

Confessions of a Consistent liar 78

Arthur D. Hlavaty, 206 Valentine St., Yonkers, NY 10704-1814, 914-965-4861 hlavaty@panix.com

TRUB Reinhardt ct Jeff: I danced only when drunk; other drugs didn't do it. Except when I used it as a strategy to help reach the horizontal activity of which it is a vertical representation.)

ct me: I think of sf as the Trickster among genres, which means that many individuals resemble the archetype, but the best trick is to look like an elder ghod or an admiral or something while you mess with people's heads.

ct Gary R: Of course he shouldn't call his liver Maria. That's the wind's name.

ct Sheila: I think it was Patrick Nielsen Hayden who said that fandom has a unique topology: Anyone can look down on anyone else.

Tom Feller ct me: I do remember noticing back in the sixth grade one of my classmates already had tits. It didn't mean a whole lot to me at the time.

Gary Brown ct OE: I do not wish to see a picture of George Wells sleeping trussed up, though I think that sort of thing is OK in private.

ct me: Back in the Eisenhower days I thought presidents shouldn't be allowed to do nuclear stuff if they couldn't pronounce it. Now I feel the same way about malfeasance.

Jeff Copeland I've heard the theory that all professional writers are people who can't not write.

ct Dengrove: Several popes have wondered whether the Jesuits were real Catholics.

• I don't think *-ski* means "son of" because what precedes it usually isn't a first name: son of Laskow? son of Kowal? son of Dostoyev?

ct Lynch: I saw the part of *Crouching Stuntman, Hidden Wires* that was shown at the

Hugos, and that was more than enough. Just the scene with the guy flying backwards was more than enough. (This *must* be science fiction! It takes place on the Planet of the Cheap Special Effects.)

Those Propositions from *The Shockwave Rider* make sense, but in context they're like a Viguerie poll rotated 180°. Assent to them and you have voted for a system where prices and wages and such are decided not by the silly old market but "by the computer," which, as you know, Bob, makes as much sense as having a computer decide which college football team is the best.

ct Sheila: YA/Adult, like SF/mainstream, is not a distinction made by the Dewey Decimal or Library of Congress system. (Who says I didn't learn anything in library school?)

• Bernadette and Kevin are watching *Goldmember* as I write these words. Forty years ago my college friends and I used to write about each other what would be called faan-fiction in this subculture. I gave one farrago of crude, tasteless libel that very title.

ct Janice: There's a part of me that believes that a disappearing intern who'd been involved with a Republican congressman wouldn't have gotten anywhere near as much publicity, particularly on Fox.

Don Markstein I didn't read *Li'l Abner* in Capp's declining years, but I remember him sounding Godawful cranky in interviews and such. He also was a major sexual harasser on his college tours. One of the nastier cases resulted in arrest, and he finally was allowed to cop to Attempted Adultery. Some people can't do anything right.

ct me: You're probably right about talking to the phone spammers, and anyway I'm getting more impatient. My current excessive image for that sort of invasion is, "The

person I'm talking to isn't the rapist, just the prick."

Janice Gelb Sorry to hear about Neil.

I have to say that I would have liked *Men in Black II* a little more if it had been a little less more of the same.

ct David: Interesting thing I learned from Andrew Sullivan, of all people: We don't know that the 9/11 hijackers used box cutters or other then-permissible weapons. We know that the airlines say that they couldn't have gotten anything worse on board.

ct Steve: Did you expect the females to be looking for the tit shots?

ct Jeff: Interestingly enough, Jeff is the one I remember telling me about good parts in the movie of *Semi-Tough*, with nothing I recognized from the book.

• Stallman was indeed MacArthurized a few years back.

Eve Acherman Congratulations to Raphi. My sister (also an Eve) attended Brandeis, loved it, married a man she met there, and has lived happily ever after.

I like the image of frats and sororities as hidden cults. They have these foreign names...

The Bujold line reminds me of Hilaire Belloc's "I would believe the bread and the wine were changed into an elephant if my Church told me so."

ct Gelb: I don't think I'd even enjoy Illegal Sea Foods.

mike weber I always enjoy seeing graven images of Wile E., but the occasion is sad.

ct me: I really have no objection to Harry Potter as books. I'm glad that they got a lot of people to read, even though those are people who shouldn't be voting on the Hugos.

GEORGE Excellent drug comment to Hank.

ct Dengrove: *The Sirens of Titan* is Vonnegut's best pure sf novel. It tells you why Damon Knight not unadmirably listed Von-

negut along with Bester, Dick, and Sheckley as sf's "decadents."

• I believe I bought all of Dr. Mark's books as they came out: *The Man from ORGY*, *The Girl from Pussycat*... In the best ones the ha-ha parts were better than the pant-pant parts. My favorite was the Nixon parody, *Beauty and the Bug*: The Prez blows himself up and a Mad Scientist decides to clone him from what's left. They find only one part (your first guess is correct), and the scientist complains, "That isn't much." The Prez's wife sadly replies, "It never was."

ct Janice: I heard Harlan give several speeches at Readercon a couple of years ago. It was wonderful stuff, except every so often he'd start spitting venom at Christopher Priest or someone else he had a grudge against, like Ezra Pound in the later Cantos interrupting the beauty to remind us (and probably himself) that he hated Jews. Sad.

ct me: The Fan Artist category has admirable variety. I do sometimes wonder that it correlates so highly with writing good captions: Gilliland, Rotsler, Mayhew, Harvia... We are (or were) a highly verbal subculture, and I have to admit I love it that way.

ct Jeff: I don't know why F.M. Busby butchered my name at the Iggy Hugos, as I wasn't on the ballot then. My first time was the following Noreascon, at which Terry Carr got my name all wrong, then correctly predicted, "With a name like that, he'll never win." (He soon after sent me a gracious note of apology.)

Pix: Did it start out as a wart on Mib's ass?

