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September 19, 1991

First let me second Cheree's recommendation of *THE ROCKETEER*. It was lots of fun, despite being a tad slow. With a faster, more Indy-like pace, it might have caught on better with the general audiences. I vacationed for a week in Florida, mostly at DisneyWorld, and was able to see some of the costumes, the Gee Bee (the real Gee Bees were built here in Spfld., by the way), and the Bull Dog Cafe set at MGM. They also had stuff on Disney's upcoming, animated *BEAUTY & THE BEAST*. It looks terrific, with a very European fairy tale style. Lots of spooky forest, and so on. I'm very optimistic.

Of course I also went to the mecca of SW fans: STAR TOURS. I'd read articles, talked to friends who'd ridden it, but nothing prepared me. For a few minutes, my dreams had come true --I was in that "galaxy far, far away." It truly concentrates all of the thrills and fun of the films down into a few minutes. I still beam when I tell people how fabulous it is!

For Indy fans, there was a nice throw-away line in Barbara Hambly's B&B novelization *SONG OF ORPHEUS*. Catherine is at a book signing party (from the episode "Fever") and thinks to herself that the store has anything one might want in the field of archaeology, including "Jones' classic *Hovitos Treasure*."

I finally read *HEIR TO THE EMPIRE*. Ho-hum. Not bad, if you weren't expecting much, but not electrifying, either. If it were a ST novel, it would merely rate average. I have read worse, but also better, as so many others are saying. It felt like I was being talked down to. Many passages read: Imperials predict what the rebels will do next. Scene shifts to rebels, who say, "Here's what we'll do next." Deja vu all over again. Did Zahn have orders to write it so a young reader could follow it? (If so, he needs to read more juvenile fiction.) Does anyone know any younger folk who've read it? Their thoughts? I'd predict they found it too talky--I sure did. The action was there and fine, but the dialog dulled me.

About it being the first of a trilogy, I knew that before buying it, so no complaints from me. My suspicion is that George has thrown these out as a barometer for whether there's still interest in the Saga, to help decide whether to invest in the next film series. So in my mind, these books are an investment toward the future. It's been living on the best seller lists, so I hope that's a good sign.

Catherine Churko: Thanks for picking up on some of the points in my last LoC and for responding with such thought provoking questions of your own. Not that I have answers, but you did get me thinking.

About Vader not being shocked by finding a Force-user in the trench (ANH), maybe he'd encountered others in the past who had been unconscious Force-users? There doesn't seem to be any special gene or secret "pass word" to allow anyone access to the Force. It's open to anyone. Becoming conscious to it and learning how to harness it seems to be the trick (and thus the need for Jedi Masters/training). Perhaps many tap the Force for brief moments. We've all heard the stories of someone lifting up a Mack Truck to get out someone who's been trapped beneath--sudden super-human strength. This could be what Obi-Wan meant to Han, "In my experience, there's no such thing as luck." So someone accidentally tapping the Force, and Vader's picking up on it, would not surprise him all that much. There would still be worlds of difference from a true-Jedi or Force-user and someone who accidentally hit the right mental buttons to gain brief access to Force-control.

Fiorenzo Delle Rupi: Re "The Emperor had to be always dark." I disagree. Building on those four stages of the Force in my LoC in #29, I see him moving straight into the dark, but at one point having been open to either path. I do not think he was born evil, nor do I think that of any person. It's one's life experiences that mold a person's character. That the Emperor is evil, we don't disagree, but there must have been something that drew him down the dark path. Ambition? Greed? I don't know, but hope to learn in the first trilogy--someday. I wonder if he had to have been "turned" evil? It could have just grown

inside him. Anakin was probably turned--by the Emperor. The Emperor could have been turned not by someone, but something. Note that I'm not saying there are redeeming qualities in him now. He is rotten to the core, as you said, but I am merely expressing my thoughts on how he got that way or whether he has been that way for all time.

Maggie N.: Agreed! One of Vader's best attributes is how he has given up on himself, on whether he can be saved from the Dark Side ("It is too late for me, son."). When he does find the strength to throw off his submission to Palpatine, well just mark that as one of the great moments in cinema history for this movie buff.

Auriette Hahn: Re Leia the Ambassador. I always think of her as a senator and often overlook Vader's asking for the "Ambassador." Ambassadors in our society are appointments, not elected offices, thus the argument I made over several issues of SE has been nicely blown out of the water (most will recall I felt Leia to have been too young/inexperienced to have been popularly elected). Perhaps their political system has ambassadors who are posted to the Imperial Senate, perhaps as representatives of their people, but with no voice or voting power. On the other hand, I cannot recall any other references to Leia as "Ambassador," so could that have been just a cover while aboard the Blockade Runner? The officer may have been told to bluff that there was some big-shot ambassador on board to discourage a search.

Tim Blaes: Re DARK SHADOWS' Joanna Going: She graced our regional theatre (Stage West) last season in a production of Tennessee Williams' "Suddenly Last Summer." I was in the second row for one show and enjoyed an excellent performance. All around, too, not just JG. Kim Hunter, from the PLANET OF THE APES films, was also in the cast. You'd be surprised how different she sounds outside of her DS role. She really put on a soft/vulnerable voice for Victoria, while she was a powerhouse on stage. I definitely would like to see her in more film/TV/stage work. Wonder Woman? I think Lynda Carter fit that part so perfectly (like Chris Reeve as Superman) that to try anyone else would be a letdown.

