

DRAGON'S EGG, Pencil Sketch by Randy B. Cleary on September 2, 2001

Avatar Press

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UP FRONT

God in Heaven, console the victims and their loved ones, temper our desire for revenge, and steel our resolve for justice. Forgive us all. I awaken in continual numbing disbelief of confirmation yet again of man's inhumanity to man but somewhat consoled by the strength of character the overwhelming majority of Americans have shown in this dark crisis. If any good can come of this, let it be marked in the history as the beginning of the end of terrorism and the start of a new age of responsibility of the civilized world against the forces of fanaticism and tyranny.

The cover of this issue is a pencil sketch I did to break up the boredom during one of the many hours I spent manning the ASFA table at World Con. It was done totally from imagination (i.e. no reference materials). The back is the flyer I designed for the Southern Fandom Confederation.

I do not have my World Con report ready yet or the time to finish it (like I've even started) but here's a Dragon*Con report from my friend Leana Grice (the one not in Kiss Make-up in this photo).



MY FIRST DRAGON*CON
by newbie Leana [Grice]

I learned of the mysterious convergence called Dragon*Con from my stellar Huntsville friends, and I grew

intrigued. With my boyfriend footing the bill, and driving my car because he fears my awesome highway savvy, we set off for Atlanta. 5 hours later we escaped the Calhoun/Acworth timewarp and found our hotel already teeming with creatures with black tee exoskeletons. Maybe they heard black was slimming. *shrug* Our prepaid badges were drawn by the dude who drew Dragon's Lair TV series, and some of his cells were auctioned to benefit a Huntington's research foundation.

Art show was very interesting to me, especially seeing professionals and amateurs hung intermittently. Keegan is young man, and the girl with him must've been his model for the prints for sale. Gould had one icy work for sale, the rest went to the charity auction. While the anti-camera police were absent, I did not photograph any of the pieces (because Randy would decapitate me.) An interesting side trip was the African Influences art show, displayed in the Marriott's atrium. Jessica Hume, very complex artist with neon eyeball puzzles. Two thumbs up, John and Leana. The art show had a lot of mostly nude Hustler girl type illustrations, and if you've seen one dragon... Still, the works bested anything I could've done. Why can't Con artisans make jewelry without pentagrams and yin/yang symbols?

I pursued the Writing program track and envied while John chased Babylon 5 celebrities (very politely.) During Peter David's 90 minute program, **The Harlan Ellison touched me**, didn't spit on me and gave me a fan's self-published Huntsville anthology that he didn't want! I own a free copy of Southern Fried Sci-Fi and Jambalaya Genres. Harlan Ellison wears Nike. Harlan Ellison stands barely taller than me, so he's 5'6" or 7" with big disguising horn-rimmed glasses. Harlan learned from his buddy Peter David that his room, this year, was David's honeymoon suite. Harlan "made noises like a baby raptor, and the next morning told me he'd slept on the suite's couch." Peter David polished his glasses, then said, "I said, 'Ooooh. Harlan, the couch...the couch was a mistake.'" Peter David was hilarious and kept rubbing his Green Lantern T-shirt emblem with abandon. He defended his stint as Aquaman comic writer ("I didn't design the whole gladiator suit shit, don't look here!") and the Thing's psychological stories.

Robert Asprin will release a new, non-funny murder mystery series next year (set in his new hometown, the French Quarter,) and his next Fool novel is also finished. His talk was about overcoming a six year writer's block stemming from his father's stroke, the publisher refusing two non-funny novels, and marriage #2 breakdown. He retold the convention tale, where the entire Star Trek bridge crew appeared together for the first time. The necessary security for 17,000 fans meant assigning guards on the celebrities' elevator doors. President Ford was scheduled to stay at the hotel. When secret servicemen got off the elevator on the celebrities' floor, two big Klingons stopped them and demanded badges. The fuzz flipped open their badges, and the Klingons said, "Wrong badge. Back on the elevator!" President Ford slept in a different hotel.

His 'how I overcame rejection notices' story involved an earlier con. He wrote a story, what if a spaceship snatched all the greatest sci-fi and fantasy writers from a luxury cruise ship in the Bermuda Triangle? Ben Bova rejected it, saying it was too insular for general release. So for his next con, Asprin reworked the story and turned it into a slide show presentation, as though he were the alien captain reporting to his superiors. Fans roared with laughter, con after con. His work was nominated for a Hugo that year. Rejected, a Hugo.

I attended a writers' panel called i Pub, e Pub, we Pub. Kiernan was very informative. Nothing replaces hard copy publication, and not all e-zines are the same. The best process: write, edit, let three people who don't love you read, submit to reputable e-zine for some (if any) quick editorial comments/advice, rework, then submit to hard copy press. Also a website: www.writershood.com/htmls/scifi/htm (with contests.)

Anime programming was tucked away in a 24/7 video room, no guest speakers, so I chose to wait for AWA (in two weeks!) Xena programming had lots of very independent women attendees and a studio Xena double. The dude who played Jockser signed autographs.

The Drum Circle performed all three nights, and the bagpipe dude. *Changelings* sounded OK for a declared Goth band, from outside the room. John & I danced at the 80's Wave con party; he confirms every other person's opinion that I'm rhythmically ass-backwards. But my bodystocking costume was cute.

