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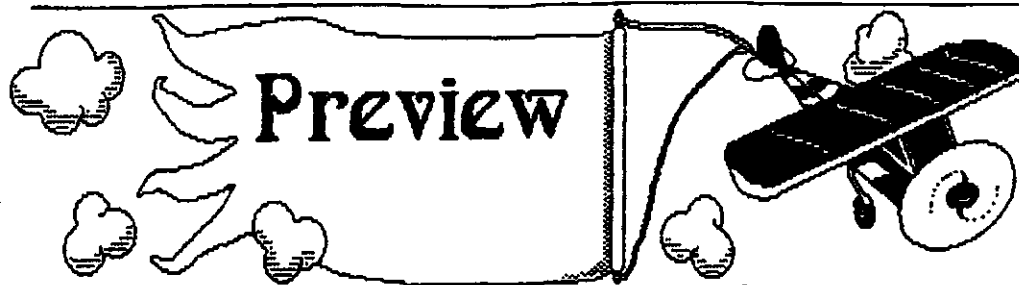
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Tom's Joke Corner

Bad Humor entirely by Greg Rowe

- Q: How many Klingons does it take to grate cheese?
- A: Three; one to hold the cheese and another to move the third one's head back and forth. (hee hiss!!!- PG)
- Q: What does Worf have that is long, Picard have that is short and is medium on Riker?
- A: Hair of course, what do you think I have, a dirty mind?



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This issue Sandy gives us a list of book gift sets ideal to give your trek fan for Christmas.	
The Cover "NYC Logs: Take 2" by Greg Rowe.	

NOTE TO SUBSCRIBERS: Due to changes in our printer's schedule the January issue of the DSE will be late. We will mail them out approximately the second week of January. If this current scheduling continues every third issue will be two weeks late. We apologize for any inconvenience. We will try to be as prompt as possible. Please be patient and thank you for understanding.

The DSE staff

NOTE TO INTERESTED PARTIES:

Highlander II will be released on November 1st
 STVI: The Undiscovered Country will be released on December 13 (That's Friday the 13th, I hope these people aren't superstitious)



Sifting the Star Trek 25th Anniversary Collectibles

by Pamela Girard

There are enough 25th anniversary items on the market to break the pocketbook of any Star Trek Fan. The following are some of the more notable items and this is in no way to be considered a complete list.

* Star Trek Trading Cards -- (bubble gum cards for those of my generation) There are two separate sets of cards. The first is already out and the second is expected any day. They should be out by the time you receive this issue although most of these items have already been delayed at least once. The cards are very, very nice and also very collectable. In fact, they are already beginning to appreciate in value. Star Tech, a mail order co. for Star Trek and science fiction collectibles, is offering the complete set for 19.95 and on November 1 the price goes up to 25.95 a set. These are available in many stores by the box and one box contains one set and almost a second set. Boxes are currently running from \$22.00 to 27.00.

* Star Trek 25th Anniversary Movie sets -- There are two of these as well. One set is simply the first 5 movies in a nice box and the spines of the tapes form a picture of the Enterprise in front of a starburst. These are available for from \$60 to 100. The second set comes in a cloth covered box and contains 3 commemorative pins and a certificate signed by Roddenberry. What the ads for this item don't tell you is that all five movies are in letterbox format which means that the movies are in the same proportion as in the theater. I don't know if the first set is in letterbox I assume it is but the box tells nothing about what is inside. The second set also contains a preview of ST VI: the Undiscovered Country. I also don't know if this is in the first set. The second set runs between \$100 and 130. As far as collectibility I don't believe that video tapes will hold their value because like cassette tapes they will deteriorate with age and if they are left in the original package they will deteriorate even faster. To maintain the tension of the tape if it is not played once a year, it should be wound and rewound. These sets are really for your own use.

* 7-11 Slurpee cups -- These come in a set of 3: 1 classic trek, 1 next generation, and 1 alien cup. They are nice and cheap at less than \$3.00 a set. They also commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Slurpee. If you don't have a lot of money this may be the item for you.

