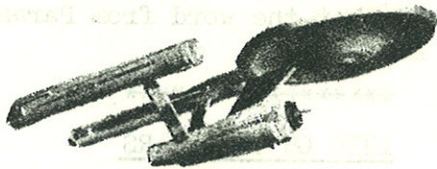


Star Trek Action Group



May, 1977

NEWSLETTER No. 23

President/Secretary: Janet Quarton, 15 Letter Daill, Cairnbaan, Lochgilphead, Argyll, Scotland.

Vice President/Editor: Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee, Scotland

Sales Secretary: Beth Hallam, Flat 3, 36 Clapham Rd., Bedford, England.

Honorary Members: Gene Roddenberry, Majel Barrett, James Doohan, George Takei, Susan Sackett.

DUES

U.K. £1.50 per year. Europe £2 printed rate, £3.50 airmail letter rate.
U.S.A. \$6.00 Airmail, \$4.00 surface. Australia & Japan £3 Airmail, £2 surface.

Hello, everyone. Janet insists that it's my turn to write a letter... and I can't persuade her otherwise.

First of all, the SPECTRE stills that we hoped to include this time. It proved much harder - and much more expensive - to get these than we originally hoped, and we discovered that in fact there was no way that the club could afford two prints per member. What we can afford is one per member and the second one at the special price of 15p. These are 10"x8" B/W prints, one of Majel in her role as Lilith in SPECTRE, the other of Gene talking to two men on location. If you would like to receive this free photograph (whether or not you order the other) you must send Janet a 7p SAE at least 10"x8" by June 16th. (Foreign orders - send 3 IRCs to cover postage and envelope or 5 IRCs to allow for the second photo if you wish both). Specify which print you want (if you don't want both).

Those of you who have already sent envelopes please let Janet know which print you want, or send a P.O. for 15p if you want both.

The photos will be ordered after June 16th, when we know how many we need, and forwarded as soon as they are ready. This could take two or three weeks, but you will receive them as soon as possible.

We are also having to raise zine prices in this sales list. All our printing costs have increased very much lately - these costs include maintenance on our duplicator (which due to the heavy work load needs servicing at least every six months), as well as paper, stencils and ink which had all increased in price last time we bought them. Postage is also going up in June, and we have had to allow for this.

Finally, yet another appeal. I need articles of general interest as well as comments on those articles already printed, jokes, short stories and poems. Remember, this is your club. Excercise IDIC - share your thoughts and ideas with us all.

Peace, Sheila

P.S. Members whose subscription expires with this newsletter will find a renewal form enclosed.

L.L. & P. Janet

STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE..... The latest

The latest that Susan Sackett could tell us on the movie is that the script has to be revised and they are ways off filming yet. I had a very nice note from George Takei a few days ago and he said that the word from Paramount is that the film won't be getting started till December.

INFO ON THE STARS

GENE RODDENBERRY's latest project 'SPECTRE', which as we know was filmed in Britain, is scheduled to be aired on NBC on May 21st. (Info Susan Sackett)

WILLIAM SHATNER received a Grammy nomination for Best Spoken Word Recording for his record "Asimov: Foundation--The Psychohistorians." We haven't heard the result yet. (Info Susan Sackett - Star Trektenial News 20)

GEORGE TAKEI and WALTER KOENIG are in the process of negotiating for a national tour of the two character play "Kataki" by Shimon Wincelberg ("Dagger of the Mind"). The play is about a Japanese soldier and an American soldier meeting on an island during World War II. If negotiations are successful, the play would tour colleges across America this Autumn. (Info Susan Sackett - Star Trektenial News 20)

WILLIAM SHATNER narrates "Mysteries of the Gods" a movie based on speculation that the "missing link" in human evolution is explained by advanced extraterrestrial visitors interbreeding with the ancient civilizations of Latin America, and passing on vast scientific knowledge as well. (Info Kathe Donnelly & Karolyn Popovich STW APOTA April)

LEONARD NIMOY's latest series, IN SEARCH OF... is currently being screened on ITV in various parts of the U.K. (Info Ann Locker, Michael Cleaver, Steven J Green)

ARTICLE IN 'THE SUNDAY POST' May 1st, 1977

SPOCK TAKE-OVER?

Will Spock take over the starship Enterprise?

I hear from the studios that Captain James T. Kirk is relinquishing command.

William Shatner, who played the "Star Trek" captain, no longer wants to appear in the multi-million-dollar film now being planned by Paramount in Hollywood.

Initially, he'd agreed to appear in the film.

But filming was set back when Leonard Nimoy - alias Spock - asked for more money than Shatner to recreate his famous Vulcan.

Shatner says his decision was not prompted by Nimoy's wage demands, but by the attitude of the studio.

"I've got really tired of wondering what's happening to the script," he's on record as saying.

It's now being rewritten for the third time.

. . . .

We have printed the above article as a number of you have questioned us about it. At this stage we can't confirm or deny whether Shatner has said he won't appear in the movie but we would point out that an accurate newspaper article is a rarity. We can definitely say that Leonard Nimoy has not held the film up in any way. No cast has been signed yet as you cannot sign a cast before you have a script. The script does have to be revised. (see above)

We are trying to get definite information on the validity of the above article, and hope to have it for the next newsletter. In the meantime I would advise you not to lose any sleep over it. (Editor)

REALITY PLUS: Britain's newest fanzine column. Contacts in the U.K., U.S. and Europe. All fanzines or fan events can receive free publicity. Just write to us at: AD ASTRA, 33, Scott Road, Olton, Solihull, B92 7LQ. Sample zines reviewed. An SAE will get you full details and a sheet on AA's latest sf publications.

AVAILABLE MERCHANDISE

ANDROMEDA BOOK CO. LTD., 57 Summer Row, Birmingham, B3 1JJ

Minimum order of £2 + 75p postage. Actual post is charged at cost, and the extra credited to your account.

Andromeda have nearly all the professional ST books in stock at the moment, although some are only available in the American edition which is dearer. Write to them for details. Andromeda send out a comprehensive SF catalogue, which includes all their ST stock, to regular customers every two months.

New

STAR TREK CONCORDANCE (due late April) £2.95

FEDERATION TRIVIA BOOK T-K Graphics/Bran's Head. 175 questions on ST, illustrated with many stills. Answers are also provided. £1.00

OFFICERS OF THE BRIDGE T-K Graphics/Bran's Head. Biographies of each of the members of the bridge crew. Well illustrated with photos & paintings. £3.00

USS ENTERPRISE BRIDGE BLUEPRINTS T-K Graphics/Bran's Head. Set of 10. £3.60

FREIGHTER BLUEPRINTS (USS INDEPENDENCE CLASS) T-K Graphics/Bran's Head. £2.40

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DARK THEY WERE AND GOLDEN EYED Cashmere House, 9-12 St. Annes Court, London W1V 3AX
All prices include postage. We have no update on their stock since last newsletter.

