

beginning 18 March 1965, fostered on a yawning public by W. Rotsler Esq

THIS IS SILLY

I really didn't mean to start this again. I just sat down to dash off a quick note to Dean Grennell. My correspondence has been really non-existent of late and I just thought I'd send him a Hiya! note. Then I said, hell, I'll add a carbon for-- and the whole goddamn old Kteic list popped into my mind!

Well, shit, I said with conviction. Why not? Things are dull here and I'm just waiting for some things to happen. Why not?

So once again (if only once--who knows) KTEIC MAGAZINE (let it stand) is on the march! I'll just hit away at things as they occur to me and let logic, continuity, precedence (which counts only once) and historical procedures go their own way.

WHAT HAPPENED TO MASQUE ETCETERA?

Well...it seems like My Official Printer Redd Boggs had a lady take ahold of his male member and drag him off to Gafia and Points North. So he only ran off a dozen copies over what I needed for FAPA...and I waited and waited and waited. Nothing. He did the same thing with KTEIC #118, but gave me, I think, the balance in time. Anyway, there are a x lot of people waiting for Kteic that will never get it. Such is life.

I have, however, a number of pages for the next KTEIC and a finished MASQUE that is, I think, the best Masque to date. It's called "A Diary for Michele" and is mostly writing. George Clayton Johnson read it in stencilform and said, "It's brilliant...if I only knew what it was about." (George is the screen writer that did "Ocean's Eleven", a lot of the best "Route 66s", "Naked Citys", "Mr. Novaks", etc.) He likened it to a handful of pearls without a string. He's right, that is, it has no coordinating force, no plot, nothing. It's merely a diary of thoughts for a beautiful girl named Michele, while she was away.

WHICH BRINGS US TO

The fact that I might get married. Again. It's a bit of a surprise to me and in that I'm sure I'm not alone in the world. She's a gorgeous redhead some fifteen years, from mid-tis, two weeks and two days younger than I. She's an actress and we picked SAROYAN to go after MICHELE. I started her being an actress. We were sitting in a restaurant literally over the water at Malibu and I said something like, "I know how corny this all sounds, but would you like to be in movies?"

She thought it over and said yes. She hadn't much direction in life and this gave her something to do. A very good buddy of mine has Actors Theater, a very good local theater that is really making a name, and an acting school. I got her in and she was crazy about it, wanting to stay up & talk about it all night when she got back from class at midnight.

After awhile, we parted and she went to San Francisco (see my con report in MASQUE 15) for awhile. But she's back now. She got a job for a couple of weeks out at the National Orange Show in San Bernardino as a Pretty Girl in their big stage show.

I had it all planned. I went out there and told her how BROKE we are now. (Lost money on 2 films in a row due to client trouble, them not understanding normal industry procedures...and not getting the Mattel film the 5th year in a row...no other \$\$\$ coming in...so...)

Then she said (not immediately) that she had never been on a ferris wheel. There was a double ferris wheel in the midway...so... (I had it planned, see...either a ferris wheel, a Tunnel of Love, or bed...I figured if she ever gets to be A Movie Star that people are going to say "And where did your husband propose?" so I might as well provide her with some copy right now.)

So we go up in this thing and if you've ever been in one of these double ones you know how scary it can be, especially as your half is coming up and your little seat is coming up at the same time. It's as if you are being catapulted across the Fairgrounds.

The first thing she does is to grab my lapels in fright, bury her head in my armpit and yelp. She closes her eyes, opening them only three times and shivering the whole time.

I ~~xxx~~ wait until we are doing the above described turn and ask her. She just nods her head and holds on/ "Speak up," I say, "I'm taping this whole thing."

I suggested later that she will probably go through life insisting that if she didn't say yes I'd rock the seat or throw her out. Actually, she proposed weeks earlier but I figure I'm the one that does it "for real."

In compiling QUOTEBOOK (still looking for quotes, troops!) I ran across an item saying that wives might as well say they proposed because the husbands will say they did anyway.

So we'll get married one of these days. Meanwhile we are trying out living together (the only way to fly--going steady is not like living together, which is the only way of learning about the otherperson.)

