



certain, but I think our next film festival will be our first 16-star film festival. Both films get the highest possible rating from both critics. On June 10 at 7 PM (\*SHARP!\*), we will show:

THE MT VOID

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Peter O'Toole Henry II Films

BECKET (1964) dir. by Peter Glenville

THE LION IN WINTER (1968) dir. by Anthony Harvey

B\_e\_c\_k\_e\_t is the retelling of Henry's relationship with Thomas a Becket (Richard Burton), once a close friend, whom he installed as the Archbishop of Canterbury, an action he later grew to regret.

T\_h\_e\_L\_i\_o\_n\_i\_n\_W\_i\_n\_t\_e\_r by James Goldman, based on Goldman's own play, tells the story of the fierce battles between Henry and his wife, Eleanor of Aquitaine (played by Katharine Hepburn), with the fate of England in the balance. Superbly scripted, acted, and scored, many people I know consider this one of their favorite films. Also starring are Anthony Hopkins, Nigel Terry (who played Arthur in E\_x\_c\_a\_l\_i\_b\_u\_r), and Timothy Dalton (who is the latest James Bond).

Please be ON TIME. This is 4 hours and 43 minutes of great cinema.

2. It has been announced that B\_a\_b\_y\_l\_o\_n\_5 will indeed be a television series starting January, 1994. It certainly looked like it could make intelligent television science fiction and the visuals were just stunning. I look forward to the series.

3. ClariNet Communications is offering for sale H\_u\_g\_o\_a\_n\_d\_N\_e\_b\_u\_l\_a\_A\_n\_t\_h\_o\_l\_o\_g\_y\_1\_9\_9\_3, a CD-ROM containing all the Hugo-nominated fiction, all the Nebula-nominated short fiction, the Hugo-nominated artworks and portfolios of the Hugo-nominated artists, samples of Hugo-nominated fan writing, fanzines, and fan art, author photos and bibliographies, audio selections of author readings, hypertext edition of A\_F\_i\_r\_e\_U\_p\_o\_n\_t\_h\_e\_D\_e\_e\_p with Vinge's own annotations, science fiction databases, and more. It requires MS-Windows and costs \$29.95. Contact ClariNet regarding Mac and DOS availability, and availability via floppy disks, networks, or modems. ClariNet can be reached at info-sf@clarinet.com: 408-296-0366; FAX 408-296-1668; P. O. Box 1479, Cupertino CA 95015; MODEM 408-296-3733

LOGIN: sf.

[Included on this CD are my Boskone 29 convention report and my book review of Kim Stanley Robinson's R\_e\_m\_a\_k\_i\_n\_g\_H\_i\_s\_t\_o\_r\_y. It is unclear at this time what, if any, payment I will be getting, but just so this is not construed as a commercial announcement, I want to say that my royalties will be donated to the George Alex Effinger Medical Fund. -ecl]

Mark Leeper  
MT 3D-441 908-957-5619  
...mtgzfs3!leeper

It is impossible to imagine the universe run by a wise, just and omnipotent God, but it is quite easy to imagine it run by a board of gods. If such a board actually exists it operates precisely like the board of a corporation that is losing money.

-- H. L. Mencken

Five-Minute Retrospective of SF  
by Connie Willis  
(presented at the 1993 Nebula Awards banquet)

"You see, I had this space suit."

"I took nothing with me, not even a coat."

"And f\_i\_v\_e! And f\_o\_u\_r! And t\_h\_r\_e\_e! And t\_w\_o! And--" Castor's chant was blanked out by the blazing "white noise" of the jet...

"Gosh," I said. "What I wouldn't give to go with them? What wouldn't I give?"

Dominic Flandry  
Gulliver Foyle  
Lazarus Long  
Rick Deckard  
Willy McGilly  
Paul Muad'Dib  
John Grimes

Susan Calvin  
Teela Brown  
Roger Torraway  
Nicholas van Rijn  
Harrison Bergeron  
Valentine Michael Smith

And you--with your aftershave lotion and your little red car,  
pushing papers across a desk all day and chasing tail all night--  
tell me, just how the hell do you think you would look to Tiglath-  
Pileser, say, or Attila the Hun?

"\_I\_k\_n\_o\_w where \_I came from--but \_w\_h\_e\_r\_e \_d\_i\_d \_a\_l\_l \_y\_o\_u \_z\_o\_m\_b\_i\_e\_s \_c\_o\_m\_e  
\_f\_r\_o\_m?"

First Law: A robot may not injure a human being or, through  
inaction, allow a human being to come to harm.

Ralph 124C41+  
Raius  
Robbie  
Rachael  
Helen O'Loy  
St. Aquin  
Sigfrid von Shrink  
HAL

He doesn't know which one of us I am these days...

Dr. Strauss says I shud rite down what I think and evrey thing that  
happins to me from now on.

I\_d\_i\_d\_n't\_d\_o\_a\_n\_y\_t\_h\_i\_n\_g\_t\_o\_d\_i\_e\_f\_o\_r--\_I\_d\_i\_d\_n't\_d\_o\_a\_n\_y\_t\_h\_i\_n\_g--

"Who Goes There?"  
the People  
the Underground  
the Overlords  
the Kwisatz Haderach  
the Lensman  
the Gray Mouser

the Heechee  
the Bodysnatchers  
the Triffids  
the Taurans  
the Martians

"I said, where do you think you're going?"

"For a drink of water."

"But you're not thirsty."

And then he perceived that, very slowly, the circular top of the cylinder was rotating on its body.

"It's a cookbook," he said.

"I said, where do you think you're going?"

Barsoom

Vulcan

Arrakis

Alpha Ralpha Boulevard

Perelandra

Pern

Leaving the village behind, we followed the heady sweeps of road up onto a land of slowglass.

Titan

Trantor

Terminal Beach

Majipoor

Marsport

Murdstone

the Milky Way

"Stars--all the stars--we didn't know at all."

After a while, he touched the sky with one hand.

Overhead, without any fuss, the stars were going out.

"I make you great. I give you the stars."

Four Films  
A film review by Mark R. Leeper  
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One of the things I like to do occasionally in my film reviews is to make reference to some very good film that I doubt most of my readers have heard of and that I would like to call some attention to. There are a lot of decent films, and a handful of very good ones, that at this point may exist only in the film libraries of obscure television stations, and when these few prints disappear the films will be gone. I would like to generate some interest in four of these films, if not to help save them, at least to alert people that if you do get a chance to see these films, it is a rare chance and you should give them a try.

Of course, there are a lot of obscure films that are showing up on videotape today, many of them very poorly-made films, and it is ironic that some terrific films are being over-looked, but in each case I think I can understand why some producer would think the film would not sell well on tape. There are three science fiction films and one horror film. However, none of the film has special effects. Particularly for science fiction, people have come to expect visual effects. I guess they feel that if they do not really enjoy the story then at least there will be something interesting to watch. These films are just actors in front of a camera, perhaps with a very rudimentary make-up effect thrown in (but very little). Three of the films are in black and white and unfortunately that is also considered to be a strike against a film. I still recommend these films highly to watch for.

T\_h\_e\_M\_i\_n\_d\_B\_e\_n\_d\_e\_r\_s (1962) (directed by Basil Dearden)

This film combines Cold War thriller elements with science fiction and a compelling human story. A scientist working on sensory deprivation commits suicide and is discovered to have been passing secrets to the Soviets. Was he to blame or could his mind have been twisted while under the influence of the sensory deprivation tank? The government decides to experiment to find out. Another scientist working in the same field (played by Dirk Bogarde) is very devoted to his wife and family. Can they change that in his personality while he is in the tank? This film is well-acted, enthralling, and atmospheric.

U\_n\_e\_a\_r\_t\_h\_l\_y\_S\_t\_r\_a\_n\_g\_e\_r (1963) (directed by John Kirsh)

A secret project is working on space exploration right in the heart of London. The approach to exploration is a novel one.