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SCIENCE FICTION BOOK SHOP 40 West Cross Causeway, Edinburgh, Scotland.
All prices include p & p. We have no update on their stock since last newsletter.

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Harry A. Freidenberg, 257 South Citrus Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90036, U.S.A. will supply most, if not all, albums by ST cast and loads of other Sci-Fi albums too. Not to mention pix etc. (info Phyl Proctor)

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BLUE MOUNTAIN ARTS P.O. Box 4549, Boulder, Cold. U.S.A.

This firm puts out a series of note cards (as far as we know these are similar to notelets) on which is printed the poetry of Leonard Nimoy (among others). The series is called 'The Collector Series'. If you are interested we suggest you write to the firm for details. Don't forget to enclose a couple of IRCs. (info Jerri Franz)

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MOVIE HOUSE PUBLICATIONS Box 640199, Uleta Branch, Miami, Florida 33164, U.S.A.

This firm sells ST posters, photos and magazines. They charge 25% extra for airmail postage. Write to them for their lists. (info Peter Buckett)

NEW & FORTHCOMING MERCHANDISE

TREK OR TREAT Ballantine. \$2.95. A collection of B/W stills (5"x8") in book form which have been given captions by Terry Flanagan & Eleanor Ehrhardt. Some of these captions are really funny. This book has just been released in the States.

(Thanks, Nancy)

STAR TREK STORY LIBRARY

Is anyone interested in joining a "library" of ST stories? These will be manuscripts of unprinted stories written by U.S. and possibly British, writers. There will be an annual charge (so far unfixed) to cover the cost of copying the stories and getting them over from the States, from a group already operating over there. Each listed member, having read the story, sends it on to the next named on the list. We will only begin this if enough people are interested. If you are interested, contact Sheila at the address on page 1.

FANZINE ADS

ALNITAH - obtainable from: Mrs Ann Looker, "The Forge", 41 Main Street,
Weston Turville, Aylesbury, Bucks.

Presently available: ALNITAH 2 @ 65p, ALNITAH 4 @ 75p, ALNITAH 5 @ 85p.
ALNITAH 6 will be ready soon. Send SAE if you wish to be advised when it is ready.

THE GROPE COLLECTION (adult fanzines) also available from Ann Looker.
GROPE, MORE GROPE, SON OF GROPE, DEEP GROPE (new). All at 75p each.

GRUP V - This is the 5th issue of the American ST fanzine edited by Carrie Brennan.
Ann Looker is acting as agent for GRUP V in this country and is now accepting orders
although you may have to wait a few weeks till they arrive. £1.16 + 14p inland postage.

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OFF THE BEATEN TREK Edited by Trinette Kern, Suite 204, W.O. Jacky Building,
51 Clairton Blvd., Pittsburg, PA 15236, U.S.A.

No.1 out of print. No.2 @ \$4.25 No.3 @ \$5.00 (special issue - Vulcan orientated)
Nos. 4,5,7,8,10 will be \$4.25. Nos. 6 & 9 will be \$5.00 each. (special issues)
Number 3 is due out in the near future. Advance orders are being taken for the
others which Trinette hopes to put out at three monthly intervals.
Add \$1.60 to each zine for airmail postage.
Also now available, THE CLIMB @ \$5.64 surface, \$6.00 Airmail.

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CONTACT 3 available from Nancy Kippax, 5520 Relcrest Rd. Apt E, Baltimore,
MD 21206, U.S.A.

An excellent zine based on the Kirk/Spock relationship. This issue contains stories
by Nancy Kippax, Beverly Volker, Johanna Cantor, Sheila Clark and others. Also
excellent artwork and poetry. All printed on glossy paper.
Price \$7.50 Airmail. We don't have a surface rate but \$6.00 would probably cover it.
Payment must be made by dollar bank draft or dollar money order.

SMALL ADS

- FOR SALE: Two film books in mint condition covering one of the greatest Science
Fiction films, "Day the Earth Stood Still." Many rare photos.
£8 the two. Phil Skinner, 18 Wadham Ave., Walthamstow, London E17 4HT.
- WANTED: Anything on Star Trek to swap for pictures and booklets on STARSKY & HUTCH.
Paula Greener, 60 Leamington Gdns., Seven Kings, Ilford, Essex.
- FOR SALE: The 1st booklet of STARSKY & HUTCH, 15p. Paula Greener (address above)
- FOR SALE: Leonard Nimoy 'rubber stamper', 1"x1½", in excellent condition. Highest
offer received by June 18th will be accepted.
Sheila Cornall, 5 Warwick Cres., Hayes, Middx.
- TERRACON'77: Would like ride to and/or from London to Liverpool for 3 persons with
luggage. To Liverpool sometime on Sept. 9th (will find out arrival
time at airport later) and from on Sept. 11th. Please write to:-
Miss Janis Wynn Boll, 1235 Colfax Ave., Grand Haven, Michigan 49417, USA

WANTED FOR ZINES

- WANTED: Keith Gooch, 4 Dalmeny Street, Leith, Edinburgh, EH6 8R., needs articles,
reviews, stories, quizzes and crosswords on the TV series, THUNDERBIRDS,
UFO and SPACE 1999 for a fanzine which will also feature STAR TREK,
DOCTOR WHO and TOMORROW PEOPLE.

OTHER CLUBS

BEYOND ANTARES: Sheila Hull, President. Please send enquiries to:- Sylvia Billings.
49 Southampton Road, Far Cotton, Northampton. Zine-Telemetry.

EMPATHY: Cath Owens, 30 Ovenden Way, Halifax, West Yorks. 6 zines available.
This is the club organizing Terracon' 77.

STERB: John Hind, 14 Bingham Rd., Radcliffe-on-Trent, Notts. zine, Murasaki Journal.

STIG: Ross Carter, 29 Castle Road, Southsea, Portsmouth.

STARBASE 13: Brian Longstaff, 13 Woodfarm Drive, Sheffield, S6 5LW.

OMICORN: Tracy Cooke, 67 Eden Grove, Horfield, Bristol, B57 OPQ.

WSF: Club for Kirk fans. Mrs Dee Smith, 25 Wolsey Rd., Caversham, Reading, Berks.

UNITED FRIENDS OF WILLIAM SHATNER: Maxine Lee Broadwater, 37-51 80th Street,
Jackson Heights, New York, NY 11372, U.S.A.

LNAF: Leonard Nimoy's official fan club. Miss Louise Stange, 4612 Denver Court,
Englewood, Ohio 45322, U.S.A.

JDIFC: A great club for James Doohan. Anna Hreha, 1519 NW 204th Street, Seattle,
Washington 98177, U.S.A.

DE FOREST KELLEY ASSOC OF FANS: Karolyn Popovich, 1000 South Bryant, Denver,
Colorado 80219, U.S.A.

.

THE BRITISH NICK TATE CLUB: Carole Abbs, 37 Kingswood Cres., Leeds, West Yorkshire.

STARSKY & HUTCH APPRECIATION SOCIETY: Nancy Prout, 110 The Parade, Saxton Gardens,
Leeds, LS9 8HL.

STARSKY & HUTCH fans might like to know that we have heard from a source that we trust that there will be a new series of STARSKY & HUTCH.

TERRACON' 77

The 'Empathy' Star Trek Convention will be held at the Centre Hotel, Liverpool, over the weekend of September 10th/11th. Registration fee is between £4 & £5 depending on when you book. All hotel reservations must be made through Dorothy Owens. For further information, entry forms for the award sections, or anything at all to do with the Con, contact EMPATHY, 30 Ovenden Way, Lee Mount, Halifax, West Yorks. Don't forget to enclose an S.A.E.

Latest:- Plans are coming on satisfactorily for the Con, although the guests have not yet been settled. The hotels are rapidly becoming booked up although there are a few double rooms still available at the Con hotel for those willing to share. If you are willing to share a room please let Dorothy know as soon as possible, or when you book.

PENFRIENDS

Miss Teco A. Galanti, 4846 N. Laundale St., Chicago, Ill. 60625, U.S.A. would like a penpal. Teco is 26, 5ft 4in., has brown hair and eyes. Her favourite TV programmes are STAR TREK, S ACE 1999, M.A.S.H., BARETTA and DARK SHADOWS. She is interested in art and music, and the study of psychic phenomena.

Elizabeth Price, 6 Clay Lane, Banford, Rochdale, Lancashire, OL11 8RQ. Age 14. Interests: Reading, STAR TREK, THE QUEST, STARSKY & HUTCH, Badminton, Horse-riding. Elizabeth would like to write to a boy or girl of same age.

JERRY ISENBERG ON THE FILM

The following extracts are taken from an excellent interview of Mr. Isenberg (executive producer) by Susan Sackett, which is printed in Trektennial News No. 20

The biggest problem keeping the picture from getting made is the reconciliation of STAR TREK as a TV show and the needs of a movie.

One of the difficulties is that STAR TREK has had 79 episodes. As a result, when anyone sits down and writes a great movie story, when you give it to the people what otherwise would pass as a movie has the look of a TV episode. What has stopped the movie is that every time you've gotten a good story, it looked a lot like the TV series, and the studio sort of said "Why should we put X millions of dollars into something that looks like a big episode?" So what we have had to do is come up with a story that is STAR TREK and doesn't look like a TV episode of STAR TREK. That's difficult.

Movies have a tendency to move in a direct line and you can't get back to where you were. The characters develop or things change in a way that you can't get back. TV shows work in a closed loop, when you begin every episode you're going to end it in the same spot. What we're trying to do is open the loop.

At the moment Paramount has agreed that the picture will cost approx. 8 - 8½ million dollars. Once the script is completed and we budget it out, then we can talk to Paramount about whether we need more money or not.

The amount of preproduction is really astronomical. One of the things we wish to accomplish is to create a sense of the outdoors on another planet. One of the ways we intend to do it is photograph some sections of this planet that are not familiar, and then in miniature, build what we couldn't afford to build in real life. What everyone who gets involved in these kinds of pictures realises is that each sequence poses numerous problems, each of which has to be attacked individually. Making somebody float through space is a different problem from photographing a battle scene between two ships in space, which is a different problem from creating monsters fifty feet tall, which is a different problem from creating cities that are two miles high which is a different problem from creating landscapes with volcanoes erupting. If we are going to get involved in any other world, we have to create what that world looks like, and it won't suffice to create a nice little stage set that's built half on sand with a red screen in the background to signify a red star. It won't work.

It will be wonderful if they (the original cast) could be used. One problem is the extent to which the cast has maintained itself physically. It's been nine or ten years since you shot the series, and the picture will take place within a year or two Earth time of when the series left off, which leaves you now open to how well each of the members of the previous cast has maintained himself or herself physically over this period of time.

No-one will be signed until the script is finalised.

There are presently contemplated two major roles that we hope to attract theatrical quality stars to be in. One's a male role and one's a female role. These two roles, with Bill and Leonard, will be the four major stars of the show.

SALESLIST - Correction

Please note:

Bargain packs of clips @ 50p - SOLD OUT

STOP PRESS - May 14th, 77

STAR TREK - THE MOTION PICTURE (info Susan Sackett, Star Trektenial 20, May/June, 77)

The first draft of the script was finished on March 1st and the writers, Chris Bryant and Allan Scott, have now left the ST office and moved on to other things. The script will now undergo a second draft, which is quite typical for motion picture scripts. No one has been set to do the rewrite yet, but whoever is selected will work closely with all involved thusfar, and of course Gene Roddenberry will be there to guide this final writing process.

The ST offices in building E on the Paramount Lot have been expanded, so that they now have office space on both sides of the corridor. TERRY CARR has joined the staff as Production Manager - he was Production Manager on Paramount's recent film, KING KONG. There is now a considerable possibility that at least part of the film will be shot in England, at a major studio. After filming SPECTRE over here, Gene Roddenberry was very pleased with the talent, the facilities and the considerable saving of costs which are some of the benefits of filming in England.

No one has been signed to do the film yet, but they are very hopeful that all of the original cast will be in the movie (regardless of where they film it). However, they've many other things to consider in this preproduction stage, and casting will probably not take place until everything else has been handled.

The Enterprise will remain essentially the same beloved starship we all will recognize on sight. What will be changed will be for the better -- there will be many new parts of the Enterprise that were never seen before. Gene Roddenberry is working very closely with the production designer.

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INFO ON THE STARS

WILLIAM SHATNER will be releasing a two-record album set, recorded live at his successful campus lecture appearances this past fall. For further info, send a SAE to: Lemli Productions, P.O. Box 1710, Hollywood, CA 90028, U.S.A. This record will not be available in stores. (info Star Trektenial 20)

WILLIAM SHATNER will be one of 16 stars appearing in a new mini-series entitled, "Testimony of Two Men", based on a story by Taylor Caldwell, produced by MVA-TV. Series will be filmed at Universal. He will also be starring in "Kingdom of the Spiders", a horror flic. Production will begin in Arizona on Monday March 21st.

(info Shirley Maliewski - ST: APOC: May, 77)

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SCIENCE FICTION BOOKSHOP, 40 West Crosscauseway, Edinburgh.

New STAR TREK list - May, 1977.

Two prices are quoted for each book, the first is for large orders, the second includes postage and packing if you are only ordering one or two items.

Large orders (using first price), 30p for the first item & 10p per item there after. Orders over £5 add 20%. Please make cheques/POs payable to The Science Fiction Book Shop.

MEDIA SPOTLIGHT No.3 at least 100 b/w photos. 75p (90p)

THE STAR TREK CONCORDANCE late May, £3.50 (£3.95)

POSTER BOOK 1 & 2 @ 35p (50p) No. 6 60p (70p)

STAR TREK LOG 8 & 9 @ 95p (£1.15)

SPOCK MESSIAH & STAR TREK LIVES @ 60p (75p)

The STAR TREK POSTER BOOK stopped being distributed in this country after issue 2. I therefore immediately ordered future copies from the States @ one dollar each, i.e. 60p or 70p incl. p&p. I sincerely apologise for the inconvenience since a few people have mailed in orders at the British price. This money is being held in credit against further orders but can be refunded on request. American editions should arrive mid-June but I have not yet received confirmation of my order.

New customers - do send in your names and addresses because the next list looks like being excellent. We hope to have some new items from America including greeting cards and a book called "The Complete Trekkie Catalogue."

I can not as yet give details of STARLOG - I have really been messed about something rotten on this publication, but this should be sorted out fairly soon.

All the best, Rob King

SPECTRE

Originally Gene wrote this about four years ago along with a couple of other Science Fiction shows, and CBS ordered it done - and he wrote it, and sent it off, and it came back; too strong, it's too powerful; right after that came *The Exorcist* and *The Omen*. (Majel Barrett, Elstree.)

The story is about a demon called Asmodeus, the Prince of Lechery, who corrupts Humans through lust. Asmodeus has been sealed away for some 3000 years by three Druid priests, but some time recently he has been released.

Originally the main characters were to be Sherlock Holmes and Watson, but Gene couldn't get permission to use those characters, so the investigators became Sebastian and Dr. Hamilton (Ham).

Sebastian (Robert Culp) is an American Criminologist who has a growing belief that supernatural forces are behind much violent and unexplainable crime.

When his housekeeper Lilith (Majel Barrett) welcomes Ham (Gig Young) to the house, she notes that this colleague and friend of Sebastian's is succumbing to a weakness for alcohol which could end his medical career.

Through Lilith's strange powers, Ham's drinking problem is cured, and he agrees, though mystified, to accompany Sebastian to England.

Their mission is to solve a mysterious set of circumstances surrounding Sir Geoffrey Cyon (James Villiers), a man whose wealth is increasing so incredibly rapidly that it is allowing him to dominate the world's money markets.

Sir Geoffrey's sister Anitra (Ann Bell) fears that her brother's incredible economic success indicates he may have come under the domination of some supernatural power. She has commissioned Sebastian to investigate the possibility.

A private jet arrives to collect Sebastian and Ham. Before they can board it, a beautiful young woman enters the house. This is Anitra, who has changed her mind; she now wants no investigation.

Sebastian takes her into his library. She catches sight of a book, and as she clutches it to her, white flames enfold her. Finally, all that is left is the book lying on the chair.

The pilot of the plane is Mitri (John Hurt). As the plane takes off, he assures them that his sister has not left England; the 'Anitra' they saw was actually a succubus, a minor demon which takes the form of a provocative female, sent to weaken and trick him.

The plane trip is hazardous, but they finally reach London. A car is waiting.

On their way to Cyon House, Sebastian directs Synda (Jenny Runacre) the 'chauffeur' to stop at the house of his friend Dr. Qualus, who knows a great deal about supernatural forces. Qualus, however, has been brutally killed, his house set on fire. Firemen are still busy. Sebastian meets Inspector Cabell (Gordon Jackson) who finally admits to similar killings connected with Sir Geoffrey's business associates. Beyond that he will say nothing, and Sebastian and Ham continue their journey. They have however managed to retrieve the Qualus journal undetected, and this they take with them.

Cyon House is magnificent, outwardly old, but inside the decor is modern. Only one thing strikes an odd note; Like the 'chauffeur', all the servants are beautiful girls.

Anitra joins the party. Though resembling the succubus, this real Anitra

is an older woman, angular and somewhat prim. She insists that Mitri is being corrupted while Geoffrey is probably already lost.

"Kill whatever is doing this," she says.

As they look round Cyon House, the two men have two miraculous escapes from certain death; then, as they read the Qualus journal, the very foundations of the mansion shake.

While Ham tries to rationalise a strange night's 'happenings', Sebastian insists that they return to Qualus House. He finds what he is looking for - a miniature coffin - empty.

Now Sebastian is sure. He explains to the still baffled Ham that it is Asmodeus, Prince of Lechery, who is the cause of Sir Geoffrey's problems. Asmodeus takes on the image of some Human whose death has gone unrecorded. In that way he can rule the world through lechery. In the 6th century BC, the Druids had sealed him up. Is he now released?

Later that night, Mitri is attacked by the same 'being' that clawed Dr. Qualus to his death. The police are called while Ham, being a doctor, is on hand to save the patient's life.

Now Sebastian and Ham are determined to investigate the huge subterranean tunnels and cellars under the old house. The corridors are littered with skulls, whitened Human skeletons and carved images. Eventually they arrive at two huge and heavy metal doors, smashed open when Sir Geoffrey was excavating. Only half the gold seal is left and the two men enter a large black cathedral-type cavern. Evil is everywhere. Fresh sacrificial blood is on an altar.

Now they know. Asmodeus is there, and he will continue to control more political and material power unless he can be stopped.

Cyon House is now ablaze with lights. A party is on. Internationally famous faces and beautiful women fill the house with laughter which gradually gets louder and more raucous. Sebastian and Ham make for the cellars, to be met with roars and groans from the former 'guests'.

In the macabre minutes which follow, recognisable Human beings become like undesirable beasts.

Asmodeus shows himself as the demon he is in a huge metamorphic growth which has him towering over the assembly. The Human sacrifice is Anitra, struggling midst the tumult of moans, begging for Sebastian's help...