All my best hopes and prayers for all who

are experiencing trying times--personally or worrying about loved ones. May the Force be with all of you!

Bad Penny Brigade

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September 24, 1991

First off, congratulations on SE winning its third Fan Q Award. That's one hell of an accomplishment. Aside from deserving it for putting out one of the best letterzines in fandom, you deserve it for having the stick-to-it-iveness to hang in with STAR WARS fandom through thick and thin. And your stubbornness is paying off. Many of us old-time SW fen are returning to the fandom. I guess you could refer to us as the Bad Penny Brigade. And, it looks like a lot of new people are joining the fandom, too. (Strange, the same thing seems to be happening in B7 fandom, too. Does anyone know if this is happening in any other fandoms?)

Our fractious Italian friends seem to be going through their own version of what we went through a few years back. I hope that they survive it, too. Getting along with each other is so much nicer than ripping each other's throats out.

Z. P. Florian: Palpatwinky?! People have been shot for less. In response to your question about Jabba the Hutt--perhaps he isn't a handsome male Hutt. Maybe he's a big, fat, extra-slimy male Hutt who turns off even female Hutts. Maybe this rejection turned him to his life of crime and his craving for skinny little female humans. Then again, maybe he was always a slob and pervert. Anyone want to discuss Hutttese psychology?

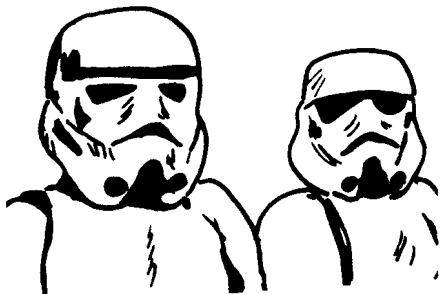
Sally Syrjala: I like your idea for a story about how Han came to trust the people involved

in the Alliance. I'd like to know just what exactly was going through his mind when he accepted his generalship. If he really is a disillusioned ex-soldier, this was quite a step for him to take. I'd also like to have seen and heard the first private conversation between Han and Leia after ROTJ. Aside from "What do you mean, he's your brother?" and "Does this mean we can finally get it on?", that is. The serious stuff. Recognizing pressure burnout, disillusionment and physical lust in each other is a great way to start, but where do they go from here?

Debbie Kittle: I agree with you 100% about not discouraging new fen who write stories about what is to them a new and sparkling idea. We've all been there, whether it's with a not-so-well written story that still shows promise or a piece of artwork from a beginning artist who isn't so hot yet but still shows promise of better things to come. I've printed both in my old SW zine (KESSEL RUN) and have seen both writers and artists who started out not so hot develop into really good writers and artists. All anyone ever needs is encouragement and constructive criticism. If the talent is there, it will develop.

Cheree: Does "IMO" stand for "in my opinion"? Any other abbreviations I should be aware of? ((Ed: You got it. "IMHO" is "in my humble opinion" and "RPG" is "role playing game." "OOP" is "out of print" and those are about the only ones I can think of that have come into usage recently. I think any others are standard, old-time FanSpeak.))

I'm going to have to keep this short since it is now 2:20 a.m. and I have to get up soon to go to work. (Sleep, what's that?) I hope that this letter isn't too disjointed or, at least, no more disjointed than my letters ever are. I also have to put the ad for my one remaining zine together—KESSEL RUN IV. (sigh) Look for it in the ad section. 'Til next issue. Fly free, everyone!



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September 22, 1991

At last, I have some comments on SE#28 and 29.

On 28:

Debbie Kittle: Isn't Alaska great? I've been to Southeast Alaska three times. Actually, Glacier Bay isn't on Prince William Sound; it's on the Inside Passage north of Juneau. Don't kid yourself about the oil spill; the effects are still there and will be felt for some time to come. Did you see any whales while you were there?

Jacqueline Taero: Yes, I want a zine to look good and contain good writing before I will spend my hard-earned money on it. However, I have bought zines for the writing only, even though they may not have looked "professional."

Certainly I prefer stories that contain characters I am familiar with. But I don't mind at all reading stories with created characters. I would be interested in reading your work if it should be printed.

I enjoy reading SE immensely, even if I don't always have time to write. But if Cheree decided to move on to other things, I would certainly understand.

On 29:

HEIR TO THE EMPIRE was a good read. I thought the author got the characters down very well and the plot was intriguing. Perhaps he used the phrase "just before the darkness took him" once too often.

Fiorenzo Delle Rupi: Very good observations on human nature and on Han, Luke and Leia facing their dark sides as being the extreme fulfillment of their desires. I enjoyed it.

Donna Frayser: I love the Peter Winsey stories. The Masterpiece Theater dramatizations were great.

Matthew Whitney: I think Mary Jean Holmes presents Han as a "shadowsider" in her stories, neither light nor dark, but a mix of both, sort of neutral.

Did anyone see the meteor showers? Unfor-

tunately, it was overcast here.

Sorry this is so short. Hope everyone is well, family included. My dad recently had bypass surgery, and is doing very well, but it was an anxious time. My sympathies are with all who suffered loss of a loved one or illness in their families.



Catherine Churko
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September 27, 1991

Greetings, SE family. Here's hoping that the summer has had good things and times for you all, that fall going into the end of 1991 will continue that way or have the promise of better situations coming to pass.

Our Realm: How many times have you read "The Empire Strikes Out" as a headline for articles on the changes in the Soviet Union? Talk about a get-real-personal-with-your-TV-situation while watching the coup un- and re-fold. And all the events that have proceeded from that. Changes, indeed!

Even seeing the eclipse "live" on color TV was mesmerising! I couldn't believe how beautiful and delicate looking the corona was, the waving streams of pearly white. Perhaps only a high resolution big screen TV could have picked up the red/orange prominences hugging the orb which I saw in a next-day photo.

And speaking of sf into reality, someone should tell the Ghostbusters boys and Mary Jean Holmes that Solo may not stay too techno-snobby for long. (In MJH's cross-universe GB/SW comedy, Hangloated rather gleefully over his Universe's ability to construct not micro-circuitry and power but molecular-sized components). IBM just announced (while they project a ten-year development period), the ability now to move a single xenon atom between two points/poles, to act as an off/on switch. This basically means being able to reduce or pack in circuitry a thousandfold. (Yes, I am dazzled by technowizardry, even as I wish we could shrink negative tendencies like bigotry/fear/greed the same amount to free up our minds for much greater living.)

Other Realms: I've been meaning to say this for issues, to all the Pern fans. My mom picked up (library sale) "Dragon Flight" last summer for me. I enjoyed it and eventually found the other two volumes. You know I'm not a big fantasy/medieval person but I did enjoy them. Good drama and very clever ideas. And, of course, the dragons and firelizards were wonderful! I was disappointed in the comic version, though, with a quick glance through #2. I thought that looked a little better.

The new Tolkien calendar for 1992 seems to me one of the most impressive in a while. Didn't see a SW one yet (maybe last year's was a new trial balloon).

Big Trek on TV this weekend. And the new Next Gen season. Fun time -- although I hope they don't spend too much of the season on the Klingon conflict. There are supposed to be some good, interesting themes upcoming. (But

NG has been quite steadily getting better and better.)

SWzinedom: Ahhh, here we are. Congrats on your Fan Q, Cheree. It's good to see the crew roster back again. The other suggestions sound good, too.

Welcome to Auriette, Jennifer, Leanne and Donna. So nice that even more folk have found SE and LoC'd.

A creative welcome to Anette. Funny cartoons. Thanks, Mary for inviting your pal in.

Z.P.: Sometimes when I'm very impressed with a story I have to get the pencil/pen and do up a bunch of sketches (whether "finished" or not) based on the text (of course, I have done this all through my reading years). I did about 19 quarter-paged illos based on "Missing, Part 2", after spending a day sketching out the various characters. Liked your language "addressing" examples.

Sally: I feel pretty similar in terms of reading subtle/clever/unusual variations on well-trodden storylines as well as totally new ideas/worlds and issues. But as a visualist, I crave good stories to illo, as well as doing my own ideas, and crave good illos that other artists do.

Judith: Thank you for picking up the awards bandwagon (are you sure someone hasn't been feeding you Jawa Joy Juice?). The survey was good detailed questions/ideas for operations. Yes, MWC is a blast!

Chris G.: The Jabba question was an interesting one. "Hunt down" could be stretched. Maybe the Hutts had an anti-grav mobile platform if we are leaning on the more literal side. They could have had some close contact in an adversarial encounter since Jabba said the Jedi's mind tricks didn't work on him (by extension — all Hutts?).

Marti: Howdy. Yes, I forgot to say how well detailed Mary's and Cheree's "how to" zine article was. (But then they've been on the Joy Juice for years!) Hey, you bet (re your stories); only hope new inspiration might guide your pen again in the SW universe.

Jennifer: Well, don't be too shy. A long time ago (in this galaxy), junior high school and high school gave me writing/literature phobias and SWzinedom is one of the biggest factors in helping me overcome it.

Fiorenzo: You and Cheryl have some good points about the Emperor. I'd automatically assumed he did have his powers. I do hope in the prequel we will find out how Palpie obtained his Force powers. Marti has a good idea with him being evil from a young age and coming under the tutelage of the Sith.

To go further and pick up on your later remarks about canon/non-canon stuff, here are some other possible contradictions. I'm quoting from the first SW book which was written by George, so he himself could be changing his mind or being deliberately obtuse, etc. In the book... "Soon [Palpatine] was controlled by the very assistants and boot-lickers he had appointed to high office, and the cries of the people for justice did not reach his ears." ("Once secure in his office, he declared himself Emperor, shutting himself away from the populace.") (*Ed: To set the record straight, the novelization of STAR WARS: A NEW HOPE was actually written by Alan Dean Foster but published under Lucas' name.*)

That doesn't appear like the impression we get by JEDI, I think. True, we don't know really how many people know about the Emp's powers, although every time Vader threatens any underlings on the DS II or elsewhere with the Emp's appearance or displeasure, they get pretty upset!

