

MY
INFLUENCES
~ MOVIE ACTORS ~

-An Artist's Personality Exploration-

How to
UNDERSTAND
How One Becomes
an **ARTIST**

by

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ACTORS

-Christian Slater/ "Hard Harry Hard-On"/ "Mark Hunter"/ Pump Up The Volume

6-18-93: Pump Up the Volume: I went to Joey's house tonight. Once again, I was depressed at first. Yet later, we got so tired of being bored that we went over and got the movie, Pump Up the Volume. I suggested seeing it after I read about it on my movie calendar. The film was *fantastic*. This could be one of the best movies I've ever seen. It was about this shy teen that wants to speak out about all the hell, angst, frustration, sexual urges, and dreams that happens in a teenager's life. Christian Slater, who plays the main character, was so incredibly like me that I was a blown straight off of my seat. He had creativity flowing through him. He wanted to be a writer, too! Pump Up the Volume is definitely going to be a personal favorite of mine for quite a long time. This film is, once again, one of the reasons I want to be a writer or a filmmaker – to spread my ideas to a large audience in the form of personal artistic entertainment. I also felt fortunate that I got to see this movie about a rebellious high school teen with artistic leanings while I was still in high school. I got to see this movie at the right moment in my life - just when I needed it. Dear God almighty, I want to see it all over again. I want to live this guy's life. And he got a really cute artistic girl as well. His character even has this interesting duality to him. At school, he's this shy introverted teen who can't talk to girls. (That's certainly me.) But once he goes on the airwaves in this fictional "Hard Harry" character, he's truly *alive* and happily *crazy*. This movie was the biggest movie catharsis I've ever experienced for the shy teenager in me with all these creative ideas just waiting to burst out of me. This movie is like having a nuclear bomb going off inside of me. It spoke to me on a personal level. I can't find any human being around here that I can talk to on a personal basis that truly understands what I'm going through inside. Yet this *movie* does. It *gets it*. It totally nails it. And that's why I'm so in love with it.

6-19-93: Pump Up the Volume: I watched Pump Up the Volume again and it still amazes me with its great story, characters, and speeches about disillusioned adolescent life. One blonde 16-year-old female, who listens to Christian Slater's character's radio show, gets fed up with "being perfect in school", takes all her Yale banners, pearl necklaces, and other girly-girl things, and blows them up in the family kitchen microwave. The film discussed all about how unfair school is, the right to free speech, and to say your true feelings. I sure could relate to this film. I have always wanted to speak out against the troubles of life in a hidden way just like the character Christian Slater played. In a way, he's a comic book crusader. Yet instead of directly and literally fighting crime, he uses his self-expression to "talk hard". He's a self-expressive artist and mass communicator - a liberator of people's souls.

Pump Up The Volume: The majority of my personality is based around this groundbreaking movie and its main character, played by Christian Slater. I was shy and alienated in high school and couldn't be "myself" in front of my domineering, pompous peers. I needed a desperately courageous to become, like a comic book super hero alter ego, in order to stand up for what I believed in and break out of my shyness shell. Upon watching this movie, I practically adapted Christian Slater's 'Hard Harry' persona as my own. It was a character I really wanted myself to be, but was too shy to become on my own free will. *I needed a model* - and this was *it*. It was a perfect empathetic match. Here was this shy, introverted guy much like myself who would transform into this creative, self-expressive, wild, yet sensitive individual when he spoke on the free radio airwaves. So to me, being an artist is like becoming "Hard Harry". I got to be a different person – a greater person than I could ever be or act like in real life. But as an artist/ writer, I could be *free*. I found out who I was from watching this movie and Christian Slater's performance. I was an artist.

Pump Up the Volume: What makes Pump Up the Volume so great in my mind is how it works on so many different levels for me personally. It's part secret identity super hero movie with the shy teen with a secret DJ persona that everyone in his high school class loves. This movie fulfills many fantasy scenarios such as being adored by your classmates. A hot artsy female classmate has the hots for him! Through his DJ show, he exposes corruption in the school he goes to. The whole movie is fantasy fulfillment played out so perfectly. If you're a shy kid who doesn't have a voice yet, this movie lets you live it out through the character of "Happy Harry Hard-on". There's even a fantastic chase sequence at the end where he's being pursued by the FCC and the cops. It's like all out of a dream. The Christian Slater character is even obsessed with masturbation and utterly loves music! How could I not love this guy?!? And all of these elements work! This movie is beyond great... Moyle has described the film's protagonist as an amalgam of Holden Caulfield and Lenny Bruce... It's incredible how this movie continues to be relevant in my mind. It's themes of rebellion and speaking out from a highly repressed soul still speak to me now in my thirties. Perhaps not in the same way when I was a teacher, but in a mischievous new fashion. The duality in the film is what really strikes me as powerful on a new level. It's basically a comic book principle of a shy teenager with a secret "super hero" alter ego of "Hard Harry". His super power is his voice behind a microphone being broadcast across the Arizona suburbs. The movie reawakens a crucial youthful aspect to my life that had been lying dormant for several years. Little did I know that years later the wildly diverse and expressive music that Christian Slater's character listened to (punk to classical music) would be in my own adult music collection. Leonard Cohen's anthem "Everybody Knows" still sends shivers through the recesses of my emotions and memories. "Hard Harry's" closing words, "Talk hard", still resonate with me to the core of my creative, self-expressive person. And most importantly, this movie is about self-awakenings. It was my call to arms of my artistic soul and emotions. Perhaps without it, I wouldn't have been so dedicated and inspired as I have been as a creative human being who now felt he had something to say. This film brought that courage and strength out of me. My teen years sucked, but I survived it. This is the movie i watched whenever I needed some help getting through rough times during school... Pump Up the Volume suicide.

Here are a few empathetic online reviews: "**I Know You...Not Your Name But Your Game**", "Pump Up The Volume is probably one of the first of the "Gen X" movies to appear in the wake of the John Hughes classics of the early and mid-80s. This film, released in 1990, touches on a myriad of issues that effect teens today as then. They don't seem to make movies like this anymore, movies that touch on serious issues as isolation, alienation, sexuality, education reform, freedom of speech, