

Single Cells

By Tony Brem

(Sung to the tune of "Jingle Bells")

Splashing to and fro
Amoebas love to play,
In a petri dish
Dividing everyday.
I thought that there were two,
Nothing less or more.
But I looked through the microscope
And counted up to four.

Oh, single cells, single cells
See how they divide.
There was one on Christmas Eve
But now it's multiplied.

Splashing to and fro
Amoebas love to play,
In a petri dish
Dividing everyday.
I thought that there were two,
Nothing less or more.
But I looked through the microscope
And counted up to four.

Oh, single cells, single cells
Nothing much to do
But swim around the petri dish
Dividing into two.

Hello Everyone!! We're all excited about this new publication, and very flattered and appreciative of all the encouragement we've received in the last few weeks. To thank our supporters, we'd like to run as many of our good luck messages as space permits. Thank you all Pamela Girard and Joni Kouvells, editors, DSE.

...Communication is one of man's greatest achievements.
Good Luck! -Nyota Uhura

..."Metaphors" be with you! -Luke Skywalker

...Give 'em hell, kids! Courting disaster is always fun!
-Han Solo

Good luck in your current endeavor. -Sarek and Amanda

...May your TARDIS never stall. -The Doctor

...I hope it does as well as the newsletter classics founded in Russia. -Pavel Chekov

...I sense this will be a great success. -Deanna Troi

...Don't take any felgercarb (or any wooden cubits)!
-Starbuck and Apollo

ORBITAL ECCENTRICITIES

Greetings and felicitations! Welcome to our first newsletter. We hope to have some fun with this, but today we are going to have to be all business, as we have much to do.

JK: I want to interrupt this sappy-sweet discourse for a moment. Pam left me with "our" editor's column which SHE wrote, (in terrible handwriting,) and I have a thing or two to say myself. I'll make my presence known from time to time. For instance, I'm making my presence known by editing Pam's column while she's off in Oklahoma, enjoying a nice vacation, and leaving me manacled to this keyboard.

PG: We hope to publish bi-monthly at first, and to be able to move to a typeset printing format ASAP, rather than this Xeroxed form. We're also hoping for a lot of submissions...

JK: As you can probably tell from our ad begging for them!

PG: We have a couple of columns set up, but not a lot of poetry, prose, or art. So, any would-be writers out there, here's your chance to be published. We'll print almost anything.

JK: Don't get too carried away, Pam. Heaven knows what we'll get!

PG: Since we don't know how large our reader base is, we won't be offering year subscriptions until the third issue. There is a coupon on page 4 which you may send in to receive the next newsletter. By issue #3 we should have a better idea of how many to print, and how much printing and postage will cost.

JK: In other words, we're taking pot-shots in the dark.

PG: We guarantee anyone who sends this coupon in within the next six months will receive the next issue.

JK: Unless systems crash or disks fry. Or an editor meets an untimely demise. Bye for now. Joni & Pam

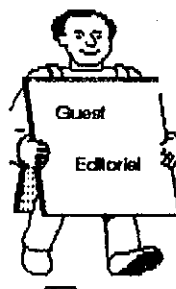
The Dune Sea Express is produced by Trek and Friends, San Angelo, Texas.

This newsletter is fan-produced for the enjoyment of Star Trek and Science Fiction fans in general, and is not intended to infringe on any established copyrights.

Co-Editors: Joni Kouvelis and Pamela Girard; Creative Consultant: Megan Book; Head Gaffer: Traci Girard.

Submissions and correspondence should be sent to: Dune Sea Express, c/o

Submissions cannot be returned, and submission indicates permission to publish the work either in part or in its entirety.



The Problems with Popularity by Megan Book

Paramount Pictures and Pocket Books have redefined greed.

Specifically, they have raised the price of Star Trek novels outrageously. A first printing of "The Abode of Life," published in 1982 cost \$2.50. The latest

novel, "The Kobayashi Maru," sells for \$4.50. That is an increase of 80%. Amazingly enough, Pocket Books instituted this price hike after a solid year of publishing garbage disguised as science fiction. And not very well disguised at that.

The first price increase came with "Black Fire" at the beginning of 1983. The cover price went up by \$0.45. Eighteen months later, the "Tears of the Singers" was released at \$3.50. It was three years before Pocket changed the price of Star Trek novels again, to \$3.95 with the publication of "How Much for Just the Planet?"

Since then, Pocket has published eleven regular novels in the old series. None of these really stand out as exceptionally well-written books. The best of the lot were good, or at least okay. The worst of the bunch--the majority--were absolute trash.

Why has B Dalton's sold out of "Kobayashi Maru" and Waldenbooks' supply been reduced to four? Because it was the first outstanding Classic Trek novel written since the fall of 1988.

It has now reached the point where a new Star Trek novel costs as much as an imported German translation sent from Germany. In addition, other Trek items, such as the Next Generation calendar have shown equal cost and lack of quality.

How much does Pocket [and Paramount, as well] think we'll put up with? Quite a bit, obviously.

The problem is, we do put up with it. We act like a dog that is beaten, and is grateful for the attention. We go merrily along paying \$4.50 for books which, under other circumstances, we'd never consider at that price. We buy the dolls, and the coins, and the shirts, and the plates, and the videocassettes. We facilitate a never-ending cycle--a revolving door as it were, between our checking accounts and Paramount's coffers. I guess we have no one but ourselves to blame.

Letter Policy:

The Dune Sea Express invites letters to the editor. Letters must be typewritten and double spacing is preferred.

