

MAYHEM MYNHOSE



MAYHEM ANNEX #37 (NP66:7), from Felice Rolfe, 1360 Emerson, Palo Alto, 94301: Feb. 7, 1966. I've been plotting (drawing graphs, Greg) all day, and it's a vunda I can spell my name right — so I disclaim the contents in advance. How's that for a colophon?

MC'S FOR A CHANGE

TED WHITE, literary agent: Many thanks for looking after "Rain" for me. Just the fact that you felt it's worth the trouble was more than I expected from it. ## Someday I'm going to get a typer with a paragraph sign. ## I've read Earth Abides; it's an enduring favorite. However, Stewart postulates an essentially undamaged post-disaster state. Remember that Oakland gave the survivors a living till the end of Ish's life? I'm postulating a situation in which scavenging is not possible for long. But as I said, it may never get written. If any of it does it'll probably be, like "The First Solstice", mainly for APA L's entertainment. ## Ah, yes, Charlie (Artman) Brown. I went to a "Teton Tea Party" at his pad, which at the time was an 18' white nylon tepee parked (for the time being) high on a windy Berkeley hill. Later in the week, in his pursuit of inconspicuous living, he camped next to the cyclotron fence...As a matter of fact, it was an enjoyable evening. We were smoking bay leaves, and although they have no narcotic content, most of the attendees "turned on" anyway. There were guitars (you may have noticed that I like them) and desultory singing, but the reason I enjoyed myself so much was because there was almost no talking — and no "small talk" at all. Some Ellers may have trouble believing that I enjoyed that, but it's so. ## The funny thing about this "marijuana rebellion", at least to my warped mind, is that (a) all these people want, so they say, is to be allowed to enjoy their little non-habit-forming pleasure without interference from the fuzz, and (b) if they weren't so busy rebelling, they could. I could; the cops don't check my back yard for tea. I could grow and smoke the stuff all I wanted, and who'd know? Middle-class suburban housewives just don't, you see (although to tell the truth, some of them do). ## On the other hand, there are other things I have to be careful about. Barbiturate and tranquilizer addiction is a middle-class housewife's occupational disease (and no wonder, sez I), and California has decided to protect us from it. Prescriptions for barbiturates, amphetamines (benzedrene et al.), and the tranquilizers (I forget their chemical name) are now good for only 6 months or 5 refills. Of course, any addict or neo-addict or, for that matter, anyone like me who gets a lot of tension headaches, can merely get several doctors and go to several drugstores. Little gal who lived with us taught me that. She was pretty good at picking locks, too. Her dependence was strictly psychological; she'd be happy taking anything from codeine to oral contraceptives.

"He's a very intelligent man. It's just that you don't notice it." —A programmer

ØØ GREG SHAW: Why don't you write up Plots, Inc. as fiction, with third person, more details and characterization, etc., and see if you can sell it? It won't cost you anything but postage. (I can see that's going to become one of my favorite Poul Anderson quotes.)

I see I used "it's" for "its" in last week's Annex. Tsk. It is to be ashamed.

DWAIN KAISER: Repeat after me: an Ace pocketbook; an answer; an early swapmeet. "A" before consonants, "an" before vowels. (Vowels in most common usage are a, e, i, o, u.) Learn that rule of grammar, me bhoy, or from now on your name in the Annex will be Duane!

There's more, but not a stencil full

It's rather silly, but this is P. 2 of Mayhem Annex #37.

MIKE KLASSEN: "fiddling around on Felice's guitar", indeed. You trying to be another Carl Frederick? You sounded good, tho...and guess what; we did not put out a one-shot.

ANDY PORTER: You guys who were having trouble quitting the SF Book Club should have had one of your programmer friends (oh come on, of course you have one) punch something appropriate on IBM cards. I suggest your name, address and the good old FØRTRAN command;

STØP

END

It might not get as far as the machine, but I bet it would get their attention.

Edgar Rice certainly Burrows.

DGV: mentioning a 40 page sex scene, and then typoing "afterwords"...if it wasn't intentional, it was a honey of a Freudian slip!

CREATH THORNE: The trouble with deciding to go FIAWOL when in high school or college -- provided the person in question does go so far as to flunk out -- is that (a) his judgment is not mature; as it becomes mature, he is likely to be more and more dissatisfied with his decision. However, (b) it is a very difficult decision to reverse. I went through the bit of quitting college (but not for fandom); and I do feel sorry for kids who make the same mistake. Especially boys. I had a hell of a time finishing school, but at least Joe was agreeable to supporting me while I did it. ##Apropos of such things, I've been wondering about Ted...er...Pauls, isn't it? who has terrorized his parents into letting him do as he pleases by using poltergeists. Seems to me that they aren't entirely helpless(his parents, I mean; you were warned that I'm not responsible tonite.). Aren't poltergeist manifestations tied to one house, and if so, couldn't they move? Aren't they also a phenomenon of adolescence, and if so, won't Ted outgrow them -- and then what'll he do? ##Er...I see that this last is really meant for Ted White, but I ain't gonna corflu and retype it all now.

Ben (who had just completed building a bird feeder from a kit), "Let's build a boat now."
Joe:"They don't make boat kits, you'd have to build it from scratch."
Ben: "Okay, let's go get some scratch."

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS

Go ahead and complain about the quality of APA L if you like. I'm just going to keep on trying to put good material through; it's a more efficient way of improving it. (Today's snide remark, friends.)

Judging by what I've seen of male fen, males in general, and the success of such idiotic plots as that of THE KNACK, methinks a few lessons in How To Manage With Women wouldn't be a bad idea. How about it, guys, shall Grandma Rolfe start a symposium? It ought to be good for a few APA L issues for all us females.

Lesson One: First you've got to meet 'em. I never realized how seldom an American male will simply walk up to a girl, introduce himself, and start talking...until a German guy at Sylvania plonked himself down beside me and the gal I was eating lunch with. You'll get some strange results with this tactic; even I was a bit startled, although I've used the ploy myself, and my poor companion immediately went into high gear Defense Mechanism #1, which is Talk About Your Loving Husband and Adorable Children.) You may get only a 5% payoff rate, but that's better than the 0% you get by not trying, right? It's not an easy thing for a shy guy to do, but take my word for it -- it gets easier with practice. Practice on girls who don't look like a man's ever said so much as "good morning" to them; they'll appreciate it more. What'll you talk about? Why, ask her if she reads sf. She doesn't? What does she like then?

Here endeth the much condensed First Lesson. Questions answered, corrections from the other gals gratefully accepted; additions requested, even.

Let Grandma help you to Stay Wicked.