* Hallmark Enterprise Christmas Tree Ornament -- The running lights really work when you plug it into your Christmas tree light string. This is the big collector's item of the year. Everybody wants one and nobody's got one. At \$20.00 a piece the first shipment sold out almost immediately. If you haven't put in a special order by now it's probably too late. The second shipment and final regular shipment went to the stores the 29th of September and then Hallmark filled as many of the special orders as they could and shipped these to the stores on the 1st or 2nd of October. The individual stores may only get partial fulfillment of their special orders. Hallmark does not make a large number of these individually lighted ornaments because they don't generally sell very well. They are also limited editions and are available for one year only. So if you have one of these hang on to it, they are a definite collector's item.

* T-Shirts -- I have seen 4 or 5 different ones. There is a very nice one with Spock and another with the Enterprise on the front and the back. T-shirts are not worth much in the long run but they are fun to wear. They are excellent ways to recruit Star Trek fans to your group because some of these shirts are so pretty the Closet Trek Fans have to comment on them thus admitting they are fans.

* Stamps -- The First Day covers are \$25.00 and probably a good buy. The back cover of the Space commemorative stamp booklet has an offer for some Star Trek postage stickers that are also probably worth the the \$3.99.

* 25th Anniversary Book by Gene Roddenberry -- This item is a coffee table book coming out at \$45.00. This book has been outright canceled once. It chronicles the history of Star Trek. It's probably very nice and if they sell at that price they will eventually go up in value but at \$45.00 it will probably be a wait to get your money back.

* \$250.00 gold CD's -- One is of The Cage/Where No Man Has Gone Before and the second is Encounter at Farpoint. At this price I hope gold CD's play. This kind of item doesn't lose value but you have to find someone who can afford to buy it to get your money back.

* Posters -- Range in price from \$5.00 to 30.00. Very nice and very collectible. The cheaper range posters don't generally gain much in value because there are so many printed. The more expensive, limited edition, officially licensed posters do gain in value but I haven't really seen anything spectacular enough to merit spending that much on them.

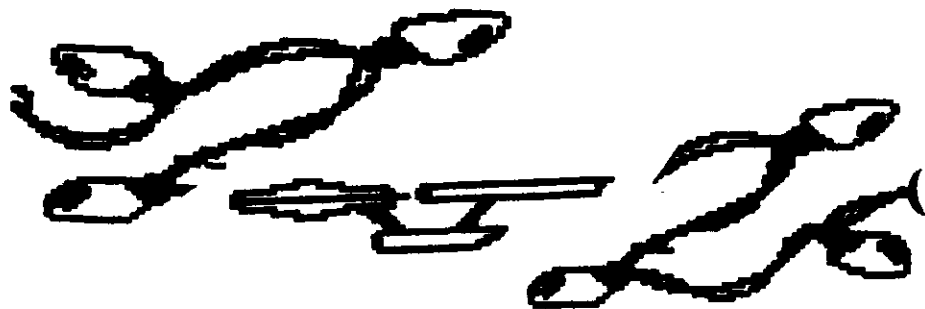
* Books -- The Poster Logs (Cartoon episodes) 1-10 are back in print. Logs 6-10 haven't been reprinted in many years. The Dlish readers (live-action episodes) have been reprinted in 3 volumes, with the original prefaces intact from the 12 original paperback volumes. However the 2 Mudd stories are still not included, so the out of print Mudd's Angels is still the only way to complete your set. At least this new printing does cover log 12. The earlier Readers did not. This new set also includes new introductions by three people connected with the show but this is the only new material. Collectibility is I think relatively low. One high point while we're on the subject of books Walter Koenig's Chekov's Enterprise is being reprinted at long last. I highly recommend this for a good read. It's his diary on the making of ST:The Motion Picture.

* 25th Anniversary CD set -- \$25.00 to 30.00 This has 3 of the books on tape and a 4 minute introduction by William Shatner. The stories are Enterprise the First Adventure, Strangers from the Sky, and Final Frontier. They are very nice stories and are very well done as far as collectibility...honestly I have no idea. I bought them and I listen to them, that's why I bought them.

* Miscellaneous -- The Spock plate and the Franklin mint items have been available before and will be again. They are not really 25th Anniversary items even though some of the ads say they are. This stuff is still going to be around so your money is better spent elsewhere right now.

As a side note have you noticed the left over ST:V stand-ups being used to promote the 25th Anniversary. I've even found some cheap junk buttons and keychains (Spock for President) that Waldenbooks hauled out to get rid of.

Remember friends the word of the game is be careful and spend your money wisely. Buy 25th Anniversary items you like and that you'll enjoy. If you like them chances are that others will like them and want to invest in them too. We didn't become Star Trek Fans to make money.



The Twelve Days of Trek Christmas

Music by Traci Girard - Lyrics by Pamela Girard



1. On the first day of Christ-mas my



true love sent to me, a Frank-lin Mint



Chess Set 2. On the se-cond day of Christ-mas, my



true love sent to me, two Hallmark ships and a



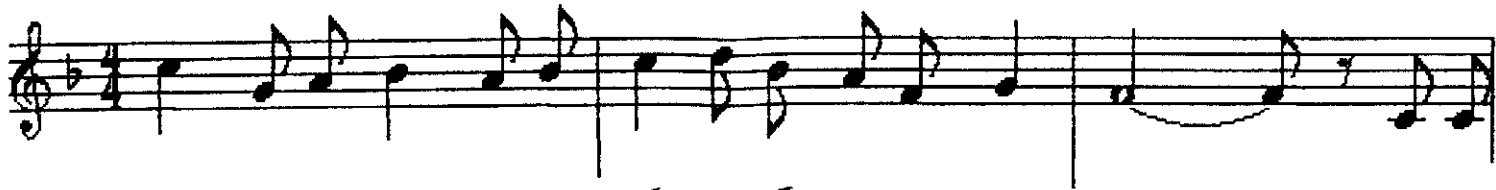
Frank-lin Mint Chess Set.

3. On the

The Twelve Days of Trek Christmas



third day of Christ-mas, my true love sent to me, three classic novels,



two Hallmark ships, and a Frank-lin Mint Chess Set 4. On the



fourth day of Christ-mas, my true love sent to me, four trading cards,
three classic novels,



two Hallmark ships, and a Frank-lin Mint Chess Set 5. On the



fifth day of Christ-mas, my true love sent to me five purring Tribbles,



four trading cards, three classic



Frank-lin Mint Chess Set

6. On the
7. On the



six movie posters, (to 5)
seven starship models, (to 6)
eight slurpe cups, (to 7)
nine comic books, (to 8)
ten Foster Logs, (to 9)
eleven Star Trek CDs, (to 10)
twelve Licenced T-shirts, (to 11)



three classic novels, 2 Hallmark ships, and



novels, two Hallmark ships, and a



sixth day of Christ-mas my tru love sent to me,
seventh day --etc.

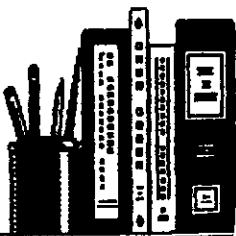


five purring Tribbles, four trading cards,



a Frank-lin Mint Chess Set.

Suggestions For the Spacefaring Insomniac



By Sandra Provence Steele

Greetings Fellow Insomniacs !

It's time for my special column : What to Get A Trek Fan For Christmas.

Well, if someone has a lot of money they could always buy a ticket on the 1993 TrekCruise.

However, most of us don't have the \$1000.00 to do that so here are some suggestions in a gentler price range.

Frippery : Communicator pins (both Next Generation and the Movie pins)-
\$15.00

Collector Pins (various designs)-\$8.00 to \$10.00

Ensignia Patches (Original series, all branches)-\$2.00

Stamp Cachet (good gift)-\$20.00

Trading Cards (Stocking Stuffers)-\$.59

Practical Items: Uniform Shirt -\$35.00

Uniform- Next Generation -\$80.00-100.00

Uniform- Movie Type -\$120.00 (Cheap, this is a killer to make)

Quilt- Artistic Quality - \$150.00-200.00

Best Buys: Sets of Books

I have arranged several of the Star Trek Novels into groups for more reading pleasure and for ease of gift making. Books are great gifts and are often very reasonably priced. I reviewed the books that tie-in to original series episodes because they give the new reader some feeling of camaradery. Used bookstores are the best buy (obviously) but most of the books on my list are available in reprint unless otherwise noted. I have also decided to use the asterisk symbol to represent the star rating and the plus sign to represent the half-star.

(Please note: Next Generation Novels do not yet exist in such vast numbers that they would merit a list break down such as this. Please just go ahead and buy these as a set of their own.)

Episode Tie-in: Some authors decided that the original series episode left a few loose ends. They also decided it was their mission in life was to produce a satisfactory end.

Set A - These three novels all feature Spock as the primary character of interest.

Yesterday's Son - A.C. Crispin - ***

This novel is available in both paperback and hardback form. It brings up a rather large loophole in the original episode with regards to Spock and his relationship with Zarabeth. This one has a unique viewpoint and is a fun and entertaining story.

Time for Yesterday - A.C. Crispin - ****

You guessed it. This novel is the sequel to the novel listed above. It seems that Ms. Crispin left herself a loophole to tighten up. I actually think that this is the better of the two but one has to have first things first.

Killing Time - Della Van Hise -****

I hope everyone remembers Spock's attempted affair with the lovely Romulan commander ? Well, so did this author, in fact this women made a big deal out of the "women scorned " theory. I did get a kick out of the strange way the lovely Deela took her revenge. The novel's approach to time travel and it's possible consequences is very well thought out and quite plausible. The characterizations seemed reasonable under the novel's particular circumstances. Good stuff.

Set B - This group could also be considered "Early Trek" type novels. I put these together because they involve members of the pilot episodes as well as our familiar cast. Believe it or not, I didn't actually intend to put all the "supernovels" in one group. Perhaps these works are longer due to the additional knowledge that has to be supplied to the reader.

Strangers From The Sky - Margaret Wander Bonanno - **+

Join the further adventures of Gary Mitchell and the early crew of the Enterprise as they play detective in this tale of deja-vu. The focus of the story is a book about a supposedly secret first contact between earth and the Vulcans. Everyone winds up in the past, or were they? This one has some pretty interesting concepts and some plotting errors to those who read closely but the story is original enough to merit reading.

Suggestions for the Spacefaring Insomniac

The Final Frontier - Diane Carey - ****

This one shows Kirk's traumatized reaction to the death of Edith Keeler in "Guardian on the Edge of Forever". It shows lots of Kirk's personal history in the between chapters and has a wonderful story in the main chapters. The main character in the main chapters is George Kirk, James T's father. This story explores the Enterprise's trial run and how she got her name. I really like this one because of its intelligent consideration of the various philosophies held by Starfleet members. Ms. Carey is most rational and her ending is a shining resolution to the situation that takes place. The high point of Ms. Carey's style keeps you guessing even though we all know the Enterprise survives these trials intact.

Enterprise: The First Adventure - Vonda McIntyre - ***

Alright, I realize this one is not specifically a tie-in novel but I think that it does make a good completion to this trilogy. It is placed as a change of command from Christopher Pike to James T. Kirk. I liked the characterizations and the way that the crew got to know and respect one another. This is another one of those stories that I think might have made an entertaining episode.

Set C : Well, I suppose I have to mention books that I don't particularly care for just to be fair. So here are the remaining three tie-in novels.