INTERSTELLAR MOLECULES: JANUARY 1990

There will be 26 episodes of Star Trek: the Next Generation in the third season.

Season 26 of Dr. Who will contain four stories:

"Battlefield"--four parts, with Nicholas Courtney;

"Ghost Light"--three parts;

"The Curse of Fenric"--four parts;

"Survival"--three parts, with Anthony Ainley.

The fourth issue of ST:TNG magazine will be available on newsstands around March 13.

INTERPLANETARY CLASSIFIEDS

PERSONALS

SSWM seeks meaningful other, SF 20+, to while away the hours. Must be into costumes and hanging upside down. No nictophobics or vampires, please. Send photo and police record to B.W. c/o Gotham Globe.

Handsome Starfleet officer seeks female companionship. Must be bipedal or similarly constructed. Send photo.

SWF looking for male companion. No hot rod ships, fish or lightsabers, please. Anyone showing up in a meek will be shot on sight. I.O. c/o Rebel Alliance H.Q.

Amanda, forgive me, please come home. Our son needs you. S.

Wanted: Force-sensitive female. Skills in sword fighting a plus.

LOST & FOUND

Lost: Dark brown Wookiee, answers to "Chewie." Last seen in Oregon. REWARD!!

Lost: One tribble. If found, please call immediately. DO NOT FEED.

Lost: Chilton's Repair Manual, Type-40 TARDIS. Last seen near Taco Bell, Picadilly Crous. Reward.

FOUND!!: One walking carpet. Please come quickly, it's eating me out of house and home.

MISCELLANEOUS

Tonight only!! C-3PO and the Tin Man perform soft shoe to heavy metal.

Wanted: Hair Rejuvenator. Contact J. Picard, c/o Starfleet.

HANGAR SALES

Multi-family garage sale! Endor system. Slightly used space craft, and other hardware. Blasters for sale--adults only. No droids or dealers, please.

TARDIS sale! Virtually unlimited space filled with objects from across space and time. Must see! Plan to be in all neighborhoods eventually (but don't hold your breath).

Moving sale! Twelve planets--everything must go! Call Adams for info.

Fire sale. Old Enterprise. Anything salvageable will be sold to the highest bidder. Inventory available at Starfleet H.Q.

Submissions Shortage

The Dune Sea Express is currently seeking submissions of any kind.

Any ARTICLES as long as they deal with science or science fiction (articles on conventions are acceptable).

FICTION is welcome. Short stories are preferred. Star Trek, Dr. Who, Star Wars, or general science fiction are all acceptable. No novels, please (write us first). POETRY along the same lines is also acceptable.

BOOK REVIEWS, EDITORIALS, COMMENTARIES, JOKES, LIMERICKS, and FILK SONGS are also wanted.

ARTWORK (prints, cartoons, etc.) must be no larger than 8.5 by 11 inches. Our printer has certain requirements for accurate reproduction, so if in doubt, write and ask. Pen and ink or computer-generated artwork is acceptable, if dark.

We request that all written material be double-spaced if possible and that all submissions have no higher than a PG-13 rating.

Send submissions to:

DUNE SEA EXPRESS

About Trek And Friends. . .

Trek and Friends began in April, 1989 as a small group of Star Trek fans in San Angelo, Texas. Since then, we have gained members in Austin, Arlington, and other areas. We meet once or twice a month to discuss everything from Star Trek to pulp fiction to "Black Adder."

Trek and Friends does not require any dues. If you are interested in joining, write to our Communications Officer, who will put you in touch with other members in your area, if possible. For membership information, send a SASE with your name and address to:

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Suggestions for the Spacefaring Insomniac

By Sandra Provence Steele

3 out of 5 stars--Fair

The Three Minute Universe By Barbara Paul.

August 1988

Well, it is a Star Trek novel. All the necessary elements are present. However in the confines of The Three Minute Universe the reader is subjected to two-dimensional characterizations of Kirk, Spock, McCoy and Sooty. This makes sections of the novel rather irritating. Paul has a tendency to "humanize" Spock to an extent that makes me wonder if she is really familiar at all with past Star Trek novels. James Kirk is far more melodramatic in the novel than William Shatner ever dreamed of being.

There are also good things to say about the novel. The race known as the "Sackers" is one of the most ingenious races invented so far. Paul's descriptions of the Sackers were vivid and often repulsive. Their unique social customs and their intriguing means of relieving names really make this novel interesting.

My only question is why didn't Paul write a science fiction novel about the Sackers and save everybody the pain of a mediocre Star Trek novel? She obviously spent a great deal of time thinking through the Sackers and not as much time thinking through the traditional Star Trek portion.

Notable mention: Cyteen by C.J. Cherryh. This Hugo award winning author is finally tying in her novel Downbelow Station with an earlier novel called Serpent's Reach. The story is complex, involved and so well thought out that it is a must read for any science fiction buff.

NEXT TIME: Double, Double and Memory Prime

THE DUNE SEA EXPRESS WELCOMES OPPOSING OPINIONS.

If you enjoyed this issue of the Dune Sea Express, and would like to receive the next issue, please send \$0.50, this coupon, and a SASE to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP CODE _____

Please print, and allow sufficient time for delivery.

We are having a bit of a dilemma!

Tell us something we don't know.

There is alot of confusion about Star Trek. Do we call it Classic Trek and Next Generation, or Old Trek and New Trek, or what?

I like "What." There's a "Who," right?

Well, readers, why don't you write us, and send some more constructive comment! We'll be addressing this pressing issue next month.

Same Trek Time, Same Trek Channel.