



# The Dune Sea Express

May/June 1990

## Misguided Muddlings of a Moviegoing Misfit

by Stephanie Jefas

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*Note to the reader: This article contains a few spelling errors and false referrals. These errors were intentionally left in the document because they enhance the subject matter. --Editors.*  
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I have a confession. I am not a Trekie, and I don't live for the Doctor, but I have seen all the Star Wars and Indiana Jones movies. A long time ago, I even saw the Planet of the Apes movies! Impressive, yes?

Given my credentials you are probably wondering why I am taking up precious space in this newsletter. Allow me to explain. My best friends are on the staff of this newsletter (co-editors, gofers, insultants, etc.) Since they so desperately need submissions, I, out of the goodness of my heart, graciously volunteered to do a guest column on "Life in the Real World," or "How to Survive in the Midst of Star Trek Fanatics Without Being One Yourself." I don't even know the difference between a transporter and a tardis! Let's see, the Doctor uses a transporter and Scotty uses a tardis, right? Maybe it's the other way around. The entire business is very confusing at times.

Actually, I'm not all that ignorant. It's quite interesting (to say the very least) having Trekie and Sci-Fi fanatics as friends. It's sort of like being on another planet with people who speak a totally different language. To get by, you have to learn how not to look. I know how not to look when people start conversations which may not thrill me. For example, "Well, in Spock's World they skipped around too much. I'm not buying it until it comes out in paperback!" This statement was answered by another "Trek" fan with, "Yes, but you see... [followed by long speech about Spock's World's more redeeming characteristics.] Or, "The fourth Doctor's companion, Sarah Jane was great, but Colin Baker's Peri was awful!" This statement will naturally lead to all sorts of discussion and debate. I think my personal favorite is, "Oh look! Zorro (or Batman, or Dr. Who or whatever) is coming on the Family Channel! I have to tape all the episodes!" I have watched otherwise sane people sit through a three-hour "Bat" marathon to get the episodes taped!

Back to the look I mentioned earlier, the look is very  
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important. To survive in this environment, you must have the appropriate look of interest (real or feigned, it doesn't matter.) Among other things, looking bored will bring down the Wrath of Pan, Megan, or Joni, (which incidentally is worse than Khan's.) A simple smile of comprehension and a nod of understanding will avoid most predicaments. Anyone who has ever been to a foreign country, who's language is not English, knows the look I am talking about quite well.

Episode titles can be another stumbling block. Since the fans I am acquainted with generally tape not just a few episodes, but entire series, they usually they know all the episodes by name alone. It's very difficult to relate to a specific title, without knowing what series it came from. The only titles I remember offhand are: "The Trouble With Tribbles," and "War Games." Asking is dangerous, because you'll probably get a detailed synopsis of the story as an added bonus, and have to utilize "the look."

Keeping the characters straight can be a chore as well. Riker, Piccard, Steed, Purdy, Spock, Kirk, McCoy, and I won't even try to keep the doctors straight. They also have "pet names" for some of the characters, and refer to them as such. It took me a while to figure out who they were referring to when they mentioned "Pimpleface" and "The Psychic Bimbo," just to name a few. I'm happy to say that I do know Luke, Leia, Han and the rest of the Star Wars gang. My favorite is Darth Vader, Lord of the Pith. Excuse me. It's Dark Helmet with the Pith hat, from Spaceballs: The Movie. I give up!

Despite how it may sound, I enjoy having Trek fiends as friends. I have really learned a lot as a result of this association. My accumulated pearls of wisdom include: Spock wears a blue shirt, not a silver one, the Enterprise can hold two whales and a whole lot of water, and the antagonists in Dr. Who are not trash cans, they're dialects! Something like that anyway. I really have to admire the way they can remember all these things! It must take up as much time as college! As for me, I'll just consider myself lucky, there isn't an exam over this stuff tomorrow...  
.....

# Orbital

## Eccentricities

pg: It has come to our attention that there is some question as to why we are named what we are named.

JK: Don't look at me! It was all my parents' fault!

PG: (Sighs in exasperation.) The newsletter, Joni, the newsletter.

JK: Oh, that. Well, any science fiction fan should have noticed that the desert environment is fairly common among science fiction writers.

