

Lincroft-Holmdel Science Fiction Club  
Club Notice - 1/23/85 -- Vol. 3, No. 28

MEETINGS UPCOMING:

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings are on Wednesdays at noon.  
LZ meetings are in LZ 3A-206; HO meetings are in HO 2N-523.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
01/30	HO: COURTSHIP RITE by Donald Kingsbury
01/30	LZ: SLAN by A. E. Van Vogt
02/20	HO: MONSTERS, MADMEN, AND MACHINES (video)
02/20	LZ: ?
03/13	HO: DOWNBELOW STATION by C. J. Cherryh
03/13	LZ: ?
04/03	HO: Book Swap (HO 2N-529)
04/03	LZ: ?
04/24	HO: CIRCUS OF DR. LAO by Charles G. Finney
04/24	LZ: ?

LZ Chair is Mark Leeper, LZ 3E-215 (576-2571). HO Chair is John Jetzt, FJ 1F-108 (577-5316). LZ Librarian is Lance Larsen, LZ 3C-219 (576-2668). HO Librarian is Tim Schroeder, HO 2G-427A (949-5866). Jill-of-all-trades is Evelyn Leeper, HO 1B-437A (834-4723).

1. Once again a position is being vacated and has to be replaced. This time it is Lincroft chairperson. Yup, those poor benighted slobs running the Holmdel branch of the club need my help. I am transferring over to there to pull them out of the mess they have had since I came to Lincroft. By now Lincroft is pretty robust and Holmdel is in a proper mess. So on the first of February, or somewhere thereabouts, I will be transferring to Holmdel to set things right. I am leaving Lincroft well provided for, they have the room scheduled through the rest of this year. There is not too much more that must be done but poll the members who show up as to what books they wish to discuss, and pass the word to me for scheduling. Anything else you want to do is good, but that is really all that really NEED be done. If you are interested, let me know. If no one volunteers, the club will die at Lincroft.

2. Our next Lincroft meeting we will be discussing SLAN, but mostly we will be discussing what is to become of the Lincroft club. All interested parties should attend.

3. Mail from HO librarian: Here is the list of new books acquired by the HO branch of the library. This list includes books that were moved up from LZ -- my filing system isn't organized enough to

\*\*\*\*\*Presorted\*\*\*\*\*  
\* Leeper, Evelyn C. \*  
\* 114A HO 1B-437A \*  
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tell them apart from the completely new books.

Author	Title	Blurb
Brian Aldiss	Starship	They do not remember
Poul Anderson	Tau Zero	His incredible deepspace voyage
Isaac Asimov	The Bicentennial Man +	A dozen dazzling tales by Asimov
Isaac Asimov	Robots of Dawn	A most dangerous baileywick
Brian Ball	The Space Guardians	A runaway moon is their spaceship
Albert Bender	Flying Saucers & 3 Men	UFO landings - friend or foe
Alfred Bester	The Computer Connection	A band of eccentric immortals
Eando Binder	Night of the Saucers	First wave from outer space
Thomas Block	Orbit	Disaster - an airliner trapped in space
Ralph Blum	Beyond Earth	Man's contact with UFOs
Algis Budrys	Michaelmas	Michaelmas built Domino built Michaelmas
Arthur Clarke	Rendezvous with Rama	Adventure in the world beyond 2001
Arthur Clarke	2010: Odyssey Two	Now a major motion picture
Brian Daley	TRON	Electronic wonderworld come to life
Graham Diamond	Dungeons of Kuba	Adventures of the empire princess
Albert Elias	The Bowman Test	Most important scientific discovery in history
P. J. Farmer	The Dark Design	A cast of literally everybody who ever lived
A. D. Foster	Nor Crystal Tears	The meeting of Man and Thranx
W. Harrison	Rollerball	The murderous game which has replaced war
Robert Howard	Conan the Warrior	Mightest hero fights most savage battles
A.-K.T. Jeffrey	The Bermuda Triangle	Ships and planes vanish without a trace
Crawford Kilian	Icequake	In one chilling second the new ice age begins
Ursula LeGuin	A Wizard of Earthsea	A tale of wizards, dragons, and shadows
Ursula LeGuin	The Tombs of Atuan	The maiden priestess ..., the young wizard ...
Barry Longyear	Circus World	Dreamers and clowns vs. best military act
R.A. MacAvoy	Tea with Black Dragon	A deft blend of a dragon and computers
Frederik Pohl	Gateway	Rich man, dead man
John Rankine	Moon Odyssey	Their only world is the moon, without earth
C. Stasheff	Warlock in Spite of Himself	An interstellar romp
Robert Toomey	A World of Trouble	Work as a galactic industrial spy
John Wyndham	Day of the Triffids	Hideous triffids roaming the



