

2962 Santa Ana St.
South Gate, Calif.
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Dear Biff,

Well, lets see, were do we start.. I have atleast three things that should come first.. -- Well, first let us mention that I guess I wont be able to mention the name of your fanzine.. You see like Warner mentioned, there are some of us old timers who are using even older machines that don't have all the little due-hick-ie.. You seem to be so offended when readers don't spell it exactly the way you do (I would follow Foggs rules, otherwise) I find the best way out is not to mention it directly. This ofcourse will make it impossible for me to mention the name on any of the three poll-sheets I have at hand..

Next let me say I am sorry to be so slow about writing, and thanking you for the last three issues of your fanzine.. The reason for my not writing has nothing to do with my interest in it, or my enjoyment of them.. But for reasons that I will not sadden you with in detail, I find my self able to devote only so much time to writing.. Now work will expand to fill the time available to do it in...but fanac is so aranged that there is always twice as much to do as there is time.. -- My system of dealing with fanzines is simple.. There is a large file ~~box~~ box by my bed and all incoming fanzines go into this box.. The order they go in is based on how importen the fanzine seems to me in relationship to the other fanzines in the box, at the moment.. Also on the age. and, atleast two factors that are not translateable into English. -- But once in the box the fanzine slowly work their way to the front. So, in time they all make it-- if the editor lives so long.. Like last Summer, when I had my last spell of catching up with things, and I wrote letter-of-comment to WRR, covering 6 issues and 18 months..

I really am sorry. Not only to I dislike getting fanzines without showing some sign of gratatude, but I want to say a word of incuragement for good new fanzine and fans.. But I get so many that I just don't get to all of them. I've heard lats of good things about you and your fanzine though.. From people who know..

All my stamps are canceled.. Though the last one has a strange double red blotch, that might be a rubber stamp, or purple magic marker..

Lets see/. Back to #11, and look for marks.. Well, there aren't any. I wonder now I thought I was going to remember what I wanted to talk about/. Ofcourse the Billables are liked. Though ASTery for Children didn't have the even flow of your others.. --- No grips about your taste in tapes.. (I could say

something funny and nasty, about you not having any.. But, it it isn't very funny...nore true.. So, forget it..) Sorry though, I don't have a roll of tape to correspond with.. I could buy one -- but I don't think it would work well in my wire recorder.

I never tride your "chasing References" system.. Lets see, I'll pick up a line.... Do you know not for nothing could happened to anyone ~~any~~ we know your indorser. Yes.. Your right.. Only thing I ever did was take words at random from a dictionary -- then knock out the words that didn't make sence.

I notice something (a note a scralled on the margin). In your first issue you say people should send you fan histories. You got them up to your ears, and you are sick of them.. A dull morbid fascination with the past, you said.. (Or something like that..) But here in #12 you write about "Looking Backward." which only proves a point I'd thought to make, that most fans are interested in histories they allready know. We all wish to relive the happy days of our childhood --- though I wish you hadn't mentioned a hecto-pan.. I hate to remember the two fanzines I put out on one.. I hate too, to think of being over come by a pan full of jello.

And, did your experience with a hecto cause you to say that the "friendless-among-friendly" was purple? I might also say: I found this little poem remarkably (in compairason to the rest of your fanzines) deep and full of fealing.. I've written things like that too, by misstake.. -- I suspect dispite your desire to print humor, that you will be slipping in a serious word now and then.. Don't lett it worry you.. The funny ones will think you are being doublely esoteric, and the serious type will think more of you...so you win both ways.

"The Cheese Stands Alone" hardly stands in the same class as the other tales, as it makes sence all the way, as well as being funny.. I like them both ways.. I'll write myself that letter, but 25 words is rather limiting to a hack. One reason I write so few letters is I can't stop them at short notes.. I figure if it os going to cost me 4¢, I might as well through in a 1¢ worth of paper...

Fitch is a good man, and I agree with him about lettering guides.. I can't print letters eather, and have to use a guide, and they look terrrable.. The ones you use in the next issue are not worth it.. You could have justafide the edges and such, before I'd demanded lettering guides...

Yes, you know Alan, I've rather felt that way about mummies myself.. -- There must be some mental system to archaeologist, that distance in so many miles, or years makes it allright to dig folks up for S-C-I-E-N-C-E.. I remember thinking a Chinese made a very good point when he asked some University sponcered grave robber, working on an old Ming tumb, "How would you feel is we sent an expedition over to your country to dig up George Washington?" -- Might as well be burned to a nice clean ash, to start with.. What say Alan, how do you feel about cremation?

Gee.. You get letters from Peggy McKnight and Ruth Berman. And your 18 years old.... Oh, you lucky fellow... While I may personally prefer ~~the~~ to contemplate the charming lines of femfans such as Robbie Gibson and Karen Anderson, I can still remember when a teen-age girl was a ----- (I best not complet that line.. Anything I say would sound depracating, and nothing could be farther from my intent... There is, after all, nothing wrong with being young and a girl.. (Unless you happen to be a boy) And the Misses McKnight and Berman are of the class, Charming Additions to Our World.

It's pretty hard to comment on your stuff.. Now if you had been here in the form of # A Small Mouse, while I read the issues, you would have been gratified by reaction. (Reactions other than crying in a loud voice, "WOW! There's a small mouse!") I laughed out loud; chucked fairly quietly to my self; and funny ripples of laughter run up my front... But, it's pretty to say... "Ho Ho, Calvin K. "Biff" Demmon, that line "Four days later the Welcome Mat was gone," was funny.." ((Humpr! Two sets of quotation marks, withn quotations... so, alright, I haven't made any trailing which clauses yet... what ever the Chu they are... Or have I....smartassedittleprat!))

All this about the GateVest, and Mr. Ben...got me to wondering... I reached over and snaged the latest off the magazine table... It was Vol. 235, #7.. Didn't say how many issues to a volum... But even a mutten-head can add 235 to 1729 and get 1964... If it were already two years old when he bought it, and a volum was added each year, and you could believe the editors of the Post, Franklin might have been the Embasadör to France.

Speaking about funny letters... You will no doubt find that if you don't print letters fans will be slow to write you at all.. If you try, on the other hand, to publish all you get, you will eather have no room for anything else, or just printing dull little snipits from lots of letters... Better you should print one or two really good letters with little cutting, and make the others sweet to get on the WAHP list.

Yes.. But of above all to your sell be true.. The above is under the class of, If I Were You...but then I'm not, so you don't have to listen.. No more than you have to listen to NotFans that say you shouldn't send it to RealFans.. The only trouble is that there are a lot of Fringe Editors who do send fanzines to NotFans... The NotFans like the fanzines, and want to get more.. So they write to other fanzines, and then they write for other fanzines... But they are NotFans, and their stuff is NotFannish. And Fandom is getting more and more NotFans in it who like fanzines, but don't like Science-Fiction or Fantasy very much... Without pro-mag reviews of fanzines, and letter columns, we don't get many TrueFans in..but only friends of fans, who are not always the TrueBlueFooFoo type.. I don't want to worry you.. You aren't driving us old guard (Gor! How I hated the Old Guard, once) to the wall.. But I thought you might like to know why some of us worry.

It is silly to start a new page, just to say I don't seem to have any more to say... But that is the way it goes.. Again, thanks for keeping me on your list.. Good stuff here, and I really did enjoy it... I'll try (hope) to get a reply off more often in the future... I might even have perged my guilt feeling enough to speak to you at club now..

Yours,

Sending an Atom illo I'm sure he wouldn't mind if you used...