Summarised from Publicity Fact Sheet issued by Elstree Studios. I've been mean, and missed out the end - Jean Garioch, publicity officer, asked us when we were at Elstree, not to give away the end. Therefore... (editor)

FANTASTIC JOURNEY

Alix Maclean writes;

I have only seen it a few times because I have not been in this country for the past few weeks. The thing I noticed about it was the sound effects it used for nearly every new city. The background noises for - say - the control centre of the city were the same as those used on the U.S.S. Enterprise. The episode on 22nd April had a prison door just like the one used in Star Trek's 'Cloud Minders'. Maybe D.C. Fontana had a hand in it somewhere. (She did, Alix - D.C. Fontana is story editor for the series - Ed.)

HOW TO INFILTRATE A SCIENCE FICTION CON
OR
MY PERSONAL GUIDE TO THE WIMPY BARS OF COVENTRY

There are several essentials of character that are necessary before attempting this difficult feat!

- 1) Actually read SF generally, not just ST fiction.
- 2) Be capable of withstanding vast amounts of static electricity which the Hotel insists on lavishing on you at all hours of the day or night.
- 3) Be able to meet people like Anne McCaffrey, James White, Harry Harrison, John Brunner, Bob Shaw and Ian Watson without fainting, especially if they chase you off a stage or carry your case for you!
- 4) Also be able to hold conversations with Eddie Jones (S. Fantoni; he's done ST book covers) on topics like: Are ST cons as good as they say?
- 5) Consume vast amounts of alcohol or appear to, while standing on one leg while the other tries to find the non-existent rail, found round the base of any normal bar, as all SF cons have never closing bars and food available at ANY time!
- 6) Be prepared to understand one word in four when fanatics are discussing Dungeons and Dragons.
- 7) Still better have the ability to keep your mouth shut, first listen for criticism of ST, wait until it is finished and then logically discuss why you like it! Opposition tends to crumble.
- 8) Lastly the skill of being able to sniff out a decent eating house on a Good Friday when round every Coventry corner there are marauding Wimpy Bars full to bursting and looking very unappetising. When finally a reasonable restaurant is tracked down you have to be able to put up with a 'wine waitress' called "Speedy Gonzales" who travels at approximately 100 yards an hour!

To put flippancy aside the Eastercon at Coventry was excellent. Very well organised, thanks to Rog, Mike, Dave, Laurence and Pauline. The films were good, E.G. Things to Come, Fantastic Planet. The talks and panels were fascinating, on Robots, Women in SF, an explanation of the Bermondsey (?) Triangle Mystery by Bob Shaw (I am still laughing at this two weeks after - 1¼ hours talk and at the end all we got was a plate of fish and chips with salt and vinegar!)

There was a Fancy Dress Parade followed by a Dramatic Encounter between the Super Heroes and the Super Heroines of Comics - Here a thank you to Helen McCarthy for writing the script (well, I think that was what it was called) This was acted by ST fans and others and was so corny, but funny, that it brought the house down. Room and lift parties went on every night and there was a dance on the Sunday. I think an enjoyable time was had by all.

The next Eastercon is in the Heathrow conference centre. There is a Novacon in Birmingham (arranged by the Brum SF Group) on the first weekend in November this year. There is also Faircon in the summer of '78 in Glasgow - this is purely a media con and hopes to explore SF and the media (e.g. films, ST, Dr. Who, etc.) The organisers are the Friends of Kilgore Trout or the Glasgow SF group; contact Bob Shaw (not the one mentioned earlier) at 2/L Park Rd, Kelvinbridge, Glasgow G4 if you are interested. Supporting membership is 50p.

BE WARNED, we have infiltrated their ranks and now they are returning the compliment! Watch out for thirsty-looking SF fans.....

Jackie Wright

CHRISTINE CHAPEL

Helen Sneddon writes:

Thank goodness something is to be done (in the film) with Christine Chapel. Never was a character more used and abused. One minute she's an excellent nurse with a witty, intelligent turn of speech, the next she's a goggle-eyed, wishy-washy, incapable, lovesick male chauvenist's dream girl. How can scriptwriters and those responsible for character continuity allow such a thing? How could Majel Barrett allow her character to be so mutilated? It's inconceivable that such a strong-willed woman as would search the galaxy for a lost fiance should waste herself on Spock. He isn't her type, if Corby is any guide. He doesn't love her, he pities her, tolerating her out of politeness. I don't believe she loves him either. I think the revelation of the truth surrounding her fiance shattered her, made her so unwilling to trust another man that she latched on to the only 'safe bet' - Spock. She could direct her feelings at him, knowing he wouldn't take her up on it, wouldn't betray her, wouldn't hurt her. She'd run a mile if he tried to start something, witness her reaction in Amok Time. And the fact she was so obviously interested in him would deter any other man from making an approach, so she was doubly safe. I hope she breaks free of him when he's served his purpose, and finds true love elsewhere. She's had enough heartbreak without burdening herself with a lifetime's toil and anguish on Spock's behalf. Set her free, you lot, she deserves it. Let her be happy.

STARSKY AND HUTCH

There has been almost no response to Rosemary Francis's comparison of S & H with Kirk and Spock.

David Coote writes:

Certainly the parallels of behaviour are there but there have been many partnerships that could be squeezed into those headings throughout the field of films and TV. I don't want to knock Starsky and Hutch, which is one of the best American 'cops and robbers' shows around but the essential differences between the Kirk/Spock partnership and any other is that within the Star Trek format there is a whole universe of possibilities to consider - witness the incredible number of fanzine stories - and any other partnership is restricted to arresting or gunning down the 'bad guys' (or good guys) in Western or modern settings. I notice a Starsky and Hutch Appreciation Society has been formed, and I'd be interested in learning of the range of development that can be made with the characters.

THE MOST DEADLY CRITICISM

Phyl Proctor writes:

The reason most leaders of armies stay out of harm's way is simply a matter of the old Red Indian theory that If You Kill The Chief The Rest Of The Tribe Are Useless. Of course this isn't so, but the top brass like to think it is and that's their great excuse for staying out of the way. It's not always the case and most of the 'great Generals' had 'the common touch' and showed themselves to the troops. As said, the Enterprise is more of a scientific vessel than a military one and all great explorers always went ashore with the men, i.e. Capt. Cook, Columbus, Scott, Marco Polo, and so on. Kirk, in order to carry out his job as captain of an exploration ship must follow suit. Spock and McCoy too are needed for their skills, but why doesn't Scotty ever go down to explore the engineering techniques? I'm sure we'd benefit from those too.