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

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ANDROID  
A film review by Mark R. Leeper

New World Pictures was founded by Roger Corman, Hollywood's monkey-see-monkey-do man. Corman has always made films to follow trends that others start. To ride the trend of special-effects-oriented space operas, New World made Battle Beyond the Stars, then re-used the footage in several other films like Galaxy of Terror, Forbidden World, and Space Raiders. Most of these are throwaways with lots of effects, nudity, and mindless action. From this unpromising background came a rather surprising science fiction film, Android. Just how it slipped through is not clear except that it seems to be a co-production with a group calling themselves Android Productions.

Android combines the exploitation elements with the charming story of Max 404, a robot (not an "android," incidentally) with an insatiable curiosity about humans. Max listens to rock and roll and the blues, watches movies like It's a Wonderful Life, and dreams about leaving his space station and going to Chicago. Like in the more recent Starman, the title character tries to pass for human but never really makes it. Still, he seems far more human than the stereotypes around him, including Klaus Kinski as Max's scientist-creator who rules over Max in a space station, and three criminals hiding from the police on the station. The screenplay is witty and Dan Oppar's acting as Max is always entertaining. This is not a great film, but it is a pleasure to watch in a way that few SF films are these days.

SHOCK TREATMENT  
A film review by Mark R. Leeper

Back in 1975 Richard O'Brien and Jim Sharman put together The Rocky Horror Picture Show based on the stage play The Rocky Horror Show. The film basically created the midnight film circuit and became a cultural phenomenon. Six years later 20th Century Fox had very much the same crew make a sequel, Shock Treatment. The second film was panned by most of the critics, and, as far as I know, is not playing on the midnight circuits, which these days are showing Liquid Sky and Repo Man. Shock Treatment is now showing up in video stores.

We have all seen sequels that were virtual remakes of their originals. Perhaps the best thing about Shock Treatment is that it is not a remake. In fact, it only very superficially is a sequel at all. There are actors in common between The Rocky Horror Picture Show and Shock Treatment; some even continue the same character names. That is the extent of the continuity between the two films. The main characters are still called Brad and Janet Majors, but now they are played by Cliff De Young and Jessica Harper and they are little like their namesakes in the original film. Brad has gone from being a dynamic jerk to being a stolid and sodden jerk. Janet is no longer has the terrified look of a hungry mongrel, but seems much more self-satisfied.

The town of Denton, Texas, is now entirely enclosed in a TV studio in which everyone can end up as part of the show. Nobody ever has privacy as the audience can tune in on their lives as part of a continuing soap opera. People's personal lives are the subject of quiz shows and everybody watches everyone else through the magic of television. Behind the experiment is mysterious millionaire Farley Flavors. He has designs on Janet and arranges to have her made the star of the town while, on TV, Brad is committed to the local insane asylum.

I take no responsibility for anything in the previous paragraph being true. People who thought that Buckaroo Banzai was confusing should be introduced to Shock Treatment to experience new horizons in incoherent mish-mashes. On top of that, Shock Treatment is in the running for poorest imitation of Texans in a British production, nosing out Billion Dollar Brain, and hard on the heels of Quincy P. Holmwood [sic] in the BBC Count Dracula. Richard O'Brien was surprised that Americans were unfamiliar with the European circus exclamation "Hope-la," after the expression was used once in The Rocky Horror Picture Show. In Shock Treatment he turns it into a genuine error by having Texans use the expression as often as possible. The satire of television is heavy-handed without showing any more than superficial perception. On top of that the songs often make little sense, even in context; they are nowhere near as good as their predecessors in The Rocky Horror Picture Show. On top of that, the singing is very poorly lip-synched.

Those critics who panned Shock Treatment? They are your friends. Listen to them. This film is a -2 on the -4 to +4 scale.

