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Mt. Holz Science Fiction Society
Club Notice - 04/01/92 -- Vol. 10, No. 3.14159

MEETINGS UPCOMING:

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings are on Wednesdays at six bells.
LZ meetings are in Holmdel; HO meetings are in Middletown;
MT meetings are on Mars.

_ D _ A _ T _ E _ T _ O _ P _ I _ C

04/31 LZ: ON BEYOND ZEBRA by Dr. Seuss (alien alphabets)
05/00 MT: VIOLENT MACHO WAR STOIRES by Gerry Pournelle ("It's a man
thing.")

HO Chair: John Jetson HO 1E-525 908-555-1563 hal!2000
LZ Table: J R R Tolkien HO 1D-505A 908-555-1267 eniac!null
MT Armoire: Mystery Guest MT 3D-441 908-555-5691 rebel!leia
HO Librarian: Sourdough Bread HO 4F-427 908-555-7076 huey
LZ Barbarian: Spear Larsen LZ 3L-312 908-555-3346 dewey
MT Grammarian: Claim Jumper MT 3D-441 908-555-5619 louie
Perpetrator: Who Else? MT 1F-329 908-555-2070 colossus
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1. In an attempt to further AT&T globalization goals, we are
providing this international edition of the FULL VOID. Well,
actually all the editions are international, at least in the
subscription list, but this is actually multi-lingual.

Title: _ C _ o _ l _ l _ e _ c _ t _ e _ d _ S _ t _ o _ r _ i _ e _ s _ o _ f _ I _ s _ a _ a _ c
_ B _ a _ s _ h _ e _ v _ i _ s _ S _ i _ n _ g _ e _ r

Author: Isaac Bashevis Singer
Publisher: Farrar, Straus & Giroux
Date of Publication: 5743
trade paperback, US\$12.95
614 pages
ISBN 0-374-51788-6

Isaac Bashevis Singer iz geven a zayer gut yidishe shrayber--efsher

dos beste--un dos bukh hot zein beste meises. Etlekhe zein dakhtung un az ir vil leyenen dakhtung vos hot nisht elfn oder kheynevdik chayas vos redn, ober nitzn die yudish mistish traditzie for zein ikhos, leyen dos bukh.

THE MT VOID

Page 2

Title: _ F _ i _ c _ c _ i _ o _ n _ e _ s

Author: Jorge Luis Borges

Publisher: Grove

Date of Publication: 1987

paperback, \$6.95

180 pages

ISBN 0-8021-3030-5

Uno de los mejor de los escritores sudamericanos, Jorge Luis Borges nunca recibe el Premio Nobel, pero cada ano antes de su muerte cuando el tiempo llegue el fue el primero nombre de los lectores. Esta coleccion is muy bueno como una introduccion a la "realismo magico" de Borges, incluyendo muchos de sus obras mas famosas. (Y no hay animales monos hablando.) Compre este libro!

Title: _ C _ h _ a _ r _ l _ o _ t _ t _ e _ s _ W _ e _ b

Author: E. B. White

Publisher: Harper Collins Children's Books

Date of Publication: 1974

paperback, US\$3.50

192 pages

ISBN 0-06-44055-7

Eissueray ofway away assicclay Iway ersonallypay evernay ikedlay eryvay uchmay: aggay emay ithway away utecay animalway antasyfay.

Micro-reviews:

_ T _ h _ e _ I _ l _ i _ a _ d by Homer (Viking Penguin). Eti allos phantastikos archiaou theou. "Protos Biblos Odysseou Kiklou"--oimoi!

The Aeneid by Vergil (Bantam). "In mundus Homeris et Iliadis"--

Etiam alius mundus communis--non habeo quod dicam. Verbum sat sapienti est.

Ivory by Mike Resnick (Tor). Kitabu mzuri--wanyama hawakusema.

ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS

Title: Collected Stories of Isaac Bashevis Singer

Author: Isaac Bashevis Singer

Publisher: Farrar, Straus & Giroux

Date of Publication: 5743

trade paperback, US\$12.95

614 pages

ISBN 0-374-51788-6

Isaac Bashevis Singer was a very good Yiddish writer--maybe the best--and this book has his best stories. Some of them are fantasy and if you want to read fantasy that does not have elves or cute talking animals, but uses the Jewish mystical tradition for its background, read this book.

THE MT VOID

Page 3

Title: Ficciones

Author: Jorge Luis Borges

Publisher: Grove

Date of Publication: 1987

paperback, \$6.95

180 pages

ISBN 0-8021-3030-5

One of the major South American writers, Jorge Luis Borges never received the Nobel Prize, but each year before his death when the time arrived he was the first name by the readers. This collection is very good as an introduction to the magical realism of Borges, including many of his most famous stories. (And there are no cute talking animals.) Buy this book!

Title: Charlotte's Web

Author: E. B. White

Publisher: Harper Collins Children's Books

Date of Publication: 1974
paperback, US\$3.50
192 pages
ISBN 0-06-44055-7

Reissue of a classic I personally never liked very much: gag me with a cute animal fantasy.

Micro-reviews:

T h e I l i a d by Homer (Viking Penguin). Yet another ancient gods fantasy. "First Book of the Odysseus Cycle"--woe is me!

T h e A e n e i d by Vergil (Bantam). "In the world of Homer's I l i a d"--yet another shared-world--I don't know what to say. A word to the wise is sufficient.

I v o r y by Mike Resnick (Tor). Good book--the animals don't talk.

2. And finally, a recent work in English: W h i z B a n g S c i F i by Tony Peters, DUH, ISBN 0-123-45678-9, 1992, \$39.95: This tour de force first novel is at the same time a scathing indictment of modern mores and a ripping good romp. Tony Peters has produced a densely plotted work that is rich with incident, while filling it with compelling characters who provide a fresh and original look at the uncompromising universe. The dichotomy of the finely interwoven relationships and an uncaring Nature serves as a lesson for our times.

As described on the back blurb, this book is written in the grand epic tradition of Homer, J. R. R. Tolkien, and John Norman. Peters is the most promising writer of his generation.

!Evelyn Leeper
MT 0Z-000 800-EAT-SH*T
...kremvax!gorby

Western Civilization 101
An annotated bibliography

In our never-ending quest to illuminate the lives of our members, we bring you this annotated bibliography for Western Civilization 101.

Yes, these are all DWEMs (Dead White European Males); you are welcome to write your own non-DWEM bibliography.

Micro-Summaries (for the Minute-a-Day Manager)
(from Mikhail Zeleny)

- _ O _ l _ d _ T _ e _ s _ t _ a _ m _ e _ n _ t: You'd better behave.
- Homer, _ T _ h _ e _ I _ l _ i _ a _ d and _ T _ h _ e _ O _ d _ y _ s _ s _ e _ y: Women like to see men fight over them and then they take the long way home.
- Plato, _ T _ h _ e _ R _ e _ p _ u _ b _ l _ i _ c: Forms determine function.
- Aristotle: No, they don't.
- _ N _ e _ w _ T _ e _ s _ t _ a _ m _ e _ n _ t: Be excellent to each other and don't covet your neighbor's ass.
- Miguel Cervantes, _ D _ o _ n _ Q _ u _ i _ x _ o _ t _ e: Windmills will screw you over.
- William Shakespeare, _ P _ l _ a _ y _ s: Whereby hangs a tail told by an idiot.
- Isaac Newton, _ P _ r _ i _ n _ c _ i _ p _ i _ a _ M _ a _ t _ h _ e _ m _ a _ t _ i _ c _ a: An apple a day causes an equal but opposite reaction.
- Ben Franklin, _ A _ u _ t _ o _ b _ i _ o _ g _ r _ a _ p _ h _ y: Make money, my son, whatever it takes.
- Nathaniel Hawthorne, _ T _ h _ e _ S _ c _ a _ r _ l _ e _ t _ L _ e _ t _ t _ e _ r: Use a condom.
- Walt Whitman, _ L _ e _ a _ v _ e _ s _ o _ f _ G _ r _ a _ s _ s: I love the smell of sweaty armpits.

For those of you interested in a more thorough examination of the works in question, we provide the following critical analyses (from Michael Cramer):

_ O _ l _ d _ T _ e _ s _ t _ a _ m _ e _ n _ t: You can skip most of this, but some of the jokes are worth remembering:

Baseball: "In the Big Inning..."

Tennis: "When Joseph served in Pharoh's Court..."

Motorcycles: "...and David's Triumph was heard throughout the land."

Homer, _ T_ h_ e_ I_ l_ i_ a_ d and _ T_ h_ e_ O_ d_ y_ s_ s_ e_ y: The original fantasy series.