The costumes were my favorite! Such talent on display! The hall costume list includes, not in order of opinion or preference: Sith Vixen, Star Wars everything, Exorcist priest with girl in white dress hovering (on a pole) above his head, VooDoo doctor in long tails, Gene Simmons, Jedis out the yin/yang, Gothic dark angels *yawn* and Sailor Moon, PowerPuff Girls with the Professor (Bubbles had a pole through her sleeves to operate the marionettes.) fire imp, a unicorn whose soft fuzzy ears I wanted to pet, the Mystery Men, X-men and other mutants from the comic series, role-playing cats, Johnny Depp from *Fear & Loathing in Law Vegas*, two Dr. Whos and a Dalek, Harlequin, a young girl whose costume was scotch tape painted in strategic areas with black marker, Tank Girl, tons of cross-dressing men, men in official kilts, men in Egyptian linen, vampires, bikini-toting barbarian woman, knight & his lady, and a most excellent Atlanta-based reenactment group in pristine, shiny Roman garb. The escalators exploded with madness.

John did excellent 'body guard' service for my naughty school girl outfit. *sad* Only two people ever took my picture: John's my boyfriend, so his shutterbug fancy was required. My costumes stank like used tissue. My leather mini skirt with white ruffled shirt didn't even get noticed. But next year..!

The dealer's room smelled bad and was my nose against the guy-preceding-me's spine, so I didn't visit too often. Several booths distributed flyers with their web address; they won't do cons anymore since rent's outrageous. The dealer's Exhibition room had games, dolls and expensive new toys. *yawn*

Alice Cooper canceled his autograph session once he received his award; he now carries a heavy negative karma load.

John & I caught two performances by the Atlanta Radio Theatre company. Entertaining, but hard to keep over 1K folks quiet. John Reyes-Davies (Sulla from Indiana Jones, professor on Sliders, dwarf in Tolkien movie) read his part well; such a beautiful voice. His panel was also very enjoyable. He reported the studio was considering another Indiana Jones movie, without Harrison Ford. After the boos lessened, he added, "I only hope they don't decide to get a new Sulla." He stepped carefully answering movie questions; he said playing a dwarf meant lots of lonely days against a blue screen, no camaraderie. His makeup took 3.5-5 hours every day. He never got into specifics, although he warned us repeatedly that not

everything in a book films well. Now you are warned, too.

John & I took our own snacks; I never want to see peanut butter again. Whenever I asked a question the answer was, "Because it's Dragon*Con."

insert John's write up about Babylon 5 stuff & his panels

[John passed on doing a write up this issue.]

John said Babylon 5 security chief Garibaldi had a high "f-word" count during his panel, but the topics were funny and entertaining. The actor's father was a policeman, so he drew from his childhood when creating Garibaldi. John really wanted a photo with him. The hotel was serving dinner, however, so John withdrew. I have a considerate man. The Babylon Five party spontaneously combusted, so we missed it. John had an entire Acme Weapons persona ready to go, too.

Scotty, from Star Trek, appeared at this con. John said James Doohan told fans he'd suffered two strokes. He wouldn't appear in any more movies because he couldn't memorize lines or read a teleprompter. He reminisced about participating in a ground-breaking television show, what pleasure it gave him to see what imagination the show launched in viewers.

This year's masquerade passed with military precision. (Other than the nursing Renaissance reenacting Mom who sat right beside me. Imagine the following events with a slurp-slurp soundtrack. Try.) The C3PO actor is a skinny British flamer, waaaay out, and a giant ham. He MCed the contest, and he autographed T-shirts by making men don them & bend over. "Thinking of you, yum!" was one signature.

The little children performed first, and I wanted the self-choreographed 7yr old dancing pirate skeleton with cutlass to beat Queen Amadama. No one ever listens to me. Had a kid knight, witch, primrose fairy and Anakin, too. Then the children left...

We had: Pan, a Norman, Xena and Gabrielle whose skit was cut short because it bored me, Purgatory, Queen Amadama, teachers from Harry Potter, Optimus Prime, reenactment of Night of the Living Dead rolling into Thriller with Michael Jackson, Hellraiser chick, a smoke-breathing Dragon Woman (aka: snorting baby powder) and X-men vs. Magneto, Toad and SaberTooth. This Dragon*Con had **three** crowd pleasers.

1) Cat Woman sewed her own costume, and C3PO read the costs as her intro. "\$25 leatherette gloves, \$10 reinforced zippers, \$95 four inch leather boots, the price on her face as Beauregard asks her to marry him, priceless." ONSTAGE! Whipped the ring right out, down on his knee. How he struggled to slip the ring over her claw. Then he swept her off her feet & carried her offstage.

2) The **Blue Meanies** won best of show! Hurrah for the two Blue Meanies!

3) An male of advanced years covered his nudity with a battery-powered, glow-in-the-dark swiveling-dragon-head strap-on. C3PO cut the lights, and the contestant danced, danced, jiggled, swiveled, thrust and pirouetted.

John's fencing as historical self-defense group, Swordplay Alliance (swordplayalliance.com) performed Monday morning. They had a mini tournament (full contact strikes) and answered questions. John stabbed one opponent trying to repair his handguard. "That's how you win a bar fight," John told an appreciative audience. (Trivia time: did you know that women had to fight their own duels?) John did

well for a bloke who doesn't practice enough with Randy. I tried taking a photograph when an opponent stabbed for John, but the flash caught John as he turned. Durn interfering women..!

