



## Posy, Attempt 3: The Choice

By Joni Kouvelis

Hello folks, my name is Thunderhoof...contrary to what the author would have you believe. In the last story, my master, Sir Justin got caught while tomcatting around with Lady Chastity, and is presently cooling his heels in Lord Anthony's dungeon. Since this part of the story deals with my masterful handling of the situation, the author has graciously turned the telling of the story over to me.

Excuse me?? I said you could tell the recap, not the entire...

As I was saying before I was so rudely interrupted, I had a very bad evening. It had rained all night, and the roof to my stall leaked. However, I am not one to dwell on my own misfortunes, especially when my owner is in such perilous straits.

Posy, please, you're making me ill.

Look human, when I want your opinion, I'll ask for it. Anyway, bright and early the next morning, a stableboy came to the barn and rudely slapped an ill-fitting harness on my noble head. He then proceeded to drag me to the courtyard for my morning exercise. He was a real clod...stop playing that godawful violin music, Clairese.

But Posy, you're breaking my bitty heart. Seriously though, I can take it from here.

Hah! You can tell about Justy and the other humans, but you aren't going to mangle my character! Now, as this lad was dragging me around, I used great self restraint, and didn't bite him. As we passed Lord Anthony's window, I heard him send for his wife. Since my master hadn't come to exercise me that morning, I was concerned about his welfare.

Naturally.

Go dream up another steamy love scene, Clairese and leave the plot development to me. (Ignores authors angry squawk.) I strained against my lead, knowing the boy would think I merely wanted to graze on the grass growing under the window. Fortunately, he only led me once more around the courtyard before leaving me under the window. It seems he had a hot date with the chambermaid.

Posy, if you don't let me have control of this keyboard right now, I'm going to delete this entire story!!!

All in good time my dear. (Locks keyboard up.) That should hold her for a while. Now, while I was under the window, I heard the two of them talking about the way Justy had been set up the night before.

"Well," Anthony said expectantly, "do you think he has a chance of defeating the ogre?" That perked my interest. If Justy had an ogre in his future, I wanted to know more...especially since it didn't take a genius to figure out that I was going to have to give him a piggyback ride to the monster's lair.

"He seems very strong, my husband, but not terribly bright," replied a female voice, "I fear he will do no better than the others."

I stopped chewing on a mouthful of grass so I could hear everything. Something funny was definitely going on here, and Justin was in the big middle of it.

"A pity," the lord sighed. "At first the brute was almost useful. I rid myself of six of the knights who would displace me, but I can't have him going around stealing cattle destroying property and beating people to death with that infernal club of his."

"You will send Sir Justin against the ogre as well?" the lady asked. "Even though it will likely mean his death?"

"Sir Justin may surprise us, my dear. After all, if I didn't send him after the ogre, I'd have to have him executed, and knights generally prefer to go down fighting."

I snorted a little at this statement. Justin was a firm believer that discretion was the better part of valor and had exercised it many times since he and I had been acquainted. Still, he did have his uses. I couldn't stand by and let him get suckered into this fool's errand.

Of course not. Exactly who do you think the hero of this story is? You can't just butt in and take over!

Watch me Claire baby. You may own the computer, but I live in it. I'll let you finish this, but I have to set the stage. (Leaves author beating on the desk.)

"Besides, my dear," the lord continued, "the ogre is not invulnerable. He does have a weak point. I just don't let that information out. If the brute ever gets too out of hand, I can have him dealt with."

"If that is true, my lord, why do you allow him to plague our kingdom?"

"Because, Chastity my sweet, it suits my purposes. After all, I did catch Sir Justin and my faithful wife, posing as my daughter, in a rather compromising situation..."

My ears pricked up at this. Justy usually didn't need help getting into trouble.

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# Orbital Eccentricities



# Space Debris

PG: (Ripping the zipper out of a bridesmaid's dress for the third time, and grumbling to herself about how everyone should elope.) Greetings Trek fans! I hope your day is going better than mine! Last issue we talked about why we are named what we are named.

