

Lincroft-Holmdel Science Fiction Club
Club Notice - 5/23/84 -- Vol. 2, No. 47

MEETINGS UPCOMING:

Unless otherwise stated, all Lincroft meetings are on Wednesdays
in LZ 3A-206 (HO meetings temporarily suspended) at noon.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
05/30	1984 by George Orwell and Choice of Discussion Books
06/19	Video meeting: LAST MAN ON EARTH pt. 1
06/20	Video meeting: LAST MAN ON EARTH pt. 2

LZ's library and librarian Lance Larsen (576-2668) are in LZ 3C-219.
Mark Leeper (576-2571) is chairperson. HO's library and librarian
Mike Lukacs (949-4043) are in HO 4B-510. John Jetzt (577-5316) is
HO-chairperson.

1. Next Wednesday, May 30, 1984, the book for discussion is George
Orwell's doubleplusgood 1984. Yes, this is it. The book that
waited 36 years to make it to the bestseller list. This is the
book that has it all. Sex, torture, romance, and politics combine
to make this more compelling reading than an entire library of Rod
McKuen poetry (which itself features sex, torture, romance, and
politics. The big difference is, of course, that 1984 is not
usually read in a gravelly voice. But then George Orwell never
wrote the music for a TV Peanuts special.) This is the book that
made over 37 accurate predictions about our time including that
human hair will continue to clog sink drains and neighbors will
continue to be called across the hall to help fix problem. 37 out
of 294 is not a bad average. Come and count with us.

2. Our next Leeperhouse special is 7:30pm on 05/31. The subject
is "Latter-day Hammer Films"

CAPTAIN KRONOS -- VAMPIRE HUNTER (1972) dir. by Brian Clemens
TO THE DEVIL A DAUGHTER (1976) dir. by Peter Sykes

Towards the end of Hammer's reign as the masters of film horror
they experimented and made some of their most interesting films.
CAPTAIN KRONOS -- VAMPIRE HUNTER (a.k.a. KRONOS) is a sort of a
cross between a vampire film and a swashbuckler. The highly
accurate swordplay was directed by the same man who directed the
swordplay for the THREE and FOUR MUSKETEERS. The film also
features a bravura performance by Thelma, the wonder pony. TO THE
DEVIL A DAUGHTER stars Richard Widmark, Christopher Lee, and
introduces Nastassia Kinski (daughter of horror actor Klaus Kinski,
obviously someone with little future as an actress.). Widmark is a

writer of exploitation books about devil worship who runs afoul of a priest, excommunicated for heresy, trying to save the world by the creation of an Avatar to lead the world. The film is based on the novel by popular British author Dennis Wheatley.

Mark Leeper
LZ 3E-215 x2571
...{houxn,hogpd,hocse}!lznv!mrl

Mercury Capsules - May 23, 1984

"Mercury Capsules": SF review column, edited by Paul S R Chisholm. Appears in the "Lincroft-Holmdel SF Club Notice".

A medium for quick reviews of anything of interest in the world of science fiction. I'll pass along anything (not slanderous or scatological) without nasty comments. I prefer to get reviews by electronic mail: send to wilpsc from the AT&T-IS ENS systems in Lincroft; hocse!lznv!psc, houxn!lznv!psc, or hogpd!lznv!psc from everywhere else. If that's impossible, I'm at LZ 1D-212, 576-2374.

+ Fevre Dream: novel, George R R Martin, 1982.

On one end of the Mississippi in the 1850s, a pale stranger buys a river boat; he never comes out in the light of day, and intently studies newspaper stories of bizarre deaths. At the other, down in New Orleans, a group of pale men and women have occupied what was once a rich plantation, and their slaves will risk anything to escape. . . .

Martin has taken the vampire mythos, done it as straight science fiction (one impossible assumption), and set it in the heyday of the Mississippi, before the War Between the States. The book is clearly a "can't put it down" story, but I wasn't completely satisfied. It builds to a climax unexpectedly early, then drags the climax on, and on. Then the narrative goes down a tributary (figuratively speaking) for a while, and we (finally!) finish the climax.

Highly recommended for Martin and vampire completists; not bad reading for the rest of us, either.

Paul S R Chisholm

+ The Peacemaker: short story, Gardner Dozois; appeared in the August 1983 issue of Asimov's. 1984 Hugo nominee and Nebula winner.

Short, yes; story, no.

Paul S R Chisholm

+ Single Combat; novel, Dean Ing.

An all action story. Spies, counter-spies, thud and blunder, fast cars, loose women and a little science that doesn't bear a close inspection. There is so much wrong with this book that it keeps you interested trying to identify what and why.

Nigel

+ Damiano's Lute; novel, R. A. McAvoy, 1984.

I liked Damiano but I am less enthusiastic about this book. It seems to me that the fabric of the story is wearing thin and that the characters are losing credibility. Perhaps the final book of the trilogy will win me back but I am not waiting with bated breath.

Nigel

+ Castle of Wizardry; novel, David Eddings.

This is the first book in a long time that I have immediately reread, and it is only the fourth book of the epic. The development appeals to me and seems to be self-consistent. Basically, I liked it but you had better start at the beginning (all of the books were available last time I looked).

Nigel

+ Moreta--Dragonlady of Pern: novel, Anne McCaffrey, 1983. Nominated for the 1984 Hugo.

I tried on this one; I really did. But after two weeks (and one extra trip to the library to renew this book), I was still less than a third of the way through it. The characters seemed flat, but the real problem was that I felt I had come in in the middle of the story and had no idea what was going on. McCaffrey assumes too much on the reader's part for this book to stand on its own. As "another dragon book" it's probably okay, but my feeling is that a Hugo nominee/winner should stand on its own, so it is not going to get my vote. (If anyone out there has read the whole series, would they care to counter-review this book?)

Evelyn C Leeper