



*My
Favorite
#1/4*

Special Published- Immediately-Before-the-Worldcon-Issue

August 25, 2006

This is the fourteenth issue of
and furthermore

August 25, 2006

slammed together in one damned
quick flurry of activity by

John Purcell
3744 Marielene Circle
College Station, TX 77845

e-mail: j_purcell54@yahoo.com

homepage:
www.geocities.com/j_purcell54/PriorLifetime.html

both fanzines are available at
www.efanzines.com

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Purcell

A Postmodern Publication.

Some disassembly and reassembly
required.

fun and games

And so it goes the week before the big bash. Last night I spent about an hour or so chatting on-line with quite a few folks out in Las Vegas at the pre-Worldcon party at Arnie and Joyce Katz's abode, the Launch Pad. Bill Mills had tried setting up a webcam cast, but technical difficulties along the lines of incompatible IP's and so forth made this effort come for naught.

But so goes modern technology. There *was* a photo on the page of Arnie in conversation with Earl Kemp, James Taylor, Theresa Cochran and one other fan whom I did not recognize - it might have been Ron Bushyager, but I'm not sure. There were visiting dignitaries in the Las Vegrants crowd, such as the aforementioned Earl Kemp, plus Hope Liebowitz, Art Widner, Ed Meskys, Joyce Scrivner (slated to arrive sometime after midnight), and some others I forget at the moment, and I had fun doing the on-line chat thing with Hope, Earl, Bill

Mills (while he was trying to figure out the problem), Linda Bushyager, eventually Joyce Katz (at the very end, just before I signed off to tuck my son in bed), and also Don Anderson was chatting online all the way from New York. It was fun, and, like Hope said, addicting.

Which is how I view fan activity sometimes. It can be so much fun and such a rush that you can't get enough of it. This explains why I produce a monthly e-zine, *In A Prior Lifetime*, and a bi-weekly zine, *and furthermore*. I enjoy the on-line contact so much that I feel the need to commit cyber-fanac. Electronic letters-of-comment (e-locs) are relatively quick and easy to produce, and so the result of all of this effort has produced some hefty numbers. Check this out:

My 2006 production (as of 22 Aug 06):

In A Prior Lifetime = 8 issues
and furthermore = 14 issues
e-locs = 96

articles written for other fanzines: 3

"Doofus" & "How I Found Fandom - Again" for *Vegas Fandom Weekly*

"Super-size that Big MAC for Me, Please" for *Drink Tank*.



That's what I've done so far this year. By the time of LACon IV, I will probably have passed the 100-loc mark, which

simply astonishes me. I really don't think I've been that busy doing this cyber-fanac, but things tend to add up when you do them in short bursts.

This is why fanac can be addictive. Sometimes you simply get on a roll and don't want to stop. The nice thing about cyber-fanac, though, is that you can regulate it and slip it into your schedule as you see fit as a diversion when things get a bit crazy in the real world.

Which is what I like to do with my fanac. This is my hobby interest, and I am enjoying myself. In not too long, I

will be able to meet some of my correspondents at Corflu Quire in Austin, Texas. That will be fun, and I must admit that I really can't wait.

*letters, letters,
I get letters*

Herewith are a trio of e-locs that I received all on the same day. This kind of made me nostalgic for those days back in the late 70s and early 80s when a couple locs and a couple fanzines would find their way into my mailbox each day.

Starting the ball rolling this time is my favorite baseball correspondent from out east, Eric Mayer:

12 August 2006

I guess the good news is that Boof Bonser is a better baseball name than Francisco Liriano. The bad news is that Garza, off one game, isn't

Liriano. Actually I hate baseball injuries. I notice that Tiger's rookie Verlander was shut down for a game, and young Scott Kazmir missed a few weeks. I hope none of these guys turn out to be Kerry Wood types, or, worse, like Mark Fidrych if you remember him. *I hope not either. As it turns out, Liriano is now - as of Tuesday, August 22, 2006 - working out with the team. His forearm pain is allegedly gone, so he's throwing again. If all goes well, the Twin will have him back by September 1st. Just in time for the last month's push.*

None of which has anything to do with your zine or fandom but I suppose I know more about baseball than fandom. *I have been pleasantly surprised by the number of baseball fans who read fanzines and science fictional type material. There are more people out there like us than we realize!*

This whole blog versus zine (vs website) deal perplexes me. I mirrored my blog at LiveJournal but it

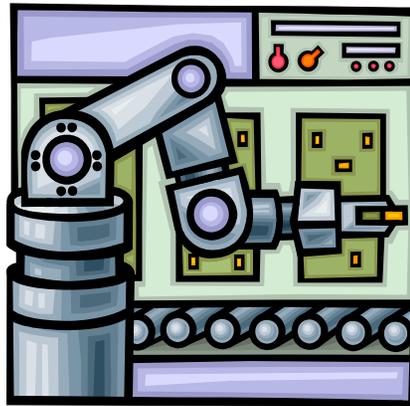
doesn't feel right there. The fans who use LJ seem to mostly use it as a ...well... big surprise...as a journal and just natter about what they're doing and chat amongst themselves. I mean you can use LJ for anything. Look at Lloyd Penney's LoC archive, but doing what I'm doing doesn't fit with the LJ fan community. It's too formal and not interactive enough.