JK: Specifically The Dune Sea Express.

PG: I think they caught that. This time we're going to tell you *why* we're doing this!

JK: It's one of life's great mysteries.

PG: It's been rumored for years that we're both basically warped in the head. This could be thought of as an outlet for that "warpedness."

JK: Is that a word, Pam? I don't want any more hostile "typo" letters.

PG: It is now. (Glaring at recalcitrant elastic.)

JK: Our family and friends humor us, but we think we want to move on to a larger audience. We want feedback from people who don't love us for who we are. And we want to give others like us the chance to emote.

PG: Don't forget the "Oh, God!" reaction we got from our loyal supporters, Trek and Friends when we informed them of the newsletter, specifically this column.

JK: As budding writers, we were quite frustrated reading our more noteworthy pieces to mesquite trees and cacti. They listened patiently enough, but they don't offer any positive comments.

PG: Yeah, but they have plenty of needles! Oh, by the way, we have an update on the *Star Wars* situation.

JK: You did have to bring that up, didn't you?

PG: They are planning to make another *Star Wars* movie...sometime before the end of the decade.

JK: (Throwing darts at the Lucasfilm logo.) Thanks a lot, George! Nice of you to crash my hopes like that.

Until next time! Pam and Joni.

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The following is the first installment of a letters column. We will include this column whenever we get enough letters to have one. We welcome comments, suggestions, and opposing viewpoints

I thoroughly enjoyed your newsletter. My favorite part is "Orbital Eccentricities." I really enjoy your sense of wit and timing. --John Zotos, Chicago IL

Dear DSE,

In regard to last month's *Spacefaring Insomniac* column, I feel that your newsletter is not in the best interest of further diplomatic relations with the Federation. If this situation does not improve we will be obligated to cease all defensive action on your behalf.

Yours,

James T. Kirk

P.S. Do you people realize how close to the Klingons you really are?

I enjoyed the newsletter I got from you on March third. I loved the poem about the Star Trek Convention. You certainly have a way with words. --Angela Salvato, Arlington, TX

Dear DSE,

We would like to express dissatisfaction at your lack of coverage of our feature Science Fiction film, *Moontrap*, which we would like to point out starred Walter Koenig of *Star Trek*.

Anonymous

P.S. The second invasion will be in 1991.

I'm pleased so far with the DSE. Each newsletter continues to improve and the articles are quite enjoyable. Keep up the good work and may a Denebian Slime Devil never invade your computer room. --Richard White, Fort Campbell, KY

I like the *Dune Sea Express*, as it is written by intelligent gentlebeings. --Morgaine le Fey, Charlottesville, VA



# Posy

continued from page 1

AARRGGHH!!! Look you flea-bitten excuse for a carousel horse. Give me my story back and leave my hero alone!

Getting a little warm under the harness, eh, Clairesie baby? Oh, I get it, you've got the hots for old Justy yourself.

OOOOHHH!! (attempts to disconnect keyboard from CPU)

No, no, we can't have that kind of behavior. (Sends wild shock through wiring.) Now as I was mentioning, I had gotten poor Justy out of enough scrapes that I knew that I needed to learn as much about this situation as possible.

"...And, therefore you see, 'sweet daughter', the only way that Sir Justin can save your honor and his hide is to go and face Quigly in honorable combat."

"And what happens if he should defeat the ogre and come back to claim my hand?" Chastity asked loftily.

"Oh, I'm sure the Royal Hunter could arrange a small hunting accident. You know, arrows can be so treacherous." The two left the room chuckling evilly.

I could still hear them as they moved through the grand hallway. I continued to crap and followed them. What was that damn ogre's weak spot? YOU CAN'T JUST WALK AWAY AND NOT TELL ME!

It would serve you right.

Go kiss a troll, Clair. I followed them until they walked out onto a balcony. Trying to remain inconspicuous, I wandered over, looking for some shade.

"By the way, Anthony, darling," Chastity began in a fawning voice, "what is the ogre's weak spot."

Thank you, Poseidon, for small favors.

Who?

Poseidon, Greek god of the sea and of equines. How can we get back to the climax of this chapter?

Heathen hunk of horsehide!

Thank you. As I was saying, Anthony replied, "You see, my dearest, an ogre has a gap in his skull directly on the top. A hard blow there will kill him. Since Quig's about nine feet tall, that's not too likely to happen."

No, I thought, not with old Justy's head down charge until you run into something attack plan. Quigly would carve him into oat flakes. I could already tell that I was going to have to take a very active role in this upcoming battle.

I thought that's what war horses did, Thundersissy.

Look, sister, you may know a lot about these modern "romances" with these girls who just fall into bed with any dark-haired blue eyed guy who breezes into their lives, but you don't know squat about medieval warfare. War horses like myself were horribly expensive...

Horribly overpriced is more like it.

...and therefore, risked as little as possible. We actually fought more in tournaments. Justy tends to use me as transportation, although I probably fight just as well, if not better, than he does. Especially against something as slow moving as an ogre, but if I know my rider, he's going to want to do the honorable thing and fight it one on one.

I could hear voices coming from another of the windows in the courtyard. I wandered over quickly so I could catch as much as possible, before that ham-handed groom decided to take me back to my stall.

"Sir Justin," Anthony's voice rumbled, "I invited you into my house as an honored guest, sheltered you from that horrible storm last night..."

(Let me get soaked in that drafty stable.)

"...and this is how you repay my gratitude? By trying to seduce my wholesome daughter, the virtuous Lady Chastity. What possible recompense can you make to redeem your self and her honor, you cad."

(Virtuous? I nearly gagged not to laugh out loud.)

Enough editorializing, Posy, dearest. Just tell the story and give me my keyboard back!

Don't get in a snip, oh magnanimous authoress who has so graciously let me tell my story. I've almost reached a part where you can get back to bumbling through the heroic stuff.

Sir Justin's voice came quavering from the hall.

Justin's voice does not quaver, you ingrate!

"What may I do to appease you, Lord Anthony." Justin's voice came quavering through the window. "I swear to you that this was not my intent when I entered your fine manor."

Hah!

"Sir Justin, there is only one way that a crime of this magnitude can be resolved. There is a deed that only a true and valorous, and most importantly, an honorable knight can accomplish." Anthony's voice sounded like the trump of doom to the people gathered to witness the lord's justice.

"What is that?" Justin asked hopefully.

"There's this little matter of an ogre, not really much of a threat, but he's been killing off some sheep, cattle and the occasional peasant. If you could manage to eliminate him, I think that might work off any debt you owe to my daughter's honor."

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# Fan Folklore #2: A Spoonfull of Sugar...

By Pamela Girard

Last issue we told a few riddles. This time we'll be sharing some proverbs and sayings. A proverb is usually a complete sentence and expresses wisdom. For example, "a spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down." A saying is usually witty and isn't always a sentence. The following bits of Trek wisdom were collected from fans, bumperstickers, the backs of envelopes, T-shirts, and computer bulletin boards.

Live long and prosper/ Peace and long life.

May your tribble always purr.

Old Trekkers never die - they just warp out.

Keep on Trekkin'.

Visit Vulcan. It's the logical choice.

Jaws was a Klingon minnow.

Beam me up - it ate my phaser!

Trekkers do it with Enterprise.

To err is human; to forgive is against Klingon regulations.

Is it live or is it holodeck?

Real captains don't need hair.

My favorite Doctor is the real McCoy.

He's dead Jim. You grab his tricorder, I'll get his wallet.

Caution, this vehicle equipped with photon torpedoes and trigger happy helmsman.

If you can read this you are in phaser range.

At warp 9, they all look green to me.