Sometime after July I hope to go, for Lockheed again, either (1) to every NASA base in the USA or (2) to the South of India to some facility there, or (3) every NASA base plus the tracking stations, which are in such lovely places as Hawaii, Australia, Hong Kong, India, etc. And if you go to India you might as well go the rest of the way around the world. So we might get married before or en route or something. Let Lockheed pay for the honeymoon. Depends on business here & upon how much they are going to pay me.

I'm in no hurry. I tried marriage ~~once~~ and although Michele has never been married living with me is like it. (She's only 12 years older than my daughter Lisa and I'm only 9 years younger than her mother! Gawd)

GET ME, I'M A WRITER NOW!

You know about that "column" of mine in PAGEANT...some of you have been in it and got this from me:

YOUR QUOTE IS IN THE.....PAGEANT.
PLEASE SEND MORE. I CAN MAKE YOU IMMORTAL!

My photo agent, Sandy Harris, of Vista Photos, was in the Pageant office and asked the editor about some fanzines, etc that he had shown him & wondered if he was going to do anything with them. The editor said, let me keep them awhile--I'm interested. The editor of SAGA was in the room, said, hey, is Rotsler the photographer Rotsler the quotation man? Why doesn't he do something for us? Sandy said, sure, why not, think about it.

Sandy leaves & meets the photo editor of "Pageant" in the hall and says SAGA and his editor were interested in me. The photo-ed says Oh...why doesn't he do something for us? Sandy goes back into the editor's office and says the photo editor etc. The editor says have him make a list of ideas. The SAGA Ed says I've been looking at these mags of his and why doesn't he condense the Black Magic orgy thing for us and write a thing a month? We'll pay him \$100 each, guaranteed one a month, etc.

So I've written a batch of things that will appear in their MAN ON TOP section...the Black Magic, "Everybody's business is Show Business" (quotations from the ever lovin' pages of QUOTEBOOK) and probably they will buy "The 3-day Wonder Diet for the Kept Woman," (a Kteic item about Maggie Ryan Dener), "Girls Love To Be Nude" (from Masque or Kteic or something), another about "Like-Sex, Love=sex, Hate-sex and Money-sex." Another is about the cigarette girls at Ciro's, drawn from Kteic files, about Buni Bacon mostly. (Remember "Strips of Bacon"?)

I had a hard time writing third-person things so they are letting me do first person and "Oyr Man Rotsler" type stuff. I'm enjoying it, even if my agent gets 40%--which is what photo agents get. Some get more. It's been easy so far, but I have a big backlog of Kteic/Masque to draw upon. It will get harder later.

I get \$50 a month for the PAGEANT thing & \$100 from SAGA but after the agent takes his cut I get \$90 for the 2...but that's better than nothing. The \$30 from Pageant enables me to buy those few mags I might not normally buy which have a lot of quotes in them. (Anyone locally have a Readers Digest file?)

Hey, Pelz honey: you can go into one of the Librarieshere where they have typers but what about the availability of UCLA Readers Digests?

DISTRIBUTION

This is a problem. People have moved, etc. So here we go again.

1: Jacobs to Burbee to Calkins to Ballard to Pelz to Paul Turner to Bob & Helen Peteler at 7000 Gubernador Rd, Carpenteria, Calif. (Save it for me, Robbie, and I'll collect it later--OK?)

2: Boggs to Bergeron to Ellik to Carr to Lee Hoffman to Raeburn to Tucker to Grennell.

3: Busbys to Steve Stiles to Silverberg to Eney to Warner and, in the fullness of time, to Walter A. Willis (who might pass it on to Bennet & Ashworth if they are interested.) Also to ATOM!!!!

Please note: If anyone doesn't care to be on the distribution list please say so. You won't hurt my feelings and it will speed up the line. Boggs once declined, in the long ago, saying he just didn't have time.

And please: Move them along.

MERI WELLES JUST CALLED

Meri is the beautiful blonde that I have reported on before. She's in "The Pink Panther" and was in "Cleopatra" in a small part, etc. A few weeks ago she said she'd like to try for PLAYBOY, so I shot her one day, doing everything from sportsclothes to full nudes. Then she saw the pictures, admitted what I had suspected, that she was terribly nervous, and wanted to try again, this time in her own bedroom.