To say I had fun would be traumatic understatement. Dragon*Con was...gritty. Like realism TV, without commercial interruptions or free, bulk-mailout hygiene samples. Written down, I don't seem to've done much, but fanatic-watching is consuming. Believe me, we were exhausted when we reached Huntsville (circumnavigating the Calhoun/Acworth timewarp without incident.) Oh, except the hydroplaning incident when I had the helm. I identified a lot with Counsellor Troy at that moment.

Want a role-call of famous attendees? You'll have to visit dragoncon.com for more. I hope to post my photos online very soon. At least the clean ones. The official website has a photo gallery.

Since Dragon*Con, I held a Monopoly tournament with raunchy Chinese take-out on Friday, 9/7/01. Sunday I visit John's church; they do praise chorus rather than hymns. John & I may visit the Egyptian relic exhibit in Memphis, TN, next weekend. (He loves antiquities and nonfiction books. Opposites, they say.) My birthday is Sept 19. E-cards work, folks. You can program e-cards to deliver on a future date. Access bluemountain.com today..

Anime Weekend Atlanta (AWA) is the 21-23, and I requested the 24th as a vacation/recovery day. Big Springs Jam (musical festival like Nashville's City Stages or Chattanooga's Riverbend) happens the next weekend, Sept 28-30, in downtown Huntsville. A local event, finally. October is filling fast. Oct 12-14 I fly on an aeroplane (with Lee P. and John) to Cleveland, OH, to visit and entertain Kelly. I really must visit Sherri & Tara in Knoxville (both teaching now) in Nov. I also need to visit my family--including my furry black sister Ripple--before Thanksgiving.

If you know smart people needing jobs, other than yourself, Lee's employer is hiring (Northrop Grumann) but folks have to get a security clearance. My workplace is also hiring (SIRSI Corporation) if you know people with training, human resources, computer programming or HTML skills. Our company just bought DRA, a competitor, for their customer support personnel in Canada. I haven't been fired, demoted or publicly shamed, so things are OK in the Sales Support/Proposals department.

NEWS UPDATE 9.9.01

Last night, John asked me to marry him. **MARRY!** We've been talking and planning marriage "eventually" for months now, but he actually came right out and popped open a box and WHAM we're fiancees. I can't even spell my new, exotic French condition. Fiance? Fiancee? We're planning early next year, maybe end of Jan. I still think April Fool's Day would be a cool anniversary, but that's probably too far away. I want to ravage him now now now! Another option was St. Patrick's Day; it falls on a weekend in 2002.

[chorus line] Just the 2 of us, we can make it if we try, just the two of us...[bow]

The ring felt strange last night, but now it's like an extension of me. (I would have been happy with a bent

horseshoe nail if he'd presented it with the right attitude, but pretty jewelry makes happiness easier, someone smart said.

We're telling my future inlaws today and my parents next Sunday. That means I'll be interrupting teal season for Dad. He may be a tad grumpy. (Teal=most elusive duck type, very good status symbol of mighty hunting prowess.) I don't think they'll be very happy with the news, but I'm going ahead anyway. I love them, but I'm mostly grown now. They just need time to...adjust. With time, they'll accept. In person seemed the only way, since our families are more traditional than not.

Whoa!

Gotta call Aunt Aliene, tell and swear her to secrecy. Whoohoo.

I didn't suspect a thing, but I should've. He wore khaki Dockers & slip-on shoes to dinner. Should've seen it coming. I'm excited, but it's more of a fulfillment/fruition excitement than a mad jumping/screaming excited. Does that make sense? He asked me before one of Decatur's oldest standing buildings, the bank with columns riddled by Civil War bullets, overlooking a water fountain with four dancing geysers. Ain't he swift? And he's going to be my aggravating husband. Husband!

I LOVE YOU!

MAILING COMMENTS

First, let me voice my apologies for selfishly skipping mailing comments in my last issue. Even though once again, I am starting on this issue late, I'm determined not to shortchange y'all again. I hope the scanned tagged lines will generate more natter and ego-boo. So here we go with two sets of mailing comments this time as I listen to *U2: The Best of 1980-1990*.

ISSUE 221 COMMENTS

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TYNDALLITE
Volume 3, Number 9
April, 2001

Hi Norm!

[p. 828] So, Science-Fiction Fanzines date back to 1888? Should we create some Really Retro Hugo's for them? [p. 832] You are welcome for the book reviews and con report. I've the Hoka stories that the fine folks at Baen reprinted in the last few years and I heartily enjoyed them. I regret I never got to meet either of the fine authors whose work I have enjoyed and admired for many years. Domino's no longer has the thirty-minute or less motto.

Confessions of a Consistent Liar 74

Hi Arthur!

[Regarding Coyotes] I'm an eye witness that even Huntsville, Alabama has coyotes. [Regarding Fosfax] It's so large that to save time and eyestrain that I actually just scan the interspersed editor comments. If I find them interesting, I'll read what they are commenting upon.

The New Port News 197

Hi Ned!

[Regarding Cover] That's one scary fairy! [Regarding Beer] Actually, beer brewing is quite ancient and some believe that it actually helped gave rise to civilization. [Regarding My Photo] But I don't have a basement. ;-)

{And now I'm listening to *U.F. Off - The Best of the Orb*. Eek! My power just flickered due to the weather probably and my computer just rebooted. Luckily I had just saved this file.}

Variations on a Theme #6

Hi Rich!

