GUARDIAN 5, 6 and 7. G5 is \$7.00, G6 is \$8.00, and G7 is \$10.00. Add \$2.60 for postage for each zine. THOUSANDWORLDS COLLECTED is also available. TWC #1 is \$15.00 plus \$2.60 postage; TWC #2 is \$20.00 plus \$3.85 postage; TWC #3 is \$8.00 plus \$2.60 postage. TWC Set is available at discount for \$40.00 plus \$8.00 postage. If ordering a combination of any two GUARDIANs, combined postage is \$3.85.

HIBERNATION SICKNESS. A quarterly minizine devoted entirely to the SW saga. Each issue averages 24 pages and contains a variety of short stories, poems, artwork, and more. Subscriptions for four issues (one year) \$12 US/\$17 overseas. \$3 sample issue. Send cash, check or money order to: Lisa Thomas, 7606 Lady Street, Charleston Heights, SC 29420.

POP STAND. If you think an adzine is a monotonous

catalog of fannish code words, mind-numbing abbreviations and endless lists of last names of people you never heard of--obviously you've never seen POP STAND. Business-sized #10 SASE gets you all the details. Write us today! POP STAND, P. O. Box 379, North Hollywood, CA 91603. Guaranteed to change the way you think about adzines forever.

P.S. I LOVE YOU. The official, bi-monthly newsletter devoted to the underrated comedy classic of our time, PERFECT STRANGERS, has just celebrated its first year of publication and is still going strong (which makes us as happy as a tick on a sheepdog)! If you haven't sent in yet for your free sample issue, don't wait any longer! Subscriptions just \$8.00/yr, \$10.00/yr overseas (US currency). We're waiting to hear from you, so c'mon, cousins! Tighten those bungee cords and take the plunge! Checks should be made payable to Linda Kay, 13906 Ventura Blvd. #160, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423.

RESOLUTIONS SOLO by H. Sapiento. The complete story of Solo's life after he marries Leia. Much is also revealed of his past. Great trashing and great mushy stuff. 625 pages! 3 volumes. Unbound. SASE to C. Golledge, Rt 1, Box 20E, Fillmore, NY 14735.

THE WOOKIEE COMMODE #1: The zine that started it all! Still some copies available. Fiction, articles and poetry by Ripley, Peed, Thomas, Martz, Rogan, Saye and others. Art by River, Peed, Fregni, Carleton and others. Cover by River. \$12.50 first class mail, \$10.00 in person. THE WOOKIEE COMMODE #2. Winner of the 1986 Fan Q Award for Best SW Zine! Still some copies available. Fiction, articles and poetry by Golledge, Ripley, Cope, Martz and others; art by Lybarger, River, Charvat, Peed, Dani, Bryant, and others. Something to Offend Absolutely Everyone! Perfect bound. \$13.50 in person; \$14.50 book rate; \$17.00 first class mail. Double D Press, Dr. Mary Urhausen, 42 Three Mile Road, Racine, WI 53402.

THE WOOKIEE COMMODE #3, #4, #5 and #7 -- These four issues are now all officially Out of Print (OOP). In accordance with the terms of the Clone Wars Treaty, Double D Press hereby gives all fans permission to make themselves single, not for resale xerox copies of these three issues for their own personal use. Double D Press will not be reprinting any of them. A limited number of the original covers (front and back) are still

available for #5 and #7; a 9 x 12 inch manila SASE will get them free for the taking, while they last. Double D Press, Dr. Mary Urhausen, 42 Three Mile Road, Racine, WI 53402.

THE WOOKIEE COMMODE #6. We have fiction by Carolyn Golledge, Marti Schuller, Carol Moffat, Samia Martz, Sue Zahn, Eric Goodman, Z. P. Florian, Karen Ripely, Madalena Mumford, L. A. Carr, Catriona Campbell, Janet D'Angostino-Toney, Becky Cope & Renee Scheiber, and others; Sharon Saye's Guide to 1988 SW Zines; and some of the most stunning art in SW fandom! Our cover, inside and out, marks "The Return of the Han Fan" (need I say more?). \$22.00 in person, \$26.50 first class mail. Double D Press, Dr. Mary Urhausen, 42 Three Mile Road, Racine, WI 53402.