So I went up to her place, a rather unique place high on a hill overlooking Hollywood, with a tiny pool with a nude statue in it spouting water that extends thru the wall of glass into the living room. I worked for a few hours but I was unable to make her relax. I'm usually pretty good at this and good at making a woman feel beautiful. The latter I could do and I could achieve moments of confidence from her but no real relaxation.

At one point she was so nervous she said, "Why don't you take off your clothes?"

"Now, now..." I said. (I did take off my shirt because it was very warm.)

So after she saw the pictures she went AWK at herself, crying she was fat and sloppy and ugly etc etc etc and wanted Out. Okay, I said, and forgot about it. She's lovely but she's a nut and I just can't be bothered. So she just called up and wants to come by about midnight and buy the color & negs from me.

It's more than I thought I'd get out of it.

ASIDE TO TERRY CARR

And others. If any of you want to quote from KTEICm, rather, to reprint from it as Terry did at one time, you are certainly welcome. In the case of the above item, I would appreciate you not using her name. Other items in the future might be DNQ or DNQ Using Names.

KEEP GREENTREE GREEN

send money

SO WHATEVER HAPPENED TO--

A number of Rotsler Projects have been announced in Kteic over the years and some of you might wonder what has happened to them. This page should give you a partial answer.

SAM MARTIAN

Bill Kennedy, of the McNaught Syndicate, took Sam around to the editors of papers in Louisiana, Okla and Texas (gawd!) and they just didn't get it. That is, after they had read 20 Or 30 of them they were more of less with it, but not at first. And this was after me taking Michele off to Santa Barbara for a weekend and running my Think Tank dry getting a new opening and following the advice of The Syndicate by making Sam grey instead of black. This was okay by me because it gave me a mouth & hands to be expressive with, which he hadn't before when he was black 'N' hairy.

So now I've got to get a new new opening and I'm just too busy to think of it. My mind is cluttered and I just can't think along these lines now. Just doing Sam--fine; thinking up a whole new opening which explains Sam in a couple of strips; ugh.

THE ROMAN GAMES

Our idea for the Roman Games live in the LA Colosseum is pigvbn-holed right now. It's in the hands of one of the biggest promoters in the country, John Dugan Enterprises, but nothing is happening. It's a BIG project and one destined to stumble around unless we are there every minute convincing people that we mean live and that we really can do it. We'll see. Not this year, though.

FANNY HILL

A Brief History. A man named Bill Door (owner of FAX Records, which puts out Party Records) went to a comedy song writer named Sid Kuller and asked him to do a record of Fanny, when he first heard the book was going to be OKed by the Supreme Court. Then Bill went off to the Orient to dilly-dally in Japanese bathes, attended by naked girls.

When he got back he flipped. Instead of \$5000, Sid had spent \$14,000 and had produced a MUSICAL! Then he heard it and everything was great. He figured it was a goodie. (Actually, it isn't bad at all...) He got the idea of doing it as a movie, using the record as the sound track. He came to us because Dan lived 3-4 doors away. We saw the problems--Fanny does nothing but fornicate in every way possible--and licked them in what must be a good/original/feasible/artistic/interesting/inexpensive way. I really think we did a good job, and others agree.

Then "person or persons unknown" broke into a back window of Bill's house, put a pillow over the face of Bill's voluptuous mistress Chris (who used to hand you a drink in low chairs with nothing under the low-cut, spaghetti-strap shift she wore) and fired four bullets into her chest. Then they waited until Bill came home, tied his hands and feet together behind

his back and beat him to death in a very nasty way. They have not yet discovered the killers. The day after the double murder there wasn't a thing in the papers. Everyone figured it for a pro job and just stopped looking.

So Sid Kuller & Greentree Productions got together and we went to a man named Al Zugsmith. Now we knew Al for a sometime crook and an artistic thief and the maker of TERRIBLE films. But he was the only producer any of us knew and a friend (put that in quotes) of Kuller's.

Al loved the idea. He tried to get financing put together in complicated ways involving money in Yugoslavia & France & Germany & so forth. Then he announced he wanted creative control.

We all picked up our storyboards & collective minds and left. Then he tried to get Dan & I to go with him but we said no thanks.

So he went away somewhere and we went on our way. Sid took us to a marvelous, impressive man named Martin Leeds. Martin (he's the kind of man you don't call Marty) was once head of Desilu, once a CBS Vice-president, etc etc. A lawyer, a brain, very smart and we have come to like & be impressed by him. He's The most impressive man we've met in Hollywood.