* * *

Vera Sexstone writes:

I was interested in Marie Hietala's letter about 'the most deadly criticism'. I think one of the best answers to this particular criticism can be found in Kirk's answer to Garth in 'Whom Gods Destroy' when Garth, deluded by mad dreams of military conquest, tries to persuade Kirk to join him, calling Kirk the "second finest military commander in the Galaxy". Kirk replies "That's flattering, but at present I'm primarily an explorer."

No-one expects the leader of an exploration party to stay safely at base, people like Scott of the Antarctic and Captain Cook lost their lives exploring their 'strange new worlds'; they took risks, they didn't just sit back and await reports from their subordinates. I believe there are legitimate criticisms which can be sustained about some aspects of Star Trek (personally, I find Kirk's propensity for falling for every female he encounters somewhat unbelievable, but that may be mere female jealousy - even at my age one can dream) but I think the risks taken by the command crew are justifiable and inevitable in the light of the terms of their mission.

* * *

Theo Krik writes:

I agree with Mrs. M. Bertram's letter in N/L 22 referring to the article by Ms. Hietala in N/L 21, particularly regarding the double function of Mr. Spock. Spock is both second-in-command and Science Officer. However, when the Captain as head of the landing party is absent on a perhaps dangerous mission, his deputy has to take over on board. On the other hand, the Science Officer is probably the most important member of the landing party. Thus, those functions ought to be separated, i.e. there should be a deputy commander and a Science Officer. The same applies to the medical service. Under the circumstances, it would not be advisable that whilst the doctor is absent the medical care on board ship is left in the hands of a nurse, irrespective of how well she might be trained.

The organisational structure ought therefore to be as follows -
 Captain - First Officer (deputy captain)
 Science Officer - with perhaps a deputy
 First and Second Medical Officer
 Incidentally, Scotty also ought to have a deputy.

* * *

Editor's comment: The Making of Star Trek, P 254. "Christine Chapel is well-educated for her task, with a doctorate of her own in Bio-research." Admitted, Bio-research isn't quite the same as medicine, but it does show that her qualifications are excellent.

In addition, one or two episodes do indicate the presence on board of other doctors; specifically Private Little War and That Which Survives.

UFO'S AND DISAPPEARANCES

Is there a connection between UFOs and disappearances? Well, there are many well-known cases of Saucer Kidnappings involving animals, people, aircraft, ships and other forms of transport. The majority of all disappearances occur within a small area of our globe, commonly referred to as 'The Bermuda Triangle' in the Caribbean. Also in an area off Japan known as 'Devil's Sea' or 'The Devil's Deep'. These two areas have a high incidence of UFO sightings, is the number of disappearances high? The magazine 'Week-end' had an article in October 1971 by Mary Own who estimated that seventy-one vessels have disappeared in the last ten years without a trace, taking

with them 1,034 men, women and children. In an article 'Are Flying Saucers Kidnapping Humans' by Leroy Thorpe in 1957, he estimated 100,000 persons disappear mysteriously each year. A writer on UFOs, F E Dickhoff PhD, estimates the figure to be 33,000 annually, while the International Fortean Organisation places the figure at 30,000. I quote Charles Fort. "It may be that if beings from somewhere else should seize inhabitants of the earth, wantonly, or out of curiosity, or as a matter of scientific research, the preference would be for an operation at sea, remote from observation by other humans of this earth."

Some disappearances are solved quite by accident as in two cases I am about to show. An aircraft flying from Pacalla in the Amazon to Lima in Peru disappeared on November 16th 1954 and no trace was ever found. But 18 years later on 19th July 1972, the aircraft was found with all persons on board, 5,000 feet up a snow covered Peruvian peak. Also the case of a Canadian jet missing from its North Bay base since August 2nd 1956 was found by fishermen after 16 years on 12th August 1972. There again, what of the many hundreds that are never seen again and eyewitness accounts of UFOs and their occupants kidnapping. To note some cases of interest, in 1967 an eight year old girl in Thompson, Manitoba, was pulled upwards towards a hovering saucer. This incident happened in full view of her family, and luckily a neighbour grabbed the girl as she was a few feet off the ground.

But unfortunately not all victims are as lucky as that young girl. One such person was Telemaco Xavier, a football referee who, on returning home from a match in North Brazil on the 16th September 1962, by way of a country path, when suddenly three Humanoid creatures who had emerged from a saucer-like object, seized him and dragged him into their object and took off. This whole incident was witnessed by a plantation worker nearby who even saw the craft land. Later police found evidence of a struggle, and as far as I know he has never been seen since.

Another aspect of disappearances is called 'Teleportation'. What is 'Teleportation'? I quote Kurt Glemster (world famous Canadian UFOlogist): "It involves an involuntary unexpected and certainly undesired transference or teleportation from our own three-dimensional world to another dimension or vice-versa." One interesting case took place in Nuremberg, Germany, in 1833. A Kaspar Hauser appeared and he gave a Herr Von Feuerbuck the impression that "he might have been a citizen of another planet transferred by some miracle to our own," so complete was his deficiency in terrestrial customs. Many persons have experienced this phenomenon. One married couple in the mid-sixties were on holiday in Mexico; as they were driving along a quiet road one evening all of a sudden a strange mist enveloped their car and on awakening they found they were in Portsmouth, England! On looking at their watches, only one hour had passed!!!

Perhaps you might be asking "Many disappearances of individuals might be of a criminal nature rather than a UFO or Fortean occurrence", and of course, this is a valid point and one that we must bear in mind.

Disappearances are still occurring to this day, and maybe one day this phenomenon will be solved???

Finally, I represent a local UFO Group called the Manchester Aerial Phenomenon Investigation Team, which applies itself to the UFO challenge on a scientific level and is always interested to hear from anyone who thinks they may have seen something unusual or anyone who is just interested in learning more about the UFO. Scientific attitudes differ over the investigation of UFOs. Carl Sagan reflects "Conscious or unconscious fraud must always be the first suspicion". While Arthur C Clarke leaves us all in the dark with this admirable quote. "If you've never seen a UFO you're not very observant, and if you've seen as many as I have, you won't believe in them."

What do you think about UFOs? Why not write and tell me.

David L. Rees, 92 Hillcrest Rd, Offerton, Stockport, Cheshire, SK2 5SE.

Paula Greener writes:

On the subject of UFOs, I read a book recently on the mystery of UFOs putting forward one idea to explain it. The book is called 'The Secret of the Ages: UFOs from Inside the Earth'. It is written by Brinsley le Poer Trench who is one of the vice-presidents of the British UFO Research Association. I quote the summary of the book from the fly leaf.