I hope you are staying safe and sane during all the craziness up there in D.C. Thanks for the music suggestions. [Regarding Birmingham winning DSC] I believe much of it had to do with them running votes from the dealers to the meeting with the dealers voting for the larger city in hopes of better business perhaps. Plus, advertising \$10 memberships in New Orleans did not hurt either. [Regarding Stock Market] You called Steve Hughes "overly pessimistic" unless there were other "equally bad, things going on in the economy". I hope the current events do not confirm the predictions. To paraphrase someone before the market declined, "The world economy is powered by the American economy, which is powered by basically fifty stocks, half of which, have never shown a profit". I forget the name of the guy, but he was pointing out that the Emperor

had no clothes before the decline. His words point out how absurd the market had become (if they were accurate). I take a perverse pride in doing some personal investing at the height of the market. Hopefully in thirty years, I'll recoup my losses (as I'm buying low now). [Regarding Embassy Parties] I wonder if they will be as frequent or as open as you have described them in the past from now on. [Regarding my old computer] It still remains broken, as I've not bothered to fiddle with it. [Regarding political party differences] I believe the recent events show even more how much more similar our political parties are in comparison to the ideologies that were behind them. [Regarding The Matrix Prequel] Well, it could star Reeves if his character was a clone of an earlier "One" who failed. The resistance could have tricked the Matrix into creating a clone somehow in hopes of recreating the "One" for a second chance. So the prequel could be about the original's failure and the resistance efforts to get the clone born. Nothing is beyond Hollywood scriptwriters. I hope the sequel is not a prequel though but the story of liberating the minds and bodies of humanity from The Matrix. Even with all of Neo's abilities, he's still only one man against multitudes and his abilities do not extent (yet) to the real world. A good story could still be told of this conflict.

OFFLINE READER

Volume 1 Issue 22

Apr - May 2001

Hi Irv!

You have my Condolences/Congratulations on losing the World Con 2004 Bid. I truly believe your life will be happier for it. However, I would have loved a World Con in the state of my birth. [Regarding Stock Market] Ouch! [Regarding "When their [Afghan and Sudan governments] karma catches up with them, it will be catastrophic."] Prophetic.

LIFE IS A ONESHOT

Hi Y'all!

I noticed soon after I drew the cover, that I should have closed the far end of the spit. Otherwise, it would have been too difficult to roast Ned Brooks evenly. Oh well, at least the photographs turned out nice. Interesting typo by me though, "DSC gets more fun each year as I get to *seem* more friends." Well, the key to life is sincerity. If you can fake that, you've got it made. :-)

{Now I'm listening to Rob Zombie's Hellbilly Deluxe.}

Derogatory Reference 9)

Hi Arthur!

Congratulations on being Minicon's Guest of Honor. I'll look into attending but it may be too far to drive. [Regarding Filtering Software] I would like to see a T-Shirt that prints that First Amendment text in black but the filtered words of "pee", "ass", and "tit" in red, white, and blue. [Regarding Advertising] I believe it works to inform potential customers of your existence and self-proclaimed merits. However, once you are known in the market, I'm not too sure how effective it is to sway customers who have tried the merchandise. Of course, most Americans have developed a blind spot to most advertisements. I never notice them in papers or on the web unless I'm specifically looking to buy something. I personally believe there is a special circle of Hell waiting for most marketing people. Thanks for the Conference report. Did I detect a sarcasm overload this issue? Be careful or someone may quote you out of context in support of his or her cause.

Twygdrazil And Treehouse Gazette #70

Hi Richard!

[Regarding Cost of Phone Calls] I just got a bill for \$22 for 4 minutes for a call made on my calling card from an airport pay phone. Ouch. Learned my lesson there. [Regarding Ills] I hope your Shingles problems have disappeared by now. [Regarding your book out-line] Good luck! [Regarding comment to Janice] Interesting typo (or was it a Freudian Slip), "...wearing aluminum foil or some other *mental* on their head will prevent enemy rays from penetrating it." [Regarding your friend] He "stuck to" light bulbs? Sounds painful but I guess less so than barbed wire. [Regarding "fat heard"] Huh? I hope I'm not so fat as to be a "heard". ;-)
[Comments] Thanks! [Regarding C.E.] Perhaps we can find the first date of usage and start a new calendar as B.U.C.E. and A.L.I.C.E. (or Before Usage of Common Era and After Literary Introduction of Common Era). ;-)
[On Republicans and Democrats] As a follower of Chaos Theory, I believe Republicans and Democrats are the "Strange Attractors" of our chaotic American system. [Regarding Krispy Kreme Censorship in the *Friday Letter*] Will the bigotry never end!

SPIRITUS MUNDI 183

Hi Guy!