Vulcan's Glory - D.C. Fontana - **

Spock finds a mate contrary to every single other thing mentioned in over half a dozen previous novels. I guess it was too much for me to expect that a person who helped create part of the original episode lore would deign to keep up with the written work. This was readable and kind of kinky in spots, so it isn't totally bad. I just couldn't get over the disregard for other people's legitimately published works.

Double, Double - Michael Jan Friedman - *+

This is still a mediocre book about a mediocre episode (DSE-#3) and I refuse to waste my time on it.

Cry of The Onlies - Judy Klass - +

This might not be too bad to some people but I couldn't even stay interested long enough to finish this stinker.

These books have what I call great aliens:

The Tears of The Singers - Melinda Snodgrass - ****

Uhura's Song - Janet Kagen - *****

The Three Minute Universe - Barbara Paul - ***

Then there are the Klingon Stories:

Pawns and Symbols - Majliss Larson - **+

How Much For Just The Planet? - John M. Ford - ***

Timetrapp - David Dworkin - *+

Flag Full of Stars - Brad Ferguson - Not rated

The Klingon Gambit - Robert E. Vardeman

And Romulan Stories:

Dwellers in the Crucible - Margaret Wander Bonanno - **+

The Romulan Way - Diane Duane and Peter Morwood - ***

The Pandora Principle - Carolyn Clowes - **

And Vulcan Stories:

The Vulcan Academy Murders - Jean Lorrain - ****

The IDIC Epidemic - Jean Lorrain - *****

Spock's World - Diane Duane - ****

The Lost Years - J. M. Dillard - ****

Other Musts:

Prime Directive - Judith and Garfield Reeves-Stevens - ****

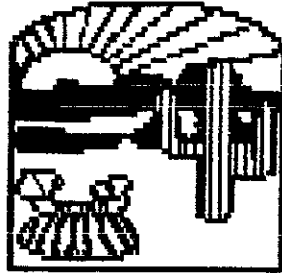
Ishmael - Barbara Hambly - *****

The Kobayshi Maru - Julia Ecklar - ****

Have fun shopping. I hope everyone turns out for STAR TREK VI - The UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY on 12-13-91. It promises to be great. SEE Y'ALL NEXT YEAR !!!!!

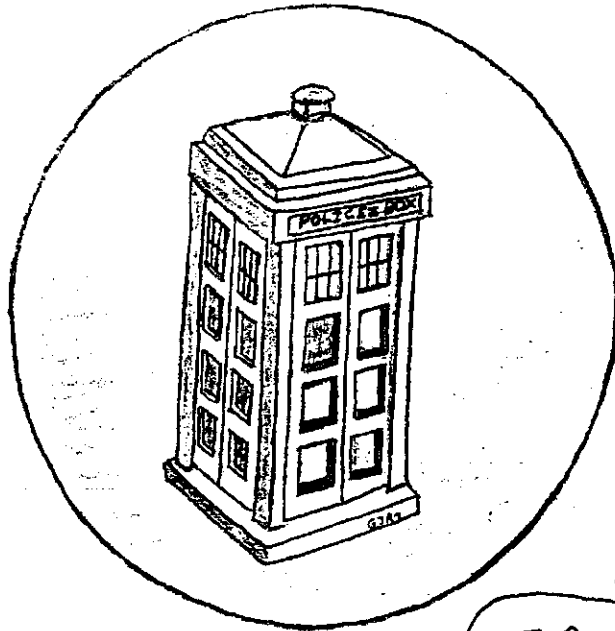
Sandy

P.S. Attention Doctor Who fans : Tom Baker will be appearing with the Other Doctors for the Chicago Convention. This his first convention in many years. He has reformed since his remarriage two years ago and apologizes for all the nasty things he said in regard to Doctor Who. He said he had a real attitude problem but his new wife has turned his life around.



The Dune Sea Express

#12 November 1991



I Beg Your Pardon ???

Hailing Frequencies Open:

This is Captain James T. Kirk of the Starship Enterprise. We are going to attempt Time Travel...