TRIAL BY COMBAT/DIRTY KNIGHT'S WORK/A CHOICE OF WEAPONS  
(and a plug for KNIGHTRIDERS)  
A film review by Mark R. Leeper

You know when a film has had three titles that somebody has had trouble getting an audience for it. This film has an interesting cast but it is really just a bit of fluff. It is much like Star Chamber done in the styles of an Avengers episode. The Knights of Avalon, a sort of Society for Creative Anachronism, works hand in mailed glove with the police. Criminals who cannot be convicted by the police are kidnapped and forced to take part in a medieval trial by combat. Of course, the Knights also kill some innocent people juts so the audience doesn't forget which side to root for. The film stars David Birney, John Mills, Donald Pleasence, Barbara Hershey, Peter Cushing, and Brian Glover. (Who's Glover? You've probably seen him without knowing him. In An American Werewolf in London he was the unfriendly villager who tells the airplane joke.) The combat scenes are not very convincing. Rate it 0 on the -4 to +4 scale.

If you really want to see medieval knights in a modern context, skip Trial by Combat and see George Romero's Knightriders. Don't confuse Knightriders with Romero's horror shockers. Knightriders is, in my opinion, the best thing that Romero ever did. It follows a travelling Renaissance Fair patterned on King Arthur's realm. Some of Romero's films hint that he has something to say about American culture. This film says what he has to say beautifully. Ed Harris stars in a role every bit as memorable as his John Glenn from The Right Stuff. In fact, his idealistic image in Knightriders probably won him the Right Stuff role. Catch this one on cable if it shows up. Rate it a strong +2 or higher.

LEEPER FILM QUIZ #4

(Send replies to ...ihnp4!lznv!mrl please. Answers will appear in two weeks.)

What in what science fiction films do the following names arise?

1. J.J. Adams
2. Victor Barbicane
3. Dr. Miles Bennell
4. Mitch Brenner
5. John Cabal
6. Scott Carey
7. Andre Delambre
8. Jack Driscoll
9. John Ellman
10. David Filby
11. Dr. Heywood Floyd
12. Jon Fredersen
13. Adam Hart
14. Pat Hendry
15. Ernest Hubbs
16. Prof. Oliver Lindenbrook
17. Freeman Lowell
18. Steve Martin
19. Dr. Russell Marvin
20. Cal Meachum
21. Miles Monroe
22. Cora Peterson
23. Billy Pilgrim
24. Dave Randell
25. Dr. Matthew Roney
26. Dr. Adam Royston
27. Dr. Janos Rukh
28. Steven Shorter
29. Winston Smith
30. Dr. Stephen Sorensen
31. Gideon Spilitt
32. Dr. Brian Stanley
33. Dr. Jeremy Stone
34. Phillip Strock
35. George Taylor
36. Dr. Alexander Thorkel
37. Dwight Towers
38. Sylvia Van Buren
39. Jason Webb
40. Maple White
41. Gordon Zellaby

LEEPER FILM QUIZ #2 (Answers)

1. "That's what I get for not being musical."  
Answer: CASABLANCA
2. "Do you ever think about things you DO think about?"  
Answer: INHERIT THE WIND
3. "Every cat has three names."  
Answer: LOGAN'S RUN
4. "The Beck and Call Delivery Service. The name was my wife's idea."  
Answer: TWELVE ANGRY MEN
5. "You think he's crazy?" "Just enthusiastic."  
Answer: KING KONG (1933)
6. "Are you tying knots in my tail?"  
Answer: THE BIG COUNTRY
7. "Just don't drown your pretty little self."  
Answer: ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST
8. "There'll be pork in the treetops by morning."  
Answer: THE LION IN WINTER
9. "He says I'd make a crackerjack grocery clerk. Crackerjack!"  
Answer: THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN
10. "Bad dates."  
Answer: RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK
11. "We do not sell his hair...that we donate to charity."  
Answer: PRIVILEGE
12. "Mara-bunda on the Rio Negra"  
Answer: THE NAKED JUNGLE
13. "Zugg-Zugg Water Softener"  
Answer: MR. BLANDINGS BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE
14. "Duocaine"  
Answer: THE INVISIBLE MAN RETURNS (as opposed to "Monocaine" as it was called in THE INVISIBLE MAN).
15. "Beware the concussion! Beware the concussion!"  
Answer: THINGS TO COME
16. "Irving Moses, the fruiterer."  
Answer: BEDAZZLED
17. "Get the other antenna!"  
Answer: THEM!
18. "Miss me? Damn him! What's in me to miss?"  
Answer: A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS
19. "The season is almost over. I must find something honorable."  
Answer: LAWRENCE OF ARABIA
20. "I apologize. I apologize for not revealing my feelings. I apologize for not telling you sooner that you're a dirty, degenerate old man and you can go to hell before I apologize to you now or ever again!"  
Answer: PATHS OF GLORY