[Regarding Wallet] Congratulations on the retrieval. I misplaced my license at World Con but got it back. I recently left my credit card at a restaurant but also got it back. I'm getting quite absent minded in my old age. [Regarding new home] I hope it y'all are all both moved in fully and enjoying your love nest by now. [Regarding swapped pictures] During college, my roommate was photographed wearing a "teddy" as a joke. Unfortunately, he got back someone else's pictures. As far as we know, his pictures are still out there somewhere waiting for when he runs for political office someday. [Regarding Rosie O'Donnell's Body Guard] I believe the hypocrisy of her stance may be in wanting to ban guns from the average Joe who then is not able to

afford his own armed licensed, bonded, and trained guard. Why should Joe Q. Public be allowed to have a means of protection that he can afford? It seems the same type of thinking where some people who are vocal against Educational Vouchers because it "would destroy or undermine the public school system" are the same ones who are sending their children to expensive private schools. Note that I'm not arguing for or against either side of either issue here, just pointing out perceived hypocrisy. [Regarding DSC 2001] Nice report!

{I just learned of Meade Frierson's death from Guy Lillian's e-mail notice. Here's Mike Kennedy's response:

In a very real sense, all of us who are active in Southern fandom -- and especially Alabama fandom -- are descendants of Meade Frierson. He was one of several seminal influences that created and guided Southern fandom in it's infancy, particularly in his role in starting the Southern Fandom Confederation. For many particulars I refer you to the 1997 Southern Fandom Confederation Handbook <http://www.smithuel.net/sfchb/> where his name appears prominently -- both as author and subject.

In a more morose mood now, I'm listening to 10,000 Maniacs', Blind Man's Zoo. }

Trivial Pursuits #95

Hi Janice!

Congratulations on the conference gig in D.C. I hope it went well. [Regarding performance reviews] Intergraph also recently attempted to change from five levels to three levels of performance. However, I think the push as died on the vine (along with quarterly "flash" reviews). Do all the big company's have the same Consultants for stupid ideas like this? [Regarding The Dish] Thanks for reminding me. I've been meaning to check that film out. [Regarding Rosacea] I hope the treatments are working out.

{Now I'm listening to 10,000 Maniacs' In My Tribe.}

Comments 11

Hi Steve!

[Regarding Buffy] She's dead but I hear she'll be back for the new season: Interestingly, Xena died, had her body cremated, and her ghost dissipated on-screen in her final episode in such a way that if she comes back, 40,000 innocent souls would be lost (which is a pretty final death). Of course, an earlier episode had both Xena and Gabrielle cloned in modern times with their souls reinstalled. So, hopefully Buffy will bounce back

from her slight death. I can hardly wait until FX starts rerunning the first season. [Regarding comments] Thanks!



Hi Tom!

My condolences to you and to Anita on the loss of her mother. Thanks for the con and trip reports.

PETER, PAN & MERRY #37
A zine for SFPA # 221

Hi David!

Your first page was slanted. Was this a political statement? Thanks for the comments. [Regarding Random's Lack of Eyebrows] Be sure to save the pictures to show to his future girlfriends.

{I'm now listening to 10,000 Maniacs' Our Time in Eden.}

REVENANT #6

Hi Sheila!

I hope your job has calmed down for the Fall. Thanks for the trip and con reports. [Regarding DSC 40 T-Shirt Art] Thanks! [Regarding broomstick flying] Perhaps the brush-end first approach is similar to a RAM scoop. The bristles absorb air elements and use them to power the flight. [Regarding comments] Thanks! I enjoy being a homeowner. I just need to get to actually furnishing it now. [Regarding Toronto] I hope the trip went well.

TENNESSEE TRASH # 41

Hi Gary!

Congratulations on your Taekwondo Gyorooigi Gold Medal! Thanks for the trip reports. Sorry about your lost camera. [Regarding Rick Wakeman] Wow! It's a small world after all. [Regarding Buffy] Your synopsis of past seasons was well done. I love that show for its writing and characterization and ability to surprise me. [Regarding hot Krispy Kremes] Amen brother! [Regarding your comment to Steve Hughes about "thinking how American would handle a real crisis now"] Be careful what you wish for, Gary!

You've Got Mars is the fifty-first SFPA-zine (volume two, number twenty-eight) from Jeffrey Copeland. It is in-

Hi Jeff!

[Regarding Krispy Kreme] I had some hot off the presses so to speak in Atlanta last month. Oh, they were amazing! Comparing aged and cold Krispy Kreme to hot and fresh Krispy Kreme is like comparing 2D to 3D. It's a whole another dimension. [Regarding my cover] Yes, that's Julie Wall. [Regarding B.C.] I don't read newspapers very often so my view of B.C. is probably off. It comes from reading collections as a child and viewing T.V. specials. I guess the sneering and cynicism were lost on me. I'll keep an eye out for it now that you pointed it out to me. [Regarding armed home invasion by Police] It's just wrong unless there are some serious provable extenuated circumstances such as known violent fugitives and/or hostages whose safety is in doubt. The kid and the other people in the house were endangered much more by the State's armed raid than was necessary in my opinion. Let's just agree to disagree. [Regarding psychological tests at work] Oh. I misunderstood. [Regarding illo comments and comments in general] Thanks!

Big Thanks for the Commonplace Book, Part One.

{Now I'm listening to Crystal Method's Vegas.}

O b l i o

No. 134

April-May 2001

Hi Gary!

Sorry about your tooth. I hope it's fixed now. Congratulations to your graduate son! Thanks for another beautiful issue. [Regarding Cartoon Controversy Article] Very interesting. Personally, I believe in Freedom of Speech. If the public objects to cartoonists excising their rights, then the situation is self-correcting as loss of popularity leads to loss of a soapbox when it comes to cartoons. [Regarding Joe Stanton] Wow! He was a member of SFPA. I feel even more honored to be a SFPA member now. Gosh!