"The author postulates that visitors from outer space came to this planet aeons ago. They became the god-kings of Atlantis, erected huge edifices around the world - some of which were built with 200-ton stones. They also constructed gigantic tunnel systems in which to take refuge from both the unstable seismic conditions prevailing in that era, and attack from other extra-terrestrials."

This is a quote from the book and what Mr. le Poer Trench said.

The ancients built these great tunnel systems, and in the first part of the book it deals with how they lived both inside and on the surface of the earth. Our planet, like all others, is really a great spaceship sailing through an ocean of space. We are just living on the deck of our ship; inside our ship are myriads of passages, vast halls, and even great cities.

When Atlantis was submerged beneath the ocean waves, many of the Atlanteans took refuge in the tunnel systems, and according to Mr. le Poer Trench, their descendants are still there inside the earth, today.

In the second part of the book, considerable modern evidence is painstakingly put forward, indicating that the earth is, indeed, hollow, with entrances in both the north and south polar regions.

Proof that the 'hole' or entrance in the Arctic area exists is shown in pictorial form by two different satellite camera photographs.

In the final part of the book, it deals with reasons, based on the conviction that the earth is hollow, as to why most of the UGOs seen today come from the earth's interior.

It is a very good book, and well worth reading.

What do other readers think, and where do they think UFOs come from?

* * *

Theo Krik writes:

Two letters referring to UFOs were published in N/L 22, but I regret to say that I do not agree with either of them.

The reasons why - according to our knowledge - no UFOs have landed on our planet might be much simpler.

First of all: Are these UFOs manned at all, or just equipped with a vast arrangement of scientific instruments. Unmanned satellites equipped with instruments have been sent from earth to the Moon, Mars, etc, too.

Second, if the UFOs are manned, what are the biological features of their occupants? Could they survive on earth at all? Differences in temperature or composition of the atmosphere can be overcome by protective clothing, but what if this protective clothing is pierced by hostile action? The medical conditions on their planet might be so perfect that they have no biological protection against infection, so that even a common cold could be fatal. We know it from our planet, that whole tribes were exterminated by diseases brought by the whites. On the other hand, whites suffer much more from some tropical diseases than the natives do.

An important question is gravity. We know how explorers had to move on the moon, where the gravity is about 3.5. (compared with 5.5. on earth).

Of all our planets, only Mercury has a slightly higher gravity (5.6) than earth. The gravity of Saturn is only 0.7 and of Jupiter 1.3. Visitors from a planet with such a low gravity could hardly creep on earth. Quite possibly they might even be squashed by sheer force of gravity! However, since I am not a doctor, nor a physicist nor a biologist, I prefer to leave it to experts to deal with these matters. But there are political problems as well.

Let us assume that a UFO manned by creatures which in outer appearance are exactly like Humans, would land on earth. What would happen? Let me start with our own country. If they are lucky, our authorities would arrest them as illegal immigrants and send them away without any delay. If they are unlucky, the authorities may decide to "look into this matter". Considering its complexity even a space traveller with the longevity of a Plutonian (1 Plutonian year = 247 earth years) could die from old age before the authorities have reached a decision.

Australia, Canada, USA: perhaps less beaurocracy would be involved but they would nevertheless be regarded as illegal immigrants and sent packing.

USSR and similar countries: they would immediately be arrested as spies and treated accordingly. Since their habits and behaviour might show considerable differences from ours, the cheapest and most plausible solution would be to declare them as lunatics and to put them into an asylum for life.

Africa: No chance for them in 'white' Africa if they are black, nor in other parts of Africa if they are white. If they are neither black nor white, there's no chance for them in any part of Africa.

Latin America: if they are caught by Government authorities they might be shot as 'terrorists'. If caught by terrorists, they would suffer the same fate, being regarded as 'infiltrators'.

If the UFOs are manned, we can be sure that their occupants know much more about earth than we do about Venus or Mars, our nearest planets. Is it therefore surprising that they try to keep out of harm's way?

One may ask: why do they not communicate with us before making an attempt to land? Perhaps they have tried but their signals were not recorded or not understood by us, probably because our means of communication are far too primitive compared to their high technical standard.

* * *

Editor's comment - I think David, Paula and Theo have given us a lot to think about this time. Any more thoughts on the subject will be welcome.

PREJUDICED EPISODES

David Coote writes:

Being an agnostic I agree with Alison Glover's comments regarding Bread and Circuses, but to be fair I think we should emphasise episodes like Devil in the Dark, which shows that we should not 'shoot first and ask questions later' regarding things that we do not understand. Although perhaps to some people - I hope not Trekkers - that may seem a prejudiced episode?

* * *

Valerie Harrison writes:

What seems to be overlooked is that Star Trek tried to put a message into each episode. As the only principles we know are based on our own ideas of civilisation, these are inevitably what the messages are based on. The principles

themselves are not so different from those used by other countries when you get down to basics. What does affect them are the trimmings that vary from country to country, simple things like climate, amount of food or even water available, style of dressing, personal histories.

Why do Jews think pork is unclean, for instance? I think it is a question of health in a hot country. But would Captain Kirk preach that to other planets? I doubt it. But he would preach health and hygiene, which is the principle behind it. Probably what is being preached in Bread and Circuses is not Christianity as such, but the principle of love and understanding which lies behind it, which lies behind Star Trek itself.

Prejudice is lack of understanding. People who believe that of Star Trek have not looked deep enough.

If things like Christianity and Star Spangled Banners have been used, it is because these are things that people can most easily relate to, especially in America; these are the outer evidences of the basic principles.

* * *

Kathleen Glancy writes:

I found Alison Glover's letter in the latest newsletter very interesting. I tend to agree that B & C is prejudiced in favour of Christianity - I'm neither an atheist nor a member of another religion, but I am a person who has read a good deal of history, and we well as being slanted B & C is historically inaccurate. Christianity would hardly lead to slave revolts, because in its original form it was a religion of non-resistance. If you were a slave, then that was God's will and it was wrong of you to struggle against it. You would get your reward in the next world. Moreover, the establishment of a Christian government does not lead to slavery being abolished. Christian Constantinople had just as many slaves as Pagan Rome. Christian France and Spain kept galley-slaves (often those heretics left unburned) until well into the seventeenth century. In the early eighteenth century, Christian English ladies had a fashion for little black boy slaves as pages. I surely don't need to tell anyone what Christain America, the land of the free (where's your Omega Glory now?) perpetrated until well into the nineteenth century. Christ's idea was good, but His so-called followers have racked up an appalling record of war, cruelty and the destruction of other cultures which could not possibly have been worsened by very many pagan cultures, and in fact compares rather unfavourably with Rome at her best. Rome practised religious tolerance to a great degree. So long as you were prepared to make a formal obeisance to Augustus (a mere pinch of incense in most cases) you could worship as you pleased. The Romans persecuted Christians (and Jews) not because they worshipped Christ and Jehovah, but because they wouldn't make the gesture to Augustus. It was political rather than religious persecution.