Book 1: Akhilleus has a snit over a slave girl but comes to his senses when his boyfriend gets killed [go figure]. We also learn that it's okay for a guy to cry (but only after he's slaughtered all available women and children).

Book 2: Odysseus sails the world, meets lots of interesting people and kills them. He finally makes it home and gives new meaning to the phrase "spring cleaning."

Plato, _ T_ h_ e_ R_ e_ p_ u_ b_ l_ i_ c: "Socrates wasn't as bad as everybody said and I didn't sleep with him. Honest."

Aristotle: "Plato wasn't as bad as everybody said and I didn't sleep with him. Honest."

_ N_ e_ w_ T_ e_ s_ t_ a_ m_ e_ n_ t: Woman has sex with Dove but remains virginal. John goes to Patmos, takes mescaline and we get Christmas.

Miguel Cervantes, _ D_ o_ n_ Q_ u_ i_ x_ o_ t_ e: Man on horse dreams the impossible dream and fights the unbeatable foe. We learn that this is his dream, no matter how hopeless, no matter far, to be willing to march into Hell for a heavenly cause. And he knows if he'll only be true...

...but then no one expects the Spanish Inquisition.

William Shakespeare, _ P_ l_ a_ y_ s: These have two basic plots.

Plot 1: Twins, 1 boy and 1 girl, dress alike and everyone gets confused. They finally sort it all out and marry another brother and sister pair with lots of money.

Plot 2: Lots of dangerously inbred guys dressed in codpieces slaughter each other but finally come to their senses and acknowledge the Divine Right to Rule of the ancestors of Mr Shaxepeer's main patrons.

Isaac Newton, _ P_ r_ i_ n_ c_ i_ p_ i_ a_ M_ a_ t_ h_ e_ m_ a_ t_ i_ c_ a: Gravity works and Leibniz is a jerk.

Ben Franklin, _ A_ u_ t_ o_ b_ i_ o_ g_ r_ a_ p_ h_ y: Tons of cute, terribly non-PC stuff about older women.

Nathaniel Hawthorne, _ T_ h_ e_ S_ c_ a_ r_ l_ e_ t_ L_ e_ t_ t_ e_ r: Use a condom. I

haven't

read him, so it can't be all that important. (Mark Taranto adds, "Young woman works on special project, gets an A.")

Walt Whitman, L_e_a_v_e_s_o_f_G_r_a_s_s: You may want to skip this one, too. The good parts are r_e_a I hard to figure out--like the stuff about the corn on the cob. (Besides it only really makes sense if you are

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April 1, 1992

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thirty-seven and in perfect health.)

And finally, for those of you thinking of making these into films, here are some high-concept ideas to use to sell them (from Gordon Fitch):

- O_l_d_T_e_s_t_a_m_e_n_t: The Big Guy makes the scene, chooses the Jews, and lays down the law, also does appearance as somebody's shepherd.
- Homer, T_h_e_I_l_l_i_a_d and T_h_e_O_d_y_s_s_e_y: Sword and shield stuff. Slaughter, rape, arson, pillage. Hero takes long way home.
- Plato, T_h_e_R_e_p_u_b_l_i_c: Invented Platonic love. Nobody believed it anyway.
- Aristotle: Forerunner of Randroid postings on Usenet.
- N_e_w_T_e_s_t_a_m_e_n_t: Hero walks on water, loses popularity contest anyway; makes big comeback.
- Miguel Cervantes, D_o_n_Q_u_i_x_o_t_e: Man does thing with windmills. Senseless, but then, he's Spanish.
- William Shakespeare, P_l_a_y_s: Friends, Romans and to be or not tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow--why should a rat have life?--and leave not a rack behind.
- Isaac Newton, P_r_i_n_c_i_p_i_a_M_a_t_h_e_m_a_t_i_c_a: Scientist figures out why

apple falls on head by determining locus of proferent tree.

- Ben Franklin, _ A_ u_ t_ o_ b_ i_ o_ g_ r_ a_ p_ h_ y: "Early to bed and early to rise"-- probably banned in Boston.
- Nathaniel Hawthorne, _ T_ h_ e_ S_ c_ a_ r_ l_ e_ t_ L_ e_ t_ t_ e_ r: Heroine gets an A
in Sunday School.
- Walt Whitman, _ L_ e_ a_ v_ e_ s_ o_ f_ G_ r_ a_ s_ s: When lilacs last in the dooryard
burned, whatever I assume you shall assume, yet utter the barbaric
yowp, my captain, cold and dead.