I'd rather be:  
squishing tribbles.  
fleecing the Federation.  
annoying Earthers.  
guzzling Romulan ale.

There are few problems in the galaxy that can't be solved by a suitable application of concentrated phaser fire.

Engine by Scotty. 0 to Warp 7 in 15 seconds.

I grok Spock.

Vulcan purveyor of logical enlightenment bound and gagged in trunk.

Property of Klingon Rollerball Team.

Doctor Who makes planet calls.

Who is the other hope.

May your scarf never unravel.

Who needs logic join the Romulan National Guard.

I'd rather trust a Ferengi.

The Post Office is a Cylon Plot.

A Time Lord has to do what a Time Lord has to do.

Jelly Babies cause Longevity.

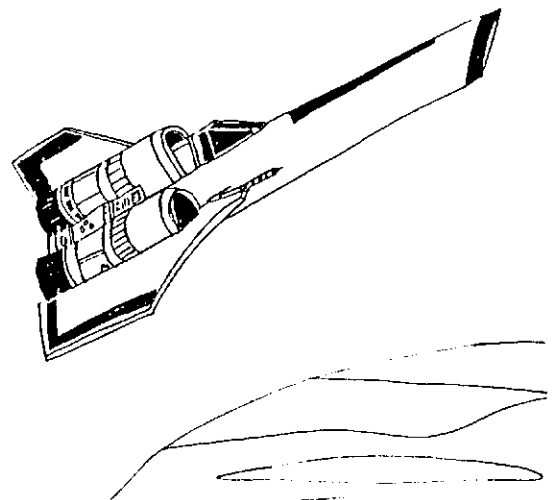
If you know of any sayings that you'd like to share send them to: DSE-Folklore, C/O Pamela Girard, 3212 Oxford Dr. San Angelo, TX 76904. Variations on the above items are welcome.

## Posy

continued from page 3

"Of course," Justin crowed, "only an ogre! I thought that this would be difficult! Lord Anthony, consider this ogre slain! My trusty steed and I will set forth immediately!"

See, what did I tell you? The boy's been hit in the head once too often. We departed much too early for my taste. Off we went to the monster's lair--Hey! Clairese! Not the power cord---\*BLIP\*





# Checklist #1

## Doctor Who Novels: Part Two

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 the...

- 1 Missing episode
- 2 Episode that has not been novelized at this time.

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

Jon Pertwee episodes:

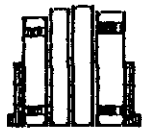
- \_\_\_ Auton Invasion\* (episode called "Spearhead From Space") by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ The Cave Monster\* (episode called "The Silurians") by Malcolm Hulke
- \_\_\_ Ambassadors of Death by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Inferno by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Terror of the Autons\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Mind of Evil by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Claws of Axos\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Doomsday Weapon\* (episode called "Colony in Space") by Malcolm Hulke
- \_\_\_ Daemons\* by Barry Letts
- \_\_\_ Day of the Daleks\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Curse of Peladon\* by Brian Hayles
- \_\_\_ Sea Devils\* by Malcolm Hulke
- \_\_\_ Mutants\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Time Monster by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Three Doctors\* by Terrance Dicks

- \_\_\_ Carnival of Monsters\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Space War\* (episode called "Frontier in Space") by Malcolm Hulke
- \_\_\_ Planet of the Daleks\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Green Death\* by Malcolm Hulke
- \_\_\_ The Time Warrior by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Dinosaur Invasion\* (episode called "Invasion of the Dinosaurs") by Malcolm Hulke
- \_\_\_ Death to the Daleks by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Monster of Peladon\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Planet of the Spiders\* by Terrance Dicks

Tom Baker episodes:

- \_\_\_ Giant Robot\* (episode called "Robot" by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Ark in Space\* by Ian Marter
- \_\_\_ Sontaran Experiment\* by Ian Marter
- \_\_\_ Genesis of the Daleks\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Revenge of the Cybermen\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Loch Ness Monster\* (episode called "The Terror of the Zygons") by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Planet of Evil\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Pyramids of Mars\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Android Invasion\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Seeds of Doom\* by Philip Hinchcliffe
- \_\_\_ Brain of Morbius\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Masque of Mandragora\* Philip Hinchcliffe

- \_\_\_ Hand of Fear\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Deadly Assassin\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Face of Evil\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Robots of Death\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Talons of Weng-Chiang\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Horror of Fang Rock\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Invisible Enemy\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Image of the Fendahl\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Sun-Makers\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Underworld\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Invasion of Time\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Ribos Operation\* (Key to Time) by Ian Marter
- \_\_\_ Pirate Planet\* (Key to Time)
- \_\_\_ Stones of Blood\* (Key to Time) by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Androids of Tara\* (Key to Time) by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Power of Kroll\* (Key to Time) by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Armageddon Factor\* (Key to Time) by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Destiny of the Daleks\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ City of Death?
- \_\_\_ Creature From the Pit\* by David Fisher
- \_\_\_ Nightmare of Eden\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Horns of Nimon\* by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Shada? (Episode not finished)
- \_\_\_ Leisure Hive\* by David Fisher
- \_\_\_ Meglos by Terrance Dicks
- \_\_\_ Full Circle by Andrew Smith
- \_\_\_ State of Decay\* by Terrance Dicks



# Suggestions for the Spacefaring Insomniac

by Sandra Provence Steele

4 out of 5 stars

The Lost Years by J.M. Dillard

Greetings fellow insomniacs! I have opted to return to this column despite rumors to the contrary. However, I would like to explain something about my goals for this column. I review books that I have read for my own entertainment, then I try to tell other readers both the positive and the negative aspects of the story. I may love a book to pieces even if it has some flaws. That doesn't obligate me to drool over the thing and overlook errors that may really bother other readers of the same story. I have been writing very short columns in the past due to lack of space but we fixed that. So try to remember that nothing is perfect and I don't expect everyone to agree with my opinion. I will stay as impartial as I can in regard to the actual review, and then drool or spit on the books depending on my opinions in the rating chart. Okay? Now on with the story.

The Lost Years is the second mass market hardback from Pocket Books. At least they had the decency to find a story that needed to be told while they were sticking us for \$17.95. The Lost Years covers the end of the Enterprise's five year mission. It attempts to answer the following questions: Why did Captain Kirk become an admiral? Why did Dr. McCoy become a civilian? What happened to send Spock to Gol? Where did the rest of the crew go? Who got promoted and why? What ever happened to... etc. etc. etc.

Ms. Dillard's style is fluid and fairly readable. The worst thing about her style is her tendency to repeat the same scene from multiple viewpoints. This has necessitated reading every other chapter in some of her previous books but that's not necessary in this novel. Her characterizations were reasonable and acceptable if you can overlook her occasional inclination to over do the Kirk/Spock relationship.

If you like action, intrigue and involved plot twists this is the book for you. Without giving it all away... Lt. Kevin Riley makes a comeback; Admiral Nogura comes out of retirement; Uhura and Sarek get kidnapped; and Kirk doesn't get any despite his best attempts. One of the best things about this book is that it stays in line with all the novelizations to date. (Small wonder since she has written some of the novels but...)

My suggestion is read it, think about it and read it again.

## checklist

continued from page 5

- Warrior's Gate<sup>†</sup>  
by John Lydecker
- Keeper of Traken<sup>†</sup>  
by Terrance Dicks
- Logopolis  
by Christopher H. Bidmead
- K-9 & Company (pilot for a  
spin-off series with Sarah  
Jane and K-9)  
by Terence Dudley
- Harry Sullivan's War (part  
of a short-lived series of  
novels about the  
companions)  
by Ian Marter

List compiled by Pamela Girard  
NEXT ISSUE: the conclusion of  
the Doctor Who list.