More questions and ideas: If Palpie is a "Force-natural", was he taught by the Sith or some other evil-leaning sect/group, etc? Was a corrupted Jedi always a Sith? Who were the Sith? In the book, George also says, "Fear follows in the footsteps of all the Dark Lords", so who and where are these other Dark Lords of the Sith? One last idea... What if Palpatine had been a Jedi, turned greedy, faked a disappearance and started to learn to corrupt his Force powers on his own or by whatever teachers? (I think that's far-fetched but if anyone likes that idea, go run with it. Just send me a copy of your story.)

Maggie: Hi. You and Susan should do up some of your ISS Nowhere. I love silliness and satire! *grin*

Sounds like you and Susan had a grand ol' time in Italy! Thank you for a well-detailed article of your adventure and overview of SW fandom on the other side of the ocean. Also,

a more personal thank you for mentioning me in a fandom "network" in zine production. Having felt first physically isolated with my injury, then later just psychologically so, due to continued low finance interfering with easy access to all my out of town friends, this was a nice symbolic contact.

I'd love to see a copy of that Gordon Carleton cartoon. He's so good...I always look at STARLOG for his and Leah Rosenthal's cartoons.

In my first story (a prequel), I assume (probably from the "Obi-Wan once thought as you did..." that Ben snuck after Anakin, after he knew Anakin was changing, to find out who he was working with. He eventually finds out that it's the Emperor himself. He then goes on to confront Anakin several times, each time being rejected until the final confrontation on the volcanic planet. I won't give it all away but it's only after Anakin is so damaged that he decided as he recovers and receives all the cybernetic equipment and clothing that he changes his name. So, it's sort of similar to your theme of being rejected twice. (It's a pre-fandom story.)

I liked that LoC filk. I have not always written zine LoCs because I just won't write short comments (oh, you didn't know I was a motormouth?). But between several SE commentaries, I was guilted inspired into sending off hefty Locs to the 2 zines I was able to get in the last 1-1/2 years. For me, as a person slowly learning about writing and still taking in SW fans's voluminous commentary after having only little amounts all during the original films' releases and after, I enjoy reading LoCs. It's like (again) a one-way kind of con-on-paper gathering. In fact, because I've missed MWC these past 2 years and most likely next year's as well, SE & LoCs in zines become even more important. Even if so few people comment on the art in a big way. I do look at the older zines and hope there will be a string of detailed LoCs. At least seeing more and more new SE faces is a hopeful sign. Thanks also for your history/future SW zine fan's thoughts.

And thank you very much for relaying all the "children of Nazis" comments. I heard brief excerpts myself quickly from a (probably)

NPR radio show and was very moved by their searing experiences. I too thought of using them as a real life example for those fans who thought it would be relatively easy for Luke to find out who Daddy was before he confronted him or for Leia and Luke after they both knew and how it might affect their self-images.

Leanne: Yes, I felt cheated that George did not have a scene where Luke told Leia about Vader/Anakin on the DSII. I did several little comic style sketches around it to satisfy myself.

Auriette: What I know about "Dark Empire" is it takes place 3 years three after Endor, they are pushing to the Center of the Galaxy where there are still many Imperial strongholds. So it still could be done. And since I love art, I hope someone will (and do it well--though Rick Veith as a writer is a very interesting choice) sometimes.

Tim: Speaking of gonzo, do you know (it just came on) Black Flag's song "TV Party Tonight"? Gonzo commentary on Couch Potatoes. I might be able to russle up a little gonzo crossverse cartoon; we'll try, if you're not all done by the time I send it.

All: My arm's doing much better, though it still aches and gets stiff off and on a fair amount in the higher (past shoulder-level) positions. It's seemingly going to take another 6-12 months to get the highest positions and probably not quite 100% range of motion there. One good thing--it has forced me to exercise in order to get well. I've never had much upper body strength and I decided to work on both shoulders/pecs lifts. Having enough trouble with 3 & 5 lb. weight tells you how little I have (though I can carry about 25 lbs. downward on each shoulder--I know because coming home from my first MWC, I added about 10 plus extra zine lbs. to my baggage)!

I'm really getting into job-hunting. Temp work has been too spotty with economy without high typing skills. Do have my first publishing house interview this week. It will be interesting by the time I get this SE just where I do end up for now--I do hope it's publishing but we'll see).

Artwork (portfolio-wise) is slowly plodding along but we are determined (sometimes grimly, sometimes joyfully) to get it out there. Doing

some SWzine art (yea). Determined to get that higher than my paltry 1 illo/year and so far it's coming along. That illo of mine in #29 was done with my right (non-dominant) hand (I was so proud) while recovering.

I look forward to the new zines, whether I can afford them or not. It's great to know those who have done so and keep going are doing so and getting new folks to try their hands at it. Thanks to all attempts!

Almost forgot—my library finally managed to get HEIR. He writes pretty well, although I certainly have read more consistently lyrical writing from some of "our" gang. Does have some good ideas whether he has delved much emotionally or not. (He could do a little more of it.) Maggie, I tried reading one C. J. Cherryh and practically turned blue from trying just to follow her writing! The admiral, assassins and pirate were good. I only got to read it once and will have to get it out again for more commentary.

I'm disappointed that WOOKIEE COMMODE is closing. But having said that, I'll do a big Wookiee celebration dance for all the drama, lyricism, art and special mix of silly, sassy, dry and absurd humor that arrived with each issue! Thank you, Mary and Samia for some amazing and rollicking times (and thanks for letting me play in your Tatooine sandbox!).

Everyone stay or be well. Be thinking, LoCing and creating happily away. Hey, now I can say it in Italian or French, but I'll say it in English—May the Force be with you.



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September 30, 1991

Sorry I missed issue #29. The fact is, ever since MediaWest, I've made so many contacts and been so absorbed in fannish correspondence that deadlines have just passed me by. Also the fact that Dan and I bought a canoe this summer may have something to do with it...

Thanks to all you Enclavers who responded to my previous letters. No time for specific rebuttals now, but I'll try to do better next issue.

Z. P. Florian has my permission to borrow my "brilliant but unreliable Luke" idea. Go to it, Z.P.! (Gosh, I'll have to be careful what I throw out around here...)

I concur with the majority view of HEIR TO THE EMPIRE. Zahn has done a remarkable tight-rope act here: keeping the characters true to themselves, giving us a real page-turning adventure without rocking Lucas' boat (sorry, these canoeing images keep creeping in). As for the new characters, I found them pretty dull, except for Thrawn, perhaps. I thought it was neat how Zahn kept sneaking in little allusions to Vader all through the story, culminating in the marvelous scene where the Noghri recognizes Leia's parentage by scent!! (Gee, never knew Leia smelled like metal and leather before! Or had she accidentally sprayed on some of Han's English Leather after-shave that morning? Hee hee hee!) ((Ed: I can just see the holo-ad: "All my men wear Corellian Leather...or they wear nothing at all.") My favorite scenes were Luke's encounter with the Imperial ship, his daring maneuvers, the breakdown of the x-wing, stranded in space with R2D2...great stuff! But like many of you, I found that once I had finished HTE, I felt little urge to read it again. I'll be standing in line for Volume 2, though. Hope there'll be more about Ackbar, Mon Mothma, et al.

Everybody: I'm in desperate need of the "David Prowse Fan Club Newsletter," any issues. As these are no longer available from the source (I assume), is it unethical of me to ask

for photocopies?

Too Real?

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Knock, knock!
"Who's there?"
"Princess Leia!" "Princess WHO?"
"Princess Leia down, ya look tired!"

(This from a stupid CHILDREN'S SPACE JOKES book I saw at the Museum store of the Reuben H. Fleet Space Theater/Museum in Balboa Park, San Diego).

(Accompanied by a caricature of Captain Solo!)

Hi there!

I just returned to Germany after 4 fun-filled weeks in San Diego and vicinity. Amazing just how fast time flies when you're having fun. 4 weeks seemed like 4 days.

While in SD I took a side trip to Disneyland and did the Star Tours ride 5 times! Do you get it that I liked that ride?

It was on one of those rides that I was painfully reminded of how old I am already. A family of four (Dad in his mid-thirties, Mom in her late twenties or early thirties, two boys of about 7 and 4...wild guesses) was waiting next to me in line. Upon seeing the "Boarding Instructions" video on the overhead TV, the wee one inquired what this was all about (he'd probably never before seen any Wookies, Ewoks, Mon Calamari or creatures like Tee-Rees). And Daddy's answer to Junior's question: "Awww—that was a movie, once ...a long time ago!"

All of a sudden I felt like Yoda...very, very old!!!!

Getting off the ride, I overheard two men in their thirties (dreamy-eyed, probably first generation SW junkies) raving about the ride.

One to the other: "Ya know...what I'd really love to see is all three parts of SW—in the same 3-D-quality as *Captain EO*...and on this flight simulator. Now, wouldn't that be something?"

I heartily (silently) agreed. Amen to that, brother! But then...think about it for a moment. 6+ hours on a flight simulator, roller-coastering through 3-D-Space... I bet after just about 40 minutes, 80% of the audience would be pulling a "Daniel Boone" (i.e. go out and shoot their breakfast). And then...how far can you take the "special effects", George Lucas? What would the special effects be like during the infamous "Han on the grid" torture scene? Or the "Luke gets zapped by Palpie" scene? Would electric jolts from the chairs fry the viewer's tender parts to a crisp??? [Ouch!] And what about the carbon freeze scene? Would the audience get iced by gusts of -30 F air being blown into the auditorium? [Brrrr...winter coats optional]. And [shudder to think about it] the "Luke loses his hand on Cloud City" scene? Would there be miniature guillotines on the armrests of each chair, chopping off limbs of unsuspecting onlookers?

Thanks, but no thanks, guys. This is a bit too realistic for me!

Thumbing through the San Diego phonebook, I discovered a Mark Brody, a Willie Scott, an S. Round, a Henry Jones and a Henry G. Jones, Jr.—as well as a guy named SOLO living on FALCON Street!!

I nearly choked. Do you now understand why I love to spend my off-time in SD?