New Tools, Old Me

Hi Mike!

[Regarding Joey Ramone] I never disliked their music but never liked it enough to actually purchase. However, a friend of mine was fairly bummed about it as she loved the group. After watching a VH1 special, I have much more respect for the band now. [Regarding comments] Thanks! [Regarding Cover] Super! [Regarding The Guardian article] Trite tripe. [Regarding War in Heaven] Interesting report.

May Meanderings

Hi Janice!

Thanks for the trip report and noting similarities between mundane and fannish conventions. I'm glad the real "emergency evacuation" of your hotel turned out to be not too serious. So as FGOH at Baycon (congratulations!) next year, will you insist to be on a "quiet" floor or the "impossibly loud music" floor? ;-)

{Now I'm listening to Erasure's Pop! - The First 20 Hits.}

"YNGVI IS A LOUSE" AND OTHER GRAFFITOS

Issue #71, by T.K.F. Weisskopf is intended for the 221st mailing of SFPA in May 2001.

Hi Toni!

[Regarding eating grits with jelly] The horror but I guess there are worse sins. Thanks for the comments. [Regarding "Walking on Sunshine"] I have it on a vinyl 45. [Regarding Korea] Situations like this in the world (such as Afghanistan also) almost cause a psychotic break in my mind as it seems so unfathomable when compared to my own life and country. God help us all.

Home with the Armadillo #47 is brought to you by Liz Copeland of 3243 165th Ave. SE, Bellevue WA 98008.

Hi Liz!

I hope your health has improved and the Fall brings relief from pollen and molds. [Regarding JJ's Painting] Wow, I wish I could be that prolific. [Regarding Sandra Bullock] She is one of my favorite actresses also. I was going to make her my wife but have since moved on to reality. [Regarding Pug] Cute mug.

The Zine With No Title by George H. Wells

Hi George!

[Regarding Buffy] Just watched the first two episodes on FX! I had never seen them. Strange watching the actors just starting to get into their roles. It was similar to looking at vintage Peanuts Cartoons. They are the same characters but then again they are not.

The Sphere, vol. 192 no. 1

Hi Don!

[Regarding PDF zines] What software creates PDF files and how much is it? I can save single pages using my Adobe Photoshop software. [Regarding Ashley Judd and Elmer Fudd] I for one would never confuse the two. Ashley is quite attractive. Elmer is just cute. [On "is"] Tempest in a teapot. I was being snide. Politics...smolitics...thankfully we are all Americans first. To paraphrase, Sinaid O'Conner, "Fight the real evil."

:-)

{Now I'm listening to ELO's Time.}

ISSUE 222 COMMENTS

THE SOUTHERNER OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTHERN FANDOM PRESS ALLIANCE MAILING NUMBER 222, VOLUME 21, NUMBER 4, 2, JUNE - JULY 2001 PRESIDENT: GUY H. LULLIAN III | EMERGENCY OFFICER: ELIZABETH COPELAND OFFICIAL EDITOR: JEFFREY COPELAND

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The Southerner 222 - June - July 2001

TYNDALLITE

Volume 3, Number 96
June 2001

Hi Norm!

[Regarding Relict Civilizations] Perhaps the satellites miss them because they are deep in the ocean now (or they have mastered invisibility. Thanks for the comments. [Regarding Invisibility] If I printed a zine with invisible ink on Scott tape, would it be listed in Uncle Lon's Unofficial Box Scores? If so, I've been doing it for years now. ;-)

The New Port News 198

Hi Ned!

[Regarding Shrimp with Grits] I had it again in Atlanta a few months ago (at Einstein's Restaurant). It's catching on. Soon it'll be a Fast Food Franchise in your neighborhood. Bra...ha...ha... [Governmental Downsizing] You quote NPR to say that in the next four years, up to 2/3^{rds} of the federal workforce will reach retirement age. Wow, that alone could lead to some massive reorganization and computerizing of vast sections of Governmental departments (or the Draft for civil service). Eek. [Regarding Tim Bolgeo] He's just a big ole Teddy Bear, really. [Regarding you thinking me as much younger] Must be the immature level of my writing. ;-)

Twygdrazil And Treehouse Gazette #71

Hi Richard!

Neat cover! Looks familiar for some reason though. [Regarding Manbeef] Is it illegal to just chew without swallowing? [Regarding property] My take is that no one but the Government really "owns" property. If you don't pay your "rent" (that is, property taxes), the Government will evict you. I'm a tax radical. I believe we should only have sales taxes, lotteries, usage fees, and bake sales to fund the Government. [Regarding psychologists probing my mind] I worry more for them than for myself. ;-) [Regarding "Vince Foster...going to blow the top off of the Clinton Administration"] Was that a dark pun? [Regarding comments] Thanks! [Regarding "Anyway the Republicans believe that with government for poor people."] Sorry, I did not understand this sentence. Could you clarify? Did you mean Republicans believe government is evil for poor people? Anyway, my "government" quote was a gross generalization and as all generalizations (including this one) should be taken with a grain of salt. :-)

{Now I'm listening to Bad Religion's Stranger Than Fiction.}

Variations on a Theme #7

Hi Rich!

Thanks for the trip report. Thanks for the classical music musings also. Hope you are doing okay up there in D.C.

REVENANT #7

Hi Sheila!

[Regarding loss of tomato plants] Condolences. I let my little strip of garden grow over this summer. Wend I finally mowed it last week, I found a tomato plant with two little tomatoes, so I guess the previous owner had a tomato garden. [Regarding World Con] Sorry to have missed you there. [Regarding Crush] It never was more than a crush. Soon into it, she moved to Kosovo. We still correspond occasionally by e-mail. She is a really nice smart fun cute girl. She's having a great time in Kosovo (especially the frequent jaunts around Europe on her time off). So far, her major trips have been to Greece and to Germany. Sigh. This has happen to me before. I meet a really neat girl just before she moves. Not that it would have ever gone beyond a crush but it would have been nice to have such a person as a friend in my life. [Comments] Thanks! I love living in a house. I'll love it even more once I furnish it. [Regarding New Orleans lunch] Sure, Rosy is of course more than welcome to join us. I'll be there for Mardi Gras next year.

The Frozen Weblog 2

Hi Arthur!

Eclectic.

OFFLINE READER

Volume 1 Issue 23

Jun - Jul 2001

Hi Irv!

[Regarding defaulting house seller] Yes, I did get reimbursed. It was nice to not have to wrangle with him. [Regarding house] I envy your basement.

SPIRITUS MUNDI #184

Hi Guy!

Once again, congratulations you lucky man! [Regarding A.I.] I liked it also. Heady fare. [Regarding comments] Thanks! [Regarding weight loss] Unfortunately, I've gained most (but not all) of it back. Now working to lose it again. [Regarding Heart] Well, we cannot all be as lucky as you Guy but hope springs eternal.

DEWACHEN

Off The Deep End Of The Universe

Hi Trinlay!

Neat zine format! [Regarding why married people live longer.] One comedian says, "Spite!" That is, each one hopes to see the other dead first. [Regarding Nephew] He's living back at home now (which makes me much happier for my Mom). He has had some counseling but usually stopped going soon after he started (as he thinks the rest of the world should conform to him instead of him adjusting his behavior). He and his Mom are too alike and have no skills for dealing with each other in a rational manner. He pretty much stayed with my Mom because unlike his Mom, he could walk all over her and do as he pleased. He turns 18 in November and still has no job and only an eight-grade education. I'm afraid it's going to be an ugly scene in November as my Sister is not going to let him just keep making her life hell once he's legally an adult. [Regarding comments] Thanks! [Regarding pictures] Cute!

{Now I'm listening to TekknoBoy (Techo Music).}

Day of the Palm D'Or
Columbia river or the gorge is rising

Hi Y'all!

So did the Palm Computer have a name? Was it Rosie? All those SFPAn on the West Coast now explains why this issue did seem a little left of center. Thanks for the photos!

PETER, PAN & MERRY #38
A zine for SFPA # 222

Hi David!

Thanks for the comment. I hope you've gotten some help at work. [Regarding Hole-in-one] Wow! Congratulations! [Regarding vertebra] I hope you are on the mend.

Trivial Pursuits #96

Hi Janice!

Thanks for the reviews! [Regarding trend to make animation more realistic] It's the Holy Grail of computer animation. Also, once you've achieved that then possibilities of total artistic freedom (but still with lots of effort) to do anything you can image will be awesome. [Regarding Resume] Funny.

JUNE/JULY JAUNTS

Hi Janice!

Thanks for the trip and con reports! Interesting cover, especially in these times. [Regarding Regency Outfit] Are there any pictures on the web of this? Sounds neat. [Regarding Fireflies] You never saw those before? I guess I took them for granted they were common where I grew up. I fondly remember running around the yard as a child at many a twilight with a mason jar catching Fireflies. [Regarding dinner party enlarging beyond plans] I usually have the opposite problem. Maybe I should work on my personality. ;-) [Regarding faking it] Does not everyone?



No. 135
June-July 2001

Hi Gary!

I also have a perverse fondness for *Farside* cartoons that use my name. Thanks for the Comic Convention report. I really want to go to one someday. Congratulations on the new car. [Regarding comments] Thanks! Actually I have tons and tons of space now to fill in my house. [Regarding Turok] I have a Turok computer game that came with my Intergraph Graphics card that I bought years ago.

GUILTY PLEASURES

19

For SFPA 222

Hi Eve!

Thanks for the trip report and book reviews. How close was your hotel to the World Trade Center? Scary. Congratulations on the Pirates sailing on.

Comments 12

Hi Steve!

[Regarding Sun's employee evaluation system] It even has been trying to wiggle its way into where I work (Intergraph). Seems to lost momentum though. Good luck with the house.



Hi Don!

Good luck with the webvenue! Thanks for the comic con report. [Regarding "[p]lenty of time to worry about the less immediate threats of Moscow and Beijing, after the horror at hand [Evil Empire in Washington] has been dealt with. As for the "threats" of Panama, Granada, Kosovo, etc. - Ha!"] Still laughing? Granted, American's military might has been misused at times but I think it has overwhelmingly stabilized much of the world since World War II. I cannot imagine how "Balkanization" of the whole world (including the U.S.) would result in a better performance in the past or the future.

The Notorious Jumping Zine of Calaveras County

Hi Jeff!

[Regarding Electronic Highlighter] Cool beans! Thanks for the trip reports and reviews. [Regarding politicians switching parties] Just underscores my belief that "Republican" and "Democrat" are just thin paint jobs on "Politician" in this country. Lots of smoke and mirrors but actions speak louder than words. [Regarding WWN] So now MS controls the WWN. The "End Times" are truly nigh! [Regarding comments] Thanks! [Regarding Police State preferences/tendencies in some people] I did not mean the Police were to blame. I meant people in general. By way, does the notion of the office of "Homeland Security" send chills down your spine like it does mine?

YNGVI IS A LOUSE!

Hi Toni!

It was great seeing you and Hank at World Con. Thanks for making it such a fun experience for me. Nifty speech at the Writers Conference! Thanks for the comments! [Regarding Bare Naked Ladies songs] Most popular would probably be "One Week" which is quick, silly, but catchy, and full of pop culture references. [Regarding risqué pictures] So there are none of these at all of you floating around in fandom? [Regarding "drool"] That was a typo. :-) [Regarding Don] Ouch.

{Now I'm listening to Blondie, The Best of Blondie.}

TENNESSEE TRASH # 42

Hi Gary!

Thanks for the trip report. No one expects the Fannish Inquisition (especially when it's Spanish)! [Regarding the homeless soccer game] Seems surreal. God bless you Gary.

Home with the Armadillo #48

Hi Liz!

Thanks for the trip reports and reviews. [Regarding pests] I have begun battling an invasion of fire ants in my back yard.

Liz & Jeff's Alaska Trip Report

Hi Liz & Jeff!

Cool trip report with lots of neat pictures! Moose turds?

The False Knight on the Road

Hi Mike!

[Regarding Boy Scout Cartoon] Already used this issue. [Regarding Scorpion Sting] Ouch. I stepped on a bee when I was barefoot in my backyard Sunday. It hurt for a day. I would probably have freaked if it had turned out to be a Scorpion and rushed to the ER. My condolences on the loss of your grandmother. Thanks for reprinting the cartoons.

CLOSING

Here's something I think is interesting due to recent events, that I saw in a book, The Comic Book Makers, by Joe and Jim Simon.

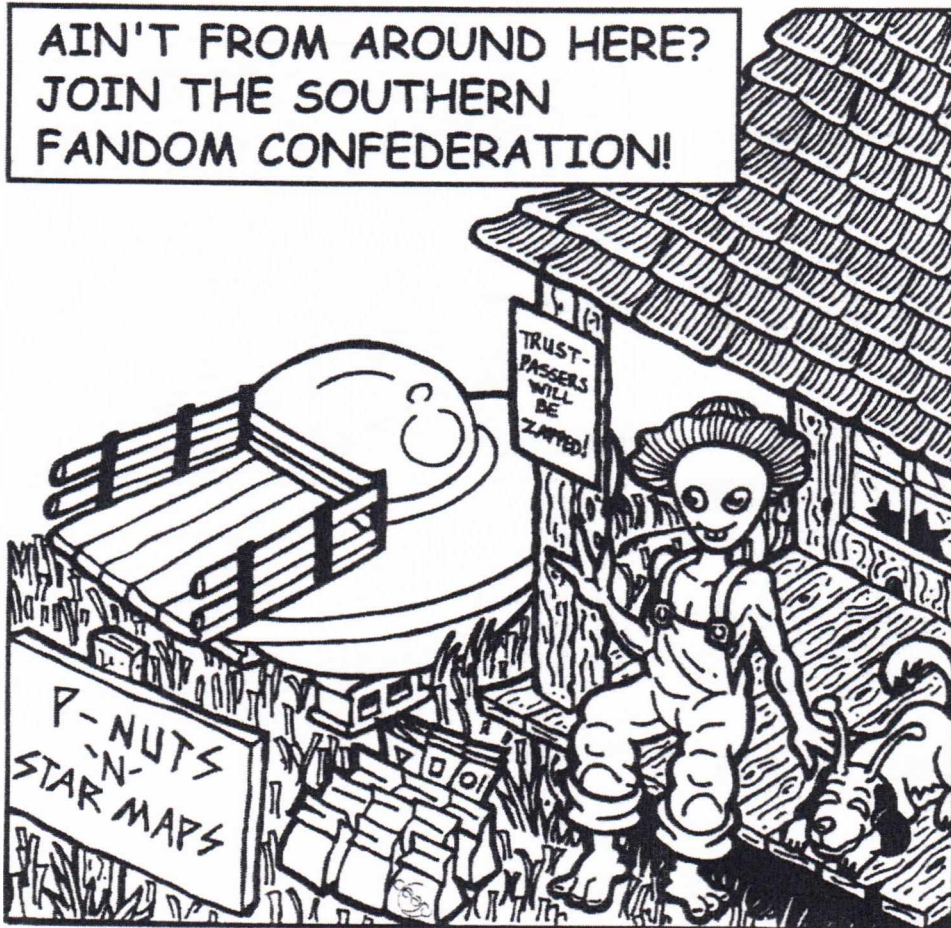


I also hope y'all enjoy the *Cleary Clip-Art Collection II* that I've included this issue. I hope to start mailing it out to various zines soon.

Whew, it's past 3:00 A.M., Thursday, September 27, 2001, so I'm calling it quits without proofing. It's hard to believe the year is more than half over. See y'all in sixty days. Take care until then.

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