Rather than sending the whole human into space, they are working on

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a sort of technological out-of-body experience. Project your mind to another planet and there have it take on physical form ... invasion by mental projection. The rub is that scientists on the project are being killed in some mysterious way involving super-high energy. And the wives of some of the scientists seem to have no background that project security can trace. The script is tense and the acting is quite good, with a cast that includes John Neville (A\_S\_t\_u\_d\_y\_i\_n\_t\_e\_r\_r\_o\_r,\_T\_h\_e\_A\_d\_v\_e\_n\_t\_u\_r\_e\_s\_o\_f\_B\_a\_r\_o\_n\_M\_u\_n\_c\_h\_a\_u\_s\_e\_n) and Jean Marsh (U\_p\_s\_t\_a\_i\_r\_s,\_D\_o\_w\_n\_s\_t\_a\_i\_r\_s). (This film is so obscure that Leonard Maltin's usually very complete M\_o\_v\_i\_e\_a\_n\_d\_V\_i\_d\_e\_o\_G\_u\_i\_d\_e overlooks it.)

D\_a\_r\_k\_I\_n\_t\_r\_u\_d\_e\_r (1965) (directed by Harvey Hart)

This film is only 59 minutes long and originally was intended as a television pilot, but was released to theaters to play with films such as William Castle's I\_S\_a\_w\_W\_h\_a\_t\_Y\_o\_u\_D\_i\_d--which it far out-classed. Leslie Nielsen plays a detective in late 19th Century San Francisco whose foppish appearance hides a man very knowledgeable and adept in matters of the occult and the supernatural. A series of unsolved murders and a friend's blackout spells may be connected and have some occult significance. Mark Richman and Werner Klemperer also star. The latter, best known as the gullible commandant from H\_o\_g\_a\_n'\_s\_H\_e\_r\_o\_e\_s, does a terrific job in a sinister role.

Q\_u\_e\_s\_t\_f\_o\_r\_L\_o\_v\_e (1971) (directed by Ralph Thomas)

This film is loosely adapted from the short story "Random Quest" by John Wyndham. Colin Trafford (played by Tom Bell) is a leading scientist at Britain Imperial Physical Institute when one of his experiments goes wrong. Suddenly he finds himself in a parallel London in a parallel Britain that has not been to war since the Great War in the early part of the century. Trafford here is not a physicist, but a popular playwright. He is also now married to a beautiful woman (played by Joan Collins) whose life he has made

miserable with his selfish ways and his philandering. Can Colin convince the world he is the playwright while convincing his new wife that he is different? Then there are plot complications that lead to a fast-paced climax across parallel worlds. Denholm Elliot also stars in the story which is part science fiction adventure and part love story.

Of these four films only the last is in color. At present, the only one available on video, U\_n\_e\_a\_r\_t\_h\_l\_y\_S\_t\_r\_a\_n\_g\_e\_r, is offered only by a tiny specialty house, Sinister Cinema. Of the four, only Q\_u\_e\_s\_t\_f\_o\_r\_L\_o\_v\_e has played on New York area television in the last fifteen years. I would much like to get my hands on copies of T\_h\_e\_M\_i\_n\_d\_B\_e\_n\_d\_e\_r\_s or D\_a\_r\_k\_I\_n\_t\_r\_u\_d\_e\_r.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING  
A film review by Mark R. Leeper  
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From Branagh and his wife comes M\_u\_c\_h\_A\_d\_o,  
The Shakespeare comedy of love and tricks.  
Just sit and see the pleasant Tuscan view  
As folks play out romantic politics.

Keanu Reeves seems vaguely out of place,  
And Washington is not the usual hue  
Don Pedro has been cast. But give some space  
To Branagh while he does his M\_u\_c\_h\_A\_d\_o.

With Branagh's hand this seems a modern play;  
The pace is fast and Shakespeare pleases much.  
His comedy still works for us today,  
Uneven though it is with Keaton's touch.

In short I'd say this Branagh M\_u\_c\_h\_A\_d\_o  
To no surprise doth earn a high +2.





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