IN TRANSIT

ANOTHER SKY... Will Star Wars fandom support a new bi-annual Lukezine? There's only one way to find out! Please send any art, stories, poems, etc. that feature Luke or original characters within the SW universe to "Another Sky...", M. Guttierrez, 6017 West End Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70124-1933, or L. Cherry, 4137 Ames Blvd., Lot 83, Morrero, LA 70072-9998. Help us bring back the romance and magic that made SW different and inspiring! A.S. issue #1 planned for late summer. 100+ pages, color, signed and numbered cover, lots of other surprises. No Slash material will be accepted.

A TREMOR IN THE FORCE #6. Now open for submissions. Material already accepted by Carolyn Golledge, Maggie Nowakowska, Pat Nussman, Jacqueline Taero and Z. P. Florian. Color cover by Melanie Guttierrez. This is planned as a Golden Age zine. Therefore, we'd like to stress Romance, Adventure, Fun and Originality! Let's have something besides wedding nights in Ewok huts, Luke training everybody in the Galaxy to be Jedi, Anakin's fall to the Darkside, or anybody's death! What we're looking for is good character interac-

tion, genuine story plots and some ripping good yarns! Material accepted on 5-1/4" disks in WordPerfect 5.0 or 5.1 or ASCII formats. Anyone interested in contributing, SASE Cheree Cargill, 457 Meadowhill Drive, Garland, TX 75043.

BILL AND TED'S OUTSTANDING PAST AND FUTURE APPRECIATION SOCIETY. Why wait until the year 2688 to celebrate the future contribution to society these two bodacious dudes will make? Party on on their behalf right now! Proposed newsletter (as of yet still untitled...bogus!) hopes to reflect on their most excellent adventure, look ahead to their upcoming journey to Hell, chronicle their Saturday morning escapades and present up-to-date news on Alex, Keanu and, of course, Carlin! One long SASE will get our first issue free when it's published. Excellent! SASE Linda Kay, 13906 Ventura Blvd. #160, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423.

BRIGHT CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE. A new SW zine! It is our hope to be out by MediaWest '91. We need stories, poems, art, articles. Anything that is SW, main or peripheral characters, or even new ones. Must be G to light porn. We need it now! Double space original, or can be on IBM or Mac disks. Already have stories by Florian, Kittle and Wathne and promises from Malkin, Black, Golledge, Berger, Nussman and the Dragon. Art from Lybarger. With others unconfirmed. Write now or call (805) 967-4961. Ming Wathne, editor, 437 Via Roma, Santa Barbara, CA 93110.

GALACTIC CASTAWAYS. As if I don't already have enough to do, I'm accepting submissions for another zine! GALACTIC CASTAWAYS is a serious LOST IN SPACE fanzine looking for stories with the feel of the early first season episodes--in short, the way Allen should have done the show! I'm looking for serious fiction, humorous stories (no slapstick, please), stories that blend action with characterization. Submissions should use the entire cast, not just Will, Dr. Smith and the Robot! Explorations of relationships between the members of the extended family are also welcome. Please submit on 360K, 5-1/4" disk (in ASCII format) and save my poor fingers. Artists, I need you too! Kathryn Agel, 51 West 2nd Street, Bayonne, NJ 07002.

JUST FOR LAUGHS. Do you find yourself going through box after box of Kleenex reading the latest fanzines of heartbreaking stories? Need a break from all that drama? Currently seeking

hilarious stories for this all comedy zine. Will consider all material, adult and otherwise, as long as it's funny (and we will be objective!). Should be based on media or fan oriented subjects. Any show or movie is fair game! Already have ST, DW and have promises of QUANTUM LEAP and possibly THREE'S COMPANY. SASE Linda Kay, 13906 Ventura Blvd. #160, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423.

PIG SNOUTS 'N' ANTACTID. An entire fanzine devoted to the antics of Balki and Larry! Touching and humorous fan stories compiled for your reading pleasure! Hopeful publication date will be mid-1991. Submissions still open. SASE Linda Kay, 13906 Ventura Blvd. #160, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423.

TALES OF THE TWO GREAT ONES. It is time! It would be most egregious to ignore these two great ones any longer! Looking for submissions for a most triumphant Bill and Ted zine! Humor, hurt/comfort, crossovers...just about anything goes as far as these two party animals are concerned! No slash (no way!), dweebish poetry or wimpy filk stuff. Time travel not a necessity but certainly welcome. Party on, dudes! SASE Linda Kay, 13906 Ventura Blvd. #160, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423.

THE WOOKIEE COMMODE #8: May or may not be coming to a galaxy near you...we seem to have a flight delay! Plans to publish Issue 8 have been put on an indefinite hold, pending the receipt of enough quality material. We are still accepting material--just realize that all acceptance is conditional, depending on whether or not this baby ever flies! For submissions, write: Sandra Martz, 464 Winchester Place, Belleville, IL 62221, or Dr. Mary Urhausen, Double D Press, 42 Three Mile Road, Racine, WI 53402.

OTHER WORLDS

FOR SALE: Zines (SW, ST, HF, Mixed); Starlogs and other magazines; SW ind. gum cards, ROTJ t-shirt, size M (featuring Han); SW posters and records. For list, SASE Nancy Baker, 1411 NW 78th St., Clive, IA 50325.

HIP DEEP IN HEROES. A Blake's 7 filk song tape including songs by Taero, Nussman, Garrett, Green and more, performed by Zen Nine from Outer Space. High quality chrome tape. \$12 post-paid from Meg Garrett, The Court of Chaos, 727 N. Baker Ave., Ontario, CA 91764. (Checks payable to Meg Garrett)

MIDNIGHT CALLER fan looking for other fans of the series and/or Gary Cole. Is there anybody out there? Contact Kathryn Agel, 51 West 2nd Street, Bayonne, NJ 07002.

MOVIE MEMORABILIA SALE. STAR WARS, MARK HAMILL, BLAKE'S 7, SCIENCE FICTION, etc. An exclusive sale of items from the collection of Lisa Cowan. Photos, slides, scripts, books, magazines, posters, newsletters, zines, toys, much more! Many are one of a kind. SASE for list. ON THE MARK, c/o Lisa Cowan, P.O. Box 5276, Orange, CA 92613-5276.

SW/FORD ZINE SALE. SKYWALKER #6 -- \$20.00. LEGENDS OF LIGHT #2 -- \$20.00. A TREMOR IN THE FORCE #1 -- \$15.00. CIRCLE OF LIGHT #3 -- \$15.00. FAR REALMS #7 -- \$20.00. FLIP OF A COIN 1-8 \$15.00 each. Add postage. C. Gollidge, Rt 1, Box 20E, Fillmore, NY 14735.

WANTED: 2-hour "Twin Peaks" episode aired 9/8/90 or original airings thereof (Ep. 6 & 7). Must be on VHS tape and SP mode. Will pay for tape, plus handling, something for your trouble. Sharon Bishop, 50 Sesame Street, Keene, NH 03431-4842.

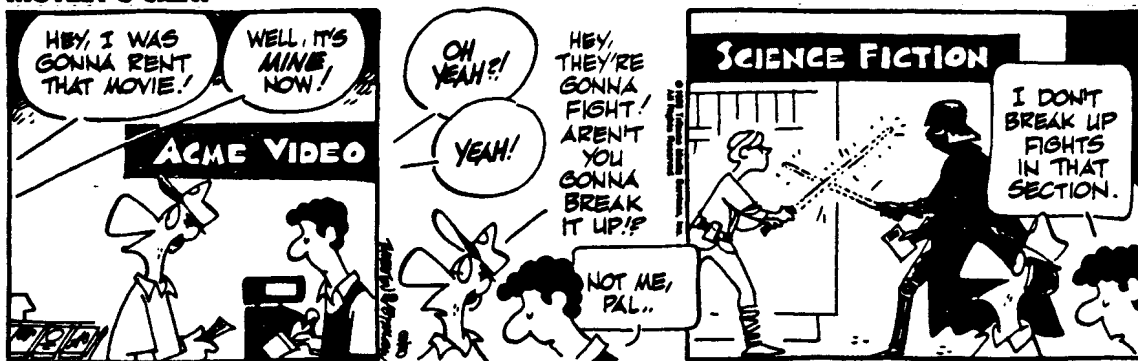
ZINE SALE: Includes many out of print zines, as well as cut rate prices on current zines. Titles include SCOUNDREL, BANISH TRACKS, GRIP, SOUTHERN LIGHTS, WOOKIEE COMMODE, CONTE DE COTTMAN IV, GUARDIAN, plus too many more to list here. SASE for current list to Kathryn Agel, 51 West 2nd Street, Bayonne, NJ 07002.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Barbara Brayton
1150 Syracuse
Bldg. 10, Apt. 189
Denver, CO 80220

Pat Nussman
3311 Wyndham Circle #3194
Alexandria, VA 22302

MOTLEY'S CREW



SOUTHERN ENCLAVE
Cheree Cargill
457 Meadowhill Drive
Garland, TX 75043