PG: Yes, there's Vulcan from *Star Trek*, Tatooine from *Star Wars*, *Dune* from Frank Herbert, and many others.

JK: Not to mention that San Angelo, Texas is located in the middle of the flipping desert.

PG: I didn't know deserts could do that. Plus, The DSE beats "Domineering Deeds of Desert Dwelling Dipsticks."

JK: And most of the other titles we had to work with.

PG: We told *Trek* and *Friends* to come up with another title if they didn't like this one, and they gracefully declined.

JK: Therefore we have *The Dune Sea Express*--The Desert Train. It's all quite logical, really.

PG: Besides, I'd already waited nine months to get this thing started. A minor detail like a title wasn't going to hold us up any longer.

JK: Congratulations, Pam, it's a newsletter. hopefully the little dear will have a long, enjoyable life, bringing happiness to others and nice things like that.

PG: Hopefully. If we can just get some submissions! (Hint, hint) Bye for now, Pam and Joni.

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Staff:

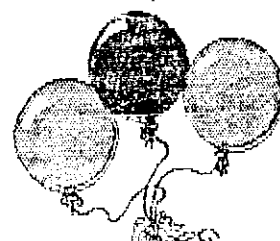
Pamela Girard and Joni Kouvelis                      Editors  
Traci Girard    Serf

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## Notes on the Austin Con

From the Austinian Ambassador  
Sandra Provence Steele



Time: February 24 and 25, 1990

Location: Austin Stouffer Hotel

By: Creation Conventions

Imagine if you can the grand atrium of one of Austin's poshest hotels. A pricey place, full of marble and sporting a cascading metal sculpture floating down from a peak of three stories. Then, imagine a small hoard of rather, shall we say, casually dressed *Trek* Fans running around. The doorman looked totally baffled and the deskclerks were not amused as they watched the parade of fun and unusual people scramble in and out of their establishment. The Austin Con was probably not as spectacular as other cons, but it was not bad. I think it would have been more fun if it hadn't given the impression of being a money-making venture.

Walter Koenig was there and he gave a great performance and speech. He talked about the new ideas that Paramount is considering for *Star Trek VI*. The idea getting the most consideration is truly ludicrous. The project is headed by producer Frank Mancuso (*Friday the 13th*), and the idea is to recast the original characters with younger actors!

The story is set at Starfleet Academy. I personally don't think I buy this line of thought. (Besides none of these characters attended the academy at the same time.)

Koenig thought that the whole notion was really ridiculous. To paraphrase what he said; Let's make a sixth movie and give *Star Trek* one final movie. He felt that the time has come for the end of it all. He hopes to have *Star Trek VI* be a send off, a chance to, "go out with banners waving, flags flying, and a sense of pride and dignity." I agree. We have a tremendous body of literature in which to carry on the dreams and ideals embodied in the original show. We have a promising new series to nurture and shape. If anyone else who loves *Star Trek* would like to do something about it, then speak out. *Star Trek* Fans are capable people who could take a few minutes of time to write to Frank Mancuso C/O *Star Trek*, Paramount Studios, 5555 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90038.

Mr. Koenig has story suggestions in for both the new movie and a *ST: TNG* episode. I felt for him at the autographing. He looked completely worn out. those of us who stood in line went from being allowed to have three things signed and personalized to having one picture signed with no personalizations. Estimates were that he signed autographs for over 500 people. I didn't do too bad, he personalized his book anyway. That's all folks.

## Interstellar Classifieds

@ I can probably get my grubby little paws on up to 6 copies of *Buck Alice and the Actor Robot* by Walter Koenig for \$3.95 each plus 8% tax and postage. This book went for ten bucks a copy at the Austin Con. Contact S. Steele P.O. Box 27301, Austin, TX 78755-2301. Money orders only.

@ Have a bad feeling about something? Contact D. Troi C/O Starfleet, U.S.S. Enterprise.



# Posy, Attempt 2: Tricked! \*

by: Joni Kouvelis

In our last story, formula romance writer Clairese Baker had just met Posy the Horse, or as he prefers to be called, Thunderhoof. Thunderhoof is still supervising Clairese's newest story about himself, and Sir Justin, his knight. In our last story, Sir Justin had just found a castle and had been granted permission to enter. Miserable night that it was, he accepted the hospitality gratefully, after placing his horse in the castle's stables, and seeing to his needs.