Oh, yeah—and there is also a retired Navy captain named Hamill living in San Diego. Is that Skywalker's old man?

No, I'm NOT kidding. I swear it's the truth and nothing but the same.

While in Diego I went all the way across the bay to see REGARDING HENRY at the ole "Village" theater in Coronado. A true blue 1950's suburb flea-bag of a cinema. REGARDING HENRY came as a double feature with HE SAID, SHE SAID...all for just 3 bucks. Call that a square deal.

Some critics called this film mushy and too sweet. I liked it. OK, so it is very mushy (Rating: 3 Kleenex and a bucket), but that macho vulnerability displayed by HF (he remind-

ed me of an overgrown kid) was CUTE! Great hurt/comfort stuff for the "Beat-up-the-Ford-guy"-faction.

Say, is that a recent picture of Hamill in that newspaper article (SE#29) on Skywalker turning 40? If it is, he's the prime candidate for the next remake of PETER PAN. How does he manage to avoid aging? He looks like an 18 years old kid. Amazing! He would also have been a much better choice for the role of Billy the Kid in YOUNG GUNS.

I picked up a copy of HEIR TO THE EMPIRE. It's not bad and makes for a few hours of enjoyable reading. A funny thing on the side: look at the pic of the author on the back-cover...aren't those pins on his collar from an entirely different galactic saga? I still have such pins, and they definitely belong on the collar of a Colonial Warrior (Battlestar Galaxative...uh, Garlctica... I meant to say: Battlestar Ponderosa... WRONG AGAIN? Aww--forget it.)

About the story: Could anyone out there please tell me why Luke can still use his x-wing when--according to his own saying--he dropped out of the service 4 years ago??? Was it an army surplus...was it so adjusted to R2 that it could not be used by any other pilot/droid team and therefore had to go with Luke and R2 when they left the service??? EXPLANATIONS HERE!!!!

The new Imperial commander is quite an interesting character. Some of the plot line seems to have sprung right out of the fanzines, only less adult in nature (unfortunately, I should say). AND WHEN WILL SKYWALKER JR. EVER GET LAID????!!

All in all, I'm looking forward to the next volume.

Cheree: I hope that by the time you read this your parents will be recovering (or will have recovered) from their illnesses and be feeling fine. You suffer from arthritis? EGAD! Some (so-called "experts") say that a change in diet will help (vegetarian). Wish I knew a good remedy. How about: Try the Force? (Uh...sorry, Yoda. I know there is no try.)

A penpal/artist/writers column? Neat. Hey, you far-out space nuts...if anyone would like to write me (loveletters, gift packages, money

orders always welcome): Go ahead!

"Regarding Harrison" was cute. What a crazy idea, this interview. Next time I hope WE are asked to come up with questions for an HF interview. I could think of a few neat ones I'm dying to hear his answers to. So, Harrison is ticklish "under the right circumstances". ??? Now, which parts of the human body are called "circumstances"? And he's only ticklish under the right one (not the left)? How strange! Oh, you mean I misunderstood this? Sorry. Actually, I'd love to find out all those right circumstances that will make him squeal. (Do you mind, Melissa?)

He can't sing? Aww--c'mon, hon! We know better than that. After all, he did sing in the original version of AMERICAN GRAFFITI ("Some enchanted evening...") and it didn't sound all that bad to me.

Regarding "Luke turns 40"... What was that about jobs you can't lose, kid? Which jobs would that be? Sithlord or Jedi Master...? As a "hired hand"--no matter what business you're in--you are in constant danger of meeting the axe. As a self-employed artist, handi-man or businessman you can go bankrupt quite easily. So, what's safe?

LOVED Mark's response to the passing away of Emily McLaughlin. May the Force be with her...awww...

I got a kick out of Z. P. Florian's and M. Nowakowska's explanations of who would have to address whom how were the story set in Hungary or Italy. Let me try to find out what the mess would be like if the folks were talking German...

In general:

You address formally: all persons whom you regard with respect; all persons whom you do not know (i.e. all strangers); all persons whom you have not befriended yet; all persons past the age of 14; a person with whom you are normally talking informal, if you want to express alienation.

You address informally: all persons whom you are related to (unless you want to express alienation); all persons whom you have befriended; all children under the age of 14; a person with whom you are normally talking formal, if you want to express disrespect/open contempt. In particular:

Han to:
(formal, friendly or cold) Vader, Palpie, all Imperials, all Rebels (unless close friends during off-duty hours), Ben, Yoda, Luke and Leia before befriending them.
(informal) Chewie, Lando, the droids, Luke & Leia after making friends, fellow troopers during off-duty hours, Jabba (to show his disrespect).

Luke to:
(formal, friendly or cold) Vader, Palpie, all Imperials, all Rebels (unless close friends during off-duty hours), Ben (before friendship was offered on Kenobi's side/kinship revealed), Yoda—unless friendship offered by Yoda; Han, Lando and Chewie before making friends, Leia (before friendship offered/kinship revealed).
(informal) The droids, Uncle Owen, Aunt Beru, Biggs, fellow rebels during off-duty hours; Ben, Han, Lando, Leia, Chewie after befriending them; possibly Anakin...after accepting him as his father.