The chances are, on the whole, if Christ had never been born the world would have been a worse place over all. But some places - Ireland comes to mind for a start - would have been better.

Another, and I suppose natural, prejudice is the pro-Human one. The notion that the Human culture is the best around is frequently perpetrated. Look at the scene in Day of the Dove when Spock is about to lay into Scotty. "You're half Human!" yells Kirk, hanging on to his arm. Since Spock is about to behave in a violent way as an emotional response to an insulting remark, he is in fact acting like a whole Human, and "You're half Vulcan" would have been a more appropriate deterrent.

* * *

As a footnote to Kathleen's comments on slavery in pagan cultures - some time ago I copied the following out of a book called 'Life in Ancient Athens' by T G Tucker. "The word 'slave' is tolerably certain to conjure up notions of brutal treatment. We must do our best to get rid of that picture. We are now in pagan Athens, not in a modern civilisation alleged to be Christian." Editor.

COMPETITION

The response to the competitions last time was quite poor; there were only four entrants for the poetry section, and two stories sent in to Janet.

Poems came in from Gillian Catchpole, Janet Hall, TW Francis and Jackie Newey. These were all of very high standard. I asked Peter Grant, one of our Perth members, to do the final judging, and he chose a poem by Gillian Catchpole (who in fact sent in two) as the winner. I hope to print all five poems in the near future.

Stories came in from TW Francis and John Tessayman. While both ideas had merit, Janet felt that neither, in fact, supplied what she was looking for, and so we decided that in this class there would, on this occasion, be no winner.

The competition this time is for a story in which the Enterprise is on a diplomatic mission to a planet which has indicated interest in becoming a member of the Federation - but there is a strong opposition party, which demands that the crew of the Enterprise prove that the Federation's claim, that they will obey the laws of the planet, is truthful.

Closing date will be July 16th. This in fact means that the winner will not be announced in the next newsletter, but in the one after; some members have suggested that slightly longer is desirable, to give people more time to work out story ideas. (I'll be on holiday from July 1st - any mail intended for me, including competition entries sent in after July 1st, please address to me c/o Janet.) This longer period for entries is a trial one; if the longer time doesn't produce more entries, we'll go back to having it a month.

Entries, then, to be sent to me at my home address until June 30th, and to me c/o Janet between July 1st and 16th. Remember, too, that anything posted after June 27th by second class mail is likely to arrive after the 30th.

FICTION SECTIONTOMORROW WILL BE MY YESTERDAY... by Nefertari

Ar-ka was awakened by the heavy footsteps that were coming down the dusty path between the houses. He heard the housekeeper rouse in the half-light, and rush to the door. The woman beside him stirred.

"What is it?" she asked sleepily. Ar-ka lay still and tense, his breathing shallow.

"Soldiers, Zarabeth, soldiers of Con-Ic-U-Tar's army," he replied in a quiet tone as the woman crept closer to him.

Zarabeth took time to realise what Ar-ka had meant, but it was all too late by then, the guards had burst into the house and arrested the household.

"We have orders to arrest you, Ar-ka, and the members of this household." The guard's eyes strayed for a moment to the half maked figure of Zarabeth, but they quickly returned to the cold stare of order. "You are charged with the crime of conspiring to kill our leader Zor Khan." At the mention of the name, the guards stood erect and saluted, but Ar-ka only cringed at the name. Zarabeth looked on, half bewildered.

Zor Khan was judge on the trial of this case. The crime - as Zor Khan had put it - was "To murder, and disrupt this our glorious land."

The Elders, dressed in their long shapeless gowns, nodded at the words of Zor Khan; each in his own day had been a ruler of one of the ten lands and each had been as successful as Zor Khan was, but they had grown old - and Zor Khan was growing in strength, so that they had no choice but to submit their lands to

the leadership of the tyrant.

"And - "continued Zor Khan " - it is written that the mark of treason... is death."

But one of the Elders did not agree with all that Zor Khan had said. He stood up; trembling slightly he managed to say,

"No, Zor Khan. We, the Elders, agreed that the punishment of death was not satisfactory. No, the Atavachron should be used."

His shaking bones settled down. There was annoyance in the eyes of the tyrant, but he knew that the Elders could still overthrow his power.

"Very well," he conceded. "Their families will be charged with treason too, and disposed of in the Atavachron, after the death of the conspirators."

The sentence then passed, the guilty people were led away to their cells. Zarabeth was allowed to say goodbye to Ar-ka, for he would not be spared the death sentence.

"Go, Zarabeth, for what they will do is not pleasant. Go, forget me, but never him." Ar-ka spat at Zor Khan, who only raised a disapproving eyebrow.

Further in to the night Zarabeth still sat curled up in the corner of her cell, tears running down her cheeks. She heard the screams and cries of agony knowing that there was nothing she could do. Zor Khan was obviously torturing Ar-ka for the names of his friends. Suddenly the cries became whimpers. The end was near. Zarabeth curled closer to the corner of the cell. Soon the sun would rise and then they would come for her.

At first light she was wakened to the noise of guards' feet. The young guard who had arrested them the day before woke her gently, and told her to follow the guards. From there she walked the long sixteen miles in the sweltering heat, but once inside the Atavachron, the heat seemed a thousand years away.

Piled near the exit to the time changer were some crude weapons, various fur garments and some food.

"Are you ready, Atos?" questioned the guard harshly.

"Yes, yes... take up your belongings girl... hurry... walk through the doorway."

"Where is it that I go?" asked Zarabeth, speaking for the first time in a long while.

"To Sarpiedon's Ice Age," replied Atos. "Now come along."

The guard took Zarabeth's arm just before she left. "If you say you had nothing to do with it, I'd get you let off."

Zarabeth brushed her fingers against his cheek, smiled, then disappeared into her life long imprisonment.

And now there before her were two strangers. She could hardly believe it. Even so, she only pointed towards her home.

"Perhaps," she thought, "I may have company yet."

And so we come to the end once more. There will be a number of comments on 'script alterations I'd like to see' that there wasn't room for this time in the next newsletter. Keep those comments coming in too, on all subjects. Even if we don't print them, we value knowing what you think. Peace and prosperity to you all. Sheila.