*Hah! We've been through this before. He should be reported to the humane society.*

Justin then made his way up to the main hall, and was met by the wealthy baron and his beautiful daughter, Chastity. Gratefully he accepted their offers of food and shelter, and was led up to a room to prepare for dinner.

*Yeah, that's one good thing about these pit-stops. These delicate-nosed dansels usually make ol' Justy scrub off whatever delightful layers of sediment he's accumulated on his bod. I at least have enough self respect to wallow in the river a bit. Don't get downwind of that guy on a hot day, sister.*

Thank you, Thunderhoof. I'm sure everyone wanted to know that. After allowing a squire to help him remove his armor, Justin stretched his lean, tan, muscular, perfectly proportioned body, and lowered himself into the tub of steaming bath water.

*Getting a little excited dearie? I mean, Justy may be okay by human standards, but he can't lift more than 150 pounds or so without straining.*

Presently someone knocked on his door. "Sir Knight?" a soft female voice called, "will you dine with my lord, or would you prefer dinner up here?"

*With her as dessert, I presume?*

"I shall be down shortly," Justin Braveheart replied.

*Braveheart? BRAVEHEART?? Try Wimpywuss. You've got the name all wrong. I've gotten that ignorant moron out of here--*

Justin BRAVE-HEART got out of the tub, dressed, and made his way downstairs.

*Without an instruction manual? I doubt it!*

The hall was brightly lit with candles and torches, and a splendid meal was served to Lord Anthony and his

guest. Lady Chastity entered, and sat by her father.

Justin surreptitiously eyed the young beauty, and planned out which phrases would most likely win her heart, and her favors. "My Lord," he observed in his deep baritone voice, "you have a most lovely daughter."

Chastity lowered her eyes modestly, but Justin saw her eyeing him invitingly from behind her thick lashes. This girl probably wouldn't be a tough nut to crack. He'd have to be careful, certainly, but he probably wouldn't have to squander half the night coaxing this one.

*Ever the tomcat on the prowl, that's my master. He gets the females and the rare roast beast, and I'm stuck with corn husks and a leaky stall.*

After dinner, Chastity glided over to her father, then to Justin, and wished them good night. As Justin kissed her hand, she slipped a note into his palm.

*The plot thickens.*

Justin waited until he was in the hallway leading back to his room, then opened the note, and read it curiously. "Sir Knight," it began, "I wouldst favour the honour of thy company." It then gave directions to Chastity's chambers.

*So he hot foots it to the girl's room, right?*

Of course. Carefully, he made his way through the dimly lit corridors of Anthony's castle. The halls were surprisingly empty. Not a guard to be seen. Justin found this odd, but chose not to question his good fortune, as he neared Chastity's bedchamber.

Almost as if she had been standing by the door waiting, Chastity unlatched the lock, and bade him enter. Her long blonde hair hung soft around her shoulders, and her face was radiant with promise.

Justin followed her inside, admiring the way her white gown lovingly hugged her body.

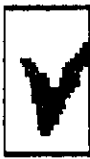
"Come hither, Sir Knight," Chastity teased with an inviting smile, "the night will not last forever."

Justin stood still and a little shocked as she moved to stand beside him, and began leisurely unlacing his tunic. "My lady..." he began, but Chastity silenced his feeble protest by laying her forefinger across his lips. Justin captured her hands, and drew her nearer to him. Tilting her piquant face up to his, he kissed her softly on the lips. Having then proved, at least in his own mind, who was in control of the situation, he felt a little better.

Chastity made no protest, in fact, she was almost too willing. Thus encouraged, Justin's advances grew bolder.

*Don't get too sickening, Clairese.*

...continued on page 6



# Checklist #1

## Doctor Who Novels Part One

This list of Doctor Who novels is in episodic order. The episodes that have not been novelized are included and the novels of missing episodes are noted as follows:

\* The book title is preceded by Doctor Who and...

<sup>1</sup> Missing episode

<sup>2</sup> Episode that has not been novelized at this time.

Dr. Who novels are published by Target Books, the paperback division of W.H. Allen & Co Ltd., London, England.