I don't want to do a zine because I don't want to bother with artwork and layout. It just seems like a blog could pass for a personalzine, but no one seems to like that model. *This is kind of what . . .and furthermore has mutated into: a personalzine which has fallen into its own pattern of schedule (every two to three weeks) and developed its own personality. But it is not a blog. Blogs basically have no editorial control; fanzines do. Besides, this is a nice little diversionary zine and I like it.*

I really like your illos this ish, by the way, probably because they're mostly underdressed women. I shall have to check out the sites they came from.

--
Eric Mayer

More and more good artwork is being posted in all sorts of websites all over the Internet, which is good news for us fanediting types. Even so, I plan on asking certain folks for artwork.



Peter Sullivan wrote to clarify his position in his fanzine review column in Pixel #4:

12 August 2006

I think I did come down on the side of ...and Furthermore being a "real fanzine," even if its frequency made it more weblog-like. The basic structure (front page, colophon, editorial, letters of comment) is there, even in an ensmallled form. This is in contrast to something like Taboo Opinions, where Dick Geis structured the whole thing more like a weblog, with dated entries in sequence. But in any case, I'm not really comfortable with the quasi-elitist tone of the phrase "not a real fanzine." So I guess that the only genuine definition of whether something is a "real fanzine" or not is whether the editor considers it to be one or not.

Oh, and Chris Garcia for TAFF!

Peter Sullivan

This is the bottom line: what the editor considers his product to be. As we fans continue our collective search for a definitive answer to the current question working its way through the zines, "What is a fanzine nowadays?", we will

continue to discuss this until we're blue in the face. As for me, this ensmallled zine is a zine. So there.

And yet another e-loc hit my mailbox on the same date, this one from that TAFF candidate you might have read about in these pages, Chris Garcia::

12 August 2006

OK, I have to apologize. Last night I was out with The New Girl and so I didn't get to reading your latest until this morning. I'm sorry, I've failed you. I'll gladly return my 'World's Faster LoCer' t-shirt. *No way. Instead you'll receive a "Fanzinistas, Arise!" t-shirt at Corflu.*

Then again, it was a fun date and we had a wonderful duck-based dinner and a huge cuppa tea. The only downside was a guy who was really smart, but had no sense of personal space, jumping all over the chance to converse with two smart people about his take on the whole Israel-Middle East situation. It was a little

uncomfortable, but I gallantly found a way to get us out of there.

You've gone landscape on us! I did that not that long ago myself with *The Drink Tank*. I still do portrait for anything that'll be printed in any large number (such as the WorldCon issue of *The Drink Tank* which I've just finished) and I like the options that landscape gives you. You've only managed to improve an already Damn Fine Zine. By the way, sexy, sexy cover image. *Howzabout the cover for thish?*

It is addictive, isn't it? This whole crazy eZine thing. It gets harder for me to wait to put out another issue when I think I've got something good on the hook (see: *Drink Tank* issue 92, released August 6th, and 93, released August 10th)

I've a panel where we're gonna talk eZine vs. Blogs and so one. I've got a fairly good idea what I THINK the differences are, but I'm not nearly the blogger than someone like Andy

Trembley or Jay Lake is. They'd have much better ideas.

Wow, I got to e/ five minutes after it was posted? I write comments on one machine while I read on the other a lot of times, but I swear it took me an hour or so to get through the issue.

Zaftig woman with a spear. I love images like that.



Lloyd brings up the missing Katz's. I miss *VFW*. I was planning on going down there next weekend since it seems like every fan I'd want to get a chance to chat with would be there (Earl Kemp, Bug Bradshaw, Ed Meskeys, etc), but babysitting duties (and the money issue, since I'll be at WorldCon for five days and that ain't cheap!) keep me from going.

Plus I've got another date with *The New Girl*, and I really don't wanna miss out on that.

Chris Garcia

*Matthew Appleton e-mailed me after I had locced his wonderful zine, **Some Fantastic**, and asked the following question:*

31 July 2006

Just out of curiosity, what are the negative implications of the term "sercon"? Although I've been reading SF for over 20 years, I'm relatively new to organized fandom and while I can guess what they might be, I've never

actually had them spelled out for me before.

Matthew Appleton

Here is the e-mail that I sent in response:

1 August 2006

The term "sercon" is derived from the parent words "serious" and "constructive." Now, back in the day, the fannish short-hand "sercon" was meant in a positive way since a lot of the zines produced in the 30's, 40's and early 50's were very serious about their science fiction. In fact, To produce a "sercon" fanzine was considered a compliment at one point; but as fanzines began slipping into more fannish (fan-centered) material with humorous and satirical elements prevalent, the fannish zine began to dominate and the sercon zines became the minority. Eventually the term "sercon" began to assume a connotative meaning of "this is a dull fanzine; it actually *talks* about science fiction!", and thus became a bit of an insult in the process.

This is what I was referring to in my loc. I enjoy reading *Some Fantastic*. If I ever get the chance to teach classes in science fiction and fantasy at my college, your zine would be a source of reference material, as would *Emerald City* and *Plokta*. *Alexiad* would fit in, too, due to the numerous book reviews in Joe & Lisa Major's zine. The way I look at it, serious and constructive fanzines have a necessary niche to fill in contemporary fandom. If you folks weren't producing so many reviews and such, people like me would never know all of the books that are out there. There is no other way that I could keep abreast of the market.

So I thank you for writing back and I look forward to your next issue

John Purcell

What I'd like to do here is open this up for discussion if anybody else would like to add their nickel's worth.