Martin liked our ideas very much. We figured a \$650,000 budget and he got \$400,000 of it together with a week or so to go on the rest. Then Zugsmith announced he was going to do it in Germany and the backers said forget it. We tried to get a quickie \$125,000 one going but no serious takers.

So we forgot it...except that the contact with Martin has been of GREAT value.

Well, the reviews on the Zugsmith-Russ Meyer film came out in the trades the other day. They are THE WORST REVIEWS OF ANY FILM WE HAVE EVER READ! Even more devastating than the "I Was A TeenAge Jesus" review that TIME gave Jeffry Hunter's "The Sign of the Cross."

They called it a setback to the industry, an affront to any kind of taste, the worst film, etc etc. Devastating reviews!

We feel better but not much.

THE EXPLORERS

We had this idea of making a comic strip with photographs, ala "fumetti" as it is done in Europe, primarily in Italy, also in South America. I presented the format, characters, etc first to Fritz Lieberman, who wrote a bit on it. But the real work was done by Bill Blackbeard.

We built a rocket ship control room up at my ranch. We built an all-purpose room that we can use in several ways. We built a marvelous rocket model and model sets, etc. I had Adrienne Martine design the costumes and I did the storyboard, cast it and was ready.

We gathered up the actors and actresses and drove up to the ranch and they put on their costumes for the first time. It was ludicrous. They were OBSCENE. Nothing fit anyone, except the jump suit for the brunette, Heather Ames. Even Carol Bailey (my Playmate-that-has-never-been-published) was only passable. Grant Lockwood, Bob Howard and Craig Thurston were just terrible. We scrubbed the entire day at a cost of about \$200.

Later we came back, after the costumes had been drastically worked over. They never did fit really good as if we go into production I'm getting new suits all around.

We shot it and I laid it out, we looked at it, cut Bill's verbiage by about one-half to two-thirds...rewrote drastically...inserted cutbacks to Earth...shot those...finally did the whole thing up.

Then Bill Kennedy ~~took~~ sent it to McNaught. They rejected it.

Seems the headman's wife died the week before & no one has any mind around there..plus they disregarded completely our simple, detailed, present-by-numbers presentation and didn't know what it was about and, in effect, just screwed the whole thing up.

So we took it to the LATimes Syndicate. And they rejected it. They loved the process but don't want continuity strips.

The five newspapers that have seen it have loved the idea and four said they wanted it. The fifth said "I just don't like science-fiction-- what else do you have like this?"

So we are just sitting there right now, waiting. Soon Kennedy will take it to a syndicate in Chicago...OR go on the road himself, on his own, if he can get together enough strips, panels, columns, etc that make him look like a real syndicate.

So we sit.

There are other ideas along the PHOTO-STRIP line agoing but I'll tell you about them later.

Oh, our second project will be "STARLET", a sort of soap about Hollywood, Gay Mad Wonderful. There are several science-fiction things in the hopper if the 1st one goes.

One more thing: Martin Leeds introed us to Bill Sergeant, hward of Electronovision, the outfit that put out Burton's "Hamlet" and Bill loaned us \$2500 to do it. We spent more than that but that's the breaks.

A POT OF POURII

See the latest KNIGHT magazine...cover, back cover & Big Spread inside by me, on a naked lady movie. See CAPER for May...I did the centerpread pix story. See SWANK for May: story on another naked lady movie I did. See MONSIEUR for April...cover and inside story on the girl known as Joan, in the last Kteic or Masque. / the "Venus Observed" & suicide prevention item. See TROJAN, V3#2 for a spread on the first naked lady film I did, years ago. See DAPPER for April, for gag shots...including members of the LASFS holding up a nude girl while wearing black robes...and I think it's Ron Ellick in an Ape suit embracing Joan. See PLX ~~for~~ V#1, Number 5 for another "Black Magic" spread. Also see the PLX coming out next week for another on the "Dr Breedlobe" movie that KNIGHT has. Every other month (as often as it's published anyway) I have captioned nudie-cutie gafs in JEM magazine.

And don't forget the column in PAGEANT...and quotes for QUOTEBOOK! All the above mags are current or recent. There are others, but it;s old stuff being reprinted, mainly.

William Rotsler