William Hartnell episodes:

- An Unearthly Child\*  
by Terrance Dicks
- The Daleks\*  
by David Whitaker
- The Edge of Destruction  
Nigel Robinson
- Marco Polo<sup>1</sup>  
by John Lucarotti
- The Keys of Marinus\*  
by Philip Hinchcliffe
- The Aztecs  
by John Lucarotti
- The Sensorites  
by Nigel Robinson
- The Reign of Terror<sup>1</sup>  
by Ian Marter
- Planet of Giants-forthcoming  
by Terrance Dicks
- Dalek Invasion of Earth\*  
by Terrance Dicks
- The Rescue  
by Ian Marter
- The Romans  
by Donald Cotton
- The Zarbi\* (Episode called-  
"The Web Planet")  
by Bill Strutton
- The Crusaders\*<sup>1</sup> (Episode  
called "The Crusade")  
by David Whitaker
- Space Museum  
by Glyn Jones

- The Chase  
by John Peel
  - The Time Meddler  
by Nigel Robinson
  - Galaxy Four<sup>1</sup>  
by William Emes
  - The Mythmakers<sup>1</sup>  
by Donald Cotton
  - The Dalek Masterplan pt.1<sup>1</sup>  
(episode called "Mission  
to the Unknown")  
by John Peel
  - The Dalek Masterplan pt. 2<sup>1</sup>  
by John Peel
  - The Massacre<sup>1</sup>  
by John Lucarotti
  - The Ark  
by Paul Erickson
  - The Celestial Toymaker<sup>1</sup>  
by Gerry Davis & Allison  
Bingeman
  - The Gunfighters  
by Donald Cotton
  - The Savages<sup>1</sup>  
by Ian Stuart Black
  - The War Machines  
by Ian Stuart Black
  - The Smugglers<sup>1</sup>  
by Terrance Dicks
  - Tenth Planet\*<sup>1</sup>  
by Gerry Davis
- Patrick Troughton Episodes:
- Power of the Daleks<sup>1\*2</sup>
  - The Highlanders<sup>1</sup>  
by Gerry Davis
  - The Underwater Menace<sup>1</sup>  
by Nigel Robinson
  - The Cybermen\*<sup>1</sup> (Episode  
called-"The Moonbase")  
by Gerry Davis
  - The Macra Terror<sup>1</sup>  
by Ian Stuart Black
  - The Faceless Ones<sup>1</sup>  
by Terrance Dicks
  - Evil of the Daleks<sup>1\*2</sup>
  - The Tomb of the Cybermen\*<sup>1</sup>  
by Gerry Davis
  - The Abominable Snowmen\*<sup>1</sup>  
by Terrance Dicks
  - The Ice Warriors\*<sup>1</sup>  
by Brian Hayles

- The Enemy of the World\*<sup>1</sup>  
by Ian Marter
- The Web of Fear\*<sup>1</sup>  
by Terrance Dicks
- Fury From the Deep<sup>1</sup>  
by Victor Pemberton
- The Wheel in Space<sup>1</sup>  
by Terrance Dicks
- The Dominators  
by Ian Marter
- The Mind Robber  
by Peter Ling
- The Invasion<sup>1</sup>  
by Ian Marter
- The Krotons  
by Terrance Dicks
- The Seeds of Death  
by Terrance Dicks
- Space Pirates<sup>1</sup>-forthcoming  
by Terrance Dicks
- The War Games\*  
by Malcolm Hulke

List compiled by Pamela Girard  
NEXT ISSUE: The list for  
Doctor's Jon Pertwee and Tom  
Baker.



\*\*\*\*\*

### Interstellar Poetry Moment

Meridata  
by Jennifer M. Gonzales

On the world of Meridata  
There is no war  
Peace only  
Peace only.

On the world of Meridata  
Mermaids and unicorns  
No war  
No war.

On the world of Meridata  
Happiness is everywhere  
Happiness everywhere  
Everywhere happiness.

On the world of Meridata  
Unspoiled air, land, and water  
Safe environment  
Safe environment.

# Star Trek Folklore: Take One:...

## Have You Heard the One About...

by Pamela Girard

Folklore comes in all types and varieties. From the traditional needlework and woodcarvings to the riddles, jokes, and proverbs that we've been sharing and passing around since we were kids. Star Trek has its own folklore. The bumperstickers, t-shirts sayings, and even the stickers we put on the backs of envelopes can be considered folklore. The riddles that follow were gathered at Cons and meetings from all kinds of people. The common factor being, they were all Star Trek Fans.

