

GEE, MCs COULD BECOME A HABIT

Our sleek, lithe, graceful cat has just managed to fall on his can. From that stack of mimco paper in the living room. Now he's trying very hard to look like he meant to.

GREG SHAW: I don't think fans will nail a neo to the wall for years by his first reputation. Ron Ellik, one of our best-loved (disclaimer) fans, was -- I'm told -- impossible when he was 15. @@(That's a paragraph sign today) But Greg, pornography is part of our culture. If the culture weren't so blatant/repressed about sex, porno would just be words-on-paper.

FRED HOLLANDER: As an offshoot of your remark on "time stretching", here's a little gem which occurred to me on my way to a 7:30 (a.m.!) class in San Jose: "...that linear factor, time, which our nonlinear minds insist on changing..." There. Help yourself. Throw it out or something. @@Best ways I know to get genzine contribs are to ask someone to write on a specified topic/review, and when you get an interesting letter, send it back to be made into an article.

RICH MANN: Your "Mining the Pulp" brought back nostalgic (spelled nauseating) memories of RANGELAND ROMANCES, which helped make the transition from being horse-crazy to being boy-crazy relatively smooth. I didn't get the letters-to-the-editor bug, tho, until I took up reading sf -- via TWS, by the way; the issue with a horse on the cover.

JAYN ELLERN: Well now, friend, I'm not sure I'm complimented by your thanks, especially since you don't seem disposed to let the matter die. To be precise, what I said was that your right to express yourself must be bounded by good taste. "Bounded by good taste" includes the fact that the rest of us have the right not to have our eyeballs dirtied up with feuds.

JACK HARNES: Migawd! Justified margins! What are you trying to do to us?

JACK NEWCOM: Welcome to the ~~whiffles~~ fanzine ingroup. You would pick a weekly apa to start with... One of the sanest comments I've seen/heard on the Watts insurrection. You look at both sides with sympathy. Milt Stevens and Bruce Pelz have given us examples of one-sided vision, and Bruce has appended an example of strictly-other-sided vision -- I suppose we could call one the hard hearts and the other the bleeding hearts... This is not meant as a put-down, Bruce and Milt. A congenital fence-straddler like me would never get anything done, while someone with definite convictions might.

MILT STEVENS: You'd probably like George R. Stewart's Years of the City. @@Our educational system is doing more to perpetuate the "human garbage" than to civilize it. I had an argument (right in class) with a Half Moon Bay teacher this summer. His attitude was that "deprived" children (Mexicans in this case) are never going to be able to learn, so why bother with them? It seems to be fairly common for teachers to preassign students on the basis of their background. I suppose it's pretty heartbreaking to fail with child after child -- but if you never try, you fail automatically... vicious circle, not? @@Campbell is most certainly wrong in his underestimation of environmental influence. You can "exterminate the human garbage" by removing the causes of it: cultural oppression, imposition of middle-class-suburban values on everyone (pressure for conformity), etc. I can tell you one thing that would help; taking women out of the sweet-little-housewife-and-mother stereotype, which has produced more neurotic children because of the externally induced neuroses of their mothers who don't fit the stereotype, and excuse me for not finishing the sentence but that's one of my buttons. @@My solutions are about as likely to be applied as yours, Milt; that is, never.

ADD: What's this about the genzine being dead? Dare you say that, a mere few weeks before HERAS comes out? (By the grace of god and Tom Gilbert)

MIKE KLASSEN: See my remarks to Jayn. @@For some impossibly lucky reason, I've missed both #41 and #43. Judging by the comments on them, they were well worth missing. (Where goes my image as "mild-mannered Felice Rolfe"... Do you suppose that if I found a convenient telephone booth, I could turn into Superfeud?)

TED WHITE: "weatherwise". Ulp. After several years at Lockheed, Joe and I got so fed up with "wise" words that we even flinch at "otherwise". @@Except for Pussy Galore, who's obviously the ultimate conquest of a supervirile male who has run out of obstacles to overcome, I'll stand on what I said; when a girl dives into James Bond's bed, she usually has somewhat sounder reasons than to scratch an itch. Maybe Ian Fleming simply has more realistic wish-fulfillment fantasies than most thriller writers...

DAVE VAN ARNAM: I've been hoping someone would put Henry Miller in perspective. So the courts call it art; so what? All that means is that it can be sold, apparently.

I had a paragraph or several about the local theaters-in-the-round, which I wanted to send down to you in hopes of ~~kbhahh~~ persuading some of you to come up. Like, we have "My Fair Lady" and "Camelot" playing now... but there's not time to run two stencils.

Stay wicked.