Leia to:
(formal, friendly or cold) Vader, Palpie, all Imperials, all Rebels (unless close friends during off-duty hours), Ben, Yoda; Han, Lando, Chewie, Luke (before friendship offered/kinship revealed).
(informal) The droids, all her friends and possibly Anakin, after accepting him as her father, Bail Organa.

Vader to:
(formal, cold) Palpie, all Imperials, all Rebels, Ben (to express alienation).
(informal) Luke (cool before the Cloud City incident, after that increasingly warmer), possibly the same with Leia; the droids.

Ben to:
(formal, cold to friendly) Palpie, the Imperials, the Rebels, Han, Lando, Chewie, Leia (to express his respects for her status as princess/senator).
(informal) Luke (since he knew him from day one), possibly Yoda (being a very old cronie), maybe Vader/Anakin (in answer to his icy formality to show his disrespect), the droids, Beru/Owen.

C-3PO to:
(formal) all people—except R2D2 and other droids.

Geez—things DO get complicated...let's

forget about this whole mess. Thanks to the Force and George Lucas for making English the "basic" language.

Donna Frayser: There is another...besides "Mary Sue to the rescue" there is also the never-ending fun of alternate endings ("what if's"). You could, for instance, turn the saga into a soap opera, a sitcom, make it a cross-over with whatever show appeals to you...*ad infinitum* (*ad nauseum*). I'm momentarily knitting a lengthy epistle that takes up after ROTJ, with Darthie surviving, that's turning more and more into a spoof with each finished sentence. When I reach the last page, it will probably have turned into a Laurel-and-Hardy slapstick routine. Created characters can be neat, too. They, of course, will have to fit perfectly into the Saga. Mary Sue's are tricky...for obvious reasons. But every once in a while a decent one crops up.

Debbie Kittle: Maybe the Force is divided into one "Light" and one "Dark" side, with an ever so fine line separating the two...the line on which most of us do balance like tightrope-walkers. Lose your balance...and off you go. You can take a wrong step (unwillingly or deliberately) and "fall into the black hole" of hate, crime, fear...or you can (deliberately—kind of like a "jump of faith") step off into the "light". Something that only very, very determined few will ever accomplish. Think about the common struggle of nuns, priests or others who decided to lead a life devoted to goodness, forgiveness, love and understanding...just how many times are there when their devotions will be sorely tested, being asked to love where hate would be so much more natural and human, being asked to peacefully hold their ground instead of either fighting with claws and teeth—or running and hiding, to believe when there's nothing left to believe in...

Regarding your answer to Chris Graham (Leia possibly being "middle age"): I agree with you in not seeing Leia as being middle aged or having a shorter life-span. It was not all that uncommon in our planet's history that persons at a very tender age ascend to the throne or get into powerful positions. Often because they inherited the power/position from their ancestors. In some societies to this day

child-rulers are especially selected and put into power. A good example for this would be the Dalai Lama of Tibet. If the old Lama dies, the monks will search the country for his reincarnation in form of a baby boy. When sure that the right one (the reincarnated Lama) has been found, the child is then brought to the monastery to be raised as the new ruler.

We don't know just how many people knew about Leia's true ancestry, but as the daughter of a powerful Jedi knight and Sithlord and adoptive daughter of viceroy Bail Organa who provided her with the title of "princess", she had all the right advantages to come into power while still in her teens.

Catherine Churko: By now you and your Dad will (hopefully) have fully recovered from the fractures suffered performing your bone-bending circus acts. Leave these stunts to the guy with the whip. Not being able to use your arm also gives you the golden opportunity to work on and perfect your telekinetic skills, young Jedi. (OK, I'll shut up!)

You want to dress Baby Skywalker differently? Be my guest. Why should that poor kid forever run around in the same ol' rags? Just refrain from garbing him in his old man's hand me downs...they might be just a tad big for him. And, uh...by the way, you shouldn't dress him, but rather undress that yummy little figure!

"Humpty Dumpty" Anakin? Geez—you had the

same idea I had (still have) when the helmet came off. I had pictured his face being rather masculine, rough-hewn, with strong jaws, well defined cheekbones, dark ("Leia") eyes under ironically arched black brows, and (at least remnants of) (once) dark hair. Scars I did expect, even considerable deformation...but a snowy white, cracked egg with tired-looking red-rimmed blue orbs, blue (heart attack in progress!) lips, and the facial expression of a stranded seal pup? Sorry, George, but THAT was by no means the Anakin Skywalker I expected to find. Wonder whom they will pick to portrait Darthie in the first trilogy? Mind you, it won't be easy to find a guy the size of Dave Prowse. Especially one with enough talent and looks for this role.

Hey, sounds like everybody has a great (great???) time at MWC. I envy you people. You get to go to the "Con of all Cons", and what about moi? Life ain't fair. Tim Blaes, you did WHAT? You "bit the head off" of whom? You mean, he let you actually do this to him? Uh...you mean I misunderstood something here? (Shutting up, Sir!)

OK, I better come to a close. I'm misusing my office typewriter for this (it is also the very same typewriter I type my vignettes/novellas on...in between business mail). So, 'til the next time...hang in there, Forceusers. See/read you all in SE#30.

Safe landings...

(continued from page 8) foot the unemployment bills. Long story, but benefit-wise, we would be better off that way. And my job hunt had paid off, too. On September 11, I went to work on a trial basis for a mid-size lawfirm. We suited each other very well and I began work there full-time on October 16 as their word processing system manager. It's an exciting job and I'm really having to cram to learn all that I need to know. So far I'm keeping my head above water. But it's a challenging and interesting job and I'm enjoying it.

Meanwhile, as of this writing (the first week of November), Randy still has a job. He

survived the first round of involuntary layoffs at the end of October. But we haven't gotten our hopes up too high. TI isn't through with the layoffs and we are just going from payday to payday, always preparing for the next one to be the last one. Gee, I can't imagine why I've had to start taking my stomach medicine again...

Anyway, hope the holidays are happy ones for everyone. A safe and prosperous 1992 to all of you! See you next time!





ANOTHER SILV... 1

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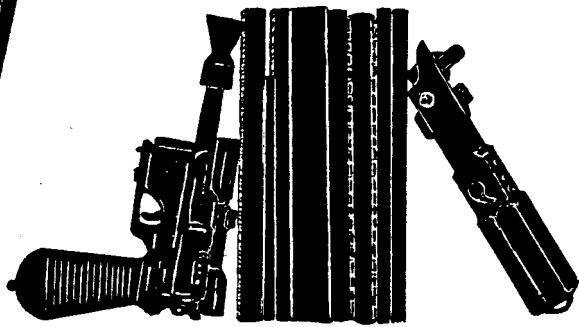
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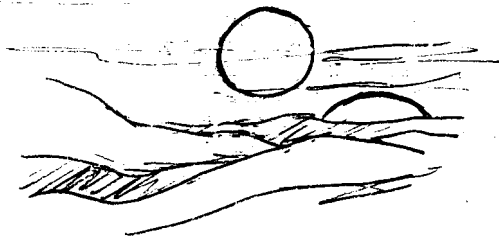
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CLEARANCE SALE: SW, BG, Simon & Simon, UNCLE, ST and other mixed media. Many are out of print and priced below cost. Also available, misc. memorabilia. Please send a legal-sized SASE for list. Connie Lee, 35-36 76th Street, Apt. 507, Jackson Heights, NY 11372.

CORELLIAN ARCHIVES is looking for copies of ROGUE'S GALLERY #2, DARK LORD (Swedish version) #6, and OLD REPUBLIC READER #2 and #3, good xerox or originals. Contact Ming Wathne, Curator - Corellian Archives, 437 Via Roma, Santa Barbara, CA 93110. Postage charges will be returned for authentic information on availability.

FANZINE LIBRARY needs donations of out of print zines. Complete sets of SIMON & SIMON INVESTIGATIONS and TIME WINDS have been donated by their editors, but we need more—V, UNCLE, STAR TREK, BEAUTY AND BEAST, and multi-media. For info on how we operate, SASE Ming Wathne, Curator—Corellian Archives, 437 Via Roma, Santa Barbara, CA 93110.

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)

SW/FORD ZINE SALE. SKYWALKER #6—\$20.00. LEG-ENDS 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. Golledge, Rt 1, Box 20E, Fillmore, NY 14735.

SOUTHERN ENCLAVE T-SHIRTS. The following extra SE shirts are currently available: one X-Large (navy), and four Large (2 royal blue, 1 navy and 1 grass green). Design printed in white. First come, first served. \$12.00 first class mail. Cheree Cargill, 457 Meadowhill Drive, Garland, TX 75043.

S.O.S. - S.O.S. - S.O.S. I'm hunting for (1) a copy (maybe xeroxed) of WOOKIEE COMMODE #7; (2) a quality copy of the RAIDERS/TEMPLE bloop-er reel (VHS, normal speed), and (3) a quality copy of a recording of the CBS SW X-mas special of 1977/78 (although it is highly unlikely that anyone taped that show back then...as VCR's weren't considered household items back then). Please also on VHS/ normal speed. Can anyone help me? A. G. Steyn, Paul-Ruecker-Str. 69, W-4100 Duisburg 1, Germany.

ZINE SALE: Over 200 zines from SW, ST, UNCLE, B7, B:G, A-TEAM, V, and others! Also have zines from Australia, Canada, England, Scotland! First come, first served! Please send a large SASE--2 stamps! Marilyn Reichman, 448 Neptune, Avenue, Apt. 13H, Brooklyn, NY 11224.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Pat Easley
519 Arborview
Garland, TX 75043

Pat Nussman
18315 Lost Knife Circle #301
Gaithersburg, MD 20879

Samia Martz
920 Morehouse Lane
St. Louis, MO 63130

After making a film in Paris earlier this year *Star Wars* actor Mark Hamill is pleased to be back in America with his wife and family. The film, tentatively titled *War Song*, also stars screen Dracula, Christopher Lee. Not due for release until next year, it is a love story set in Berlin in 1939 and features Mark as a soldier. Pictured here after a trip to the roller rink with his wife Marilu, boys Nathan, 10, Griffin, seven, and baby daughter Chelsea, one, Mark looks every bit the proud father. ▼



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