What would you have if all the ST Fans in Switzerland got together?

The Geneva Convention.

What are eyeglasses called on Vulcan?

Spocktacles.

How many Klingons does it take to paint a starship?

500 plus a Romulan. 500 Klingons to fight over the honor and a Romulan to actually do the work.

What does a Klingon call a phaser?

Strategy.

What does a Klingon call a starship?

Diplomacy.

Why did the Klingon cross the road?

To conquer the other side.

Why did the Ferengi cross the road?

To rip off the other side.

How do you ruin a Klingon party?

Rescue the prisoners.

What does a Romulan frog use for camouflage?

A croaking device.

Why was Star Trek so successful?

It had good Genes.

Did you hear why the Klingons lost their last war?

Their headquarters power generator was hit and the high command was stuck on an escalator for three hours.

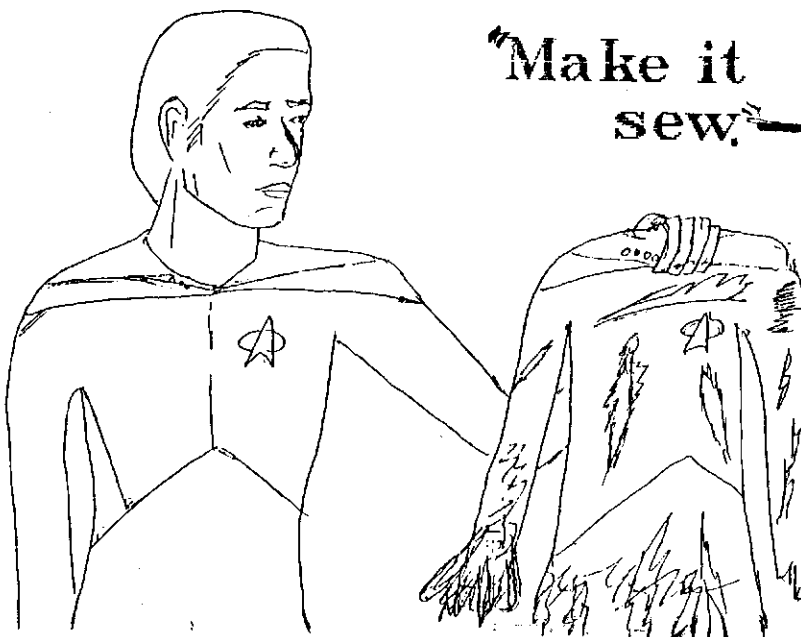
Now that I have shared some riddles with you, it's your turn. If you have a riddle you'd like to share with the rest of us, it doesn't have to be Star Trek related--anything science fiction will be fine, send it to:

The Dune Sea Express--Folklore, C/O Pamela Girard, 3212 Oxford Dr., San Angelo, TX 76904

NEXT ISSUE: Sayings and Proverbs.

"Captain, the auto-tailor is not functioning properly."

"Make it sew."



ATTENTION READERS:

The Dune Sea Express is now available by subscription. (Meaning that if you have received complementary copies of the DSE, the free ride is now over.)

If you live in San Angelo and Attend Trek and Friends meetings regularly so your loving editors can deliver the DSE personally the price is \$3.00 per year.

If we must mail the DSE to you (Meaning you live outside the San Angelo area) the price is \$5.00 per year.



# Suggestions for the Spacetaring Insomniac

by Guest Reviewer Megan Bock

This month I am not an insomniac. In fact, I have no time to read at all. Much less lay awake at night. I wouldn't be here at all except for the snotty remarks made by some editors last month. So before I turn this column over to Megan...

Memory Prime--2 stars. Read every other chapter and it's not too bad. A definite sleeper if you try to read at as a novel.

Double, Double--1.5 stars. Look it's a mediocre book about a mediocre episode. It's got a couple of major errors in the plot line and its not too reader friendly stylistically. That's all I have to say about it. I'll be back next time, when I no longer have to grade Third Grade TEAMS essays.

Sandy

And now, Presenting Megan Bock: Take a Bow!!

(CAUTION, The following review gives away certain plot elements the reader may not wish to know before reading the novel.)

The Pandora Principle is the new Star Trek novel, written by Trek newcomer Carolyn Cloves. It's pretty good. I must say that my favorite aspect of the novel is Kirk's confinement in a fancy basement for most of the book, leaving the rest of the group free to save the universe without his interference.

Posy, continued... \*\*\*\*\*

Think you know what happens next, Thundy?

*Sure. He throws her in the sack and has his wild and wicked way with her. It always happens that way.*

What if we change the rules a little, hmmm? Chastity finished unlacing Justin's tunic, and drew it gently over his head, allowing her gown to slip seductively off one shoulder. By tacit agreement, they drifted over to her canopied and curtained bed. Carelessly throwing clothes aside, Justin leaned over Chastity.

*Okay, okay, we get the point!*

Patience, Horse. When he was in a most compromising position, she tilted her head back, and screamed as if her very life was forfeit.

"What is this?" Anthony roared, appearing out of nowhere with three guards. "I offer you food and shelter and this is how you repay my hospitality?"

Wits muddled by the sudden change in mood, Justin stared stupidly at the men, and tried to find words to explain.

"Bah! Take him to the dungeon!" Anthony ordered with a disgusted wave of dismissal. "We'll deal with him in the morning."

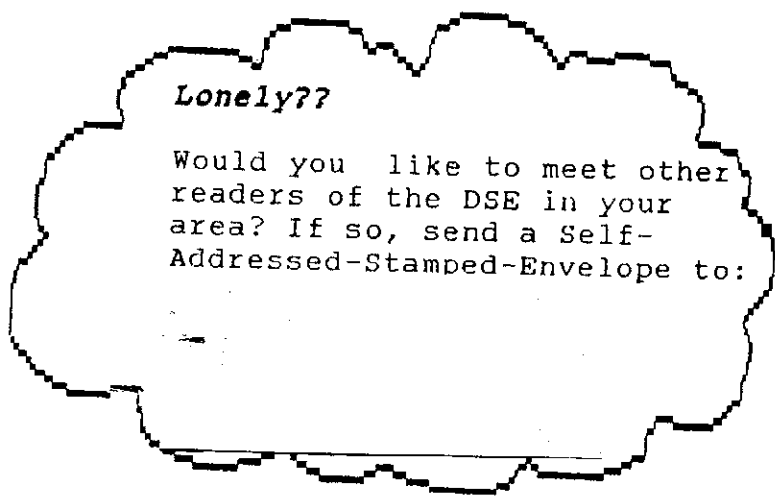
What will happen on the morrow? Will Justin be executed, or merely castrated? Tune in again!

Some other author should have thought of this tactic a long time ago, since it certainly makes for a much more enjoyable story.

Now, to stop my Kirk-bashing, the plot revolves around a new Romulan weapon--horrors! Those insidious meanies have invented a weapon which, when detonated, removes all of the oxygen from wherever it is. For instance, the weapon goes off in a Starfleet building, which hasn't got any drafts, since the stuff doesn't escape into the environment and do away with all of the oxygen on the planet. See, if you open any of the doors--poof! Say goodbye to life on Earth. Naturally, the basement Kirk is in is in that building. So the Enterprise (This novel is set between the first two movies.) is off to the planet where Saavik was found, since she remembers seeing the weapons as a child. She's still a cadet, with a pretty mean curve ball and a lot of guilt over her non-Vulcan dreams and feelings. Naturally enough, they manage to save the universe (They finally figure out how to neutralize the anti-oxygen junk.) Earth, the Enterprise, and Kirk (oh well).

If you're a big Kirk fan, don't worry, he's not completely out of the novel. He sits in his basement and worries a lot and gives advice and so forth, but the others actually get to do something, and Uhura even gets the conn. (I was impressed). there's a new secondary character who's adorable, although it is slightly reminiscent of Jinx from Spacecamp.

The book is by no means perfect: I never quite figured out what was going on with the Romulans, but then I didn't really care, either. Some of the plot strategies were kind of "okay, if you say so," but the story moved along well and held my interest.



**Lonely??**

Would you like to meet other readers of the DSE in your area? If so, send a Self-Addressed-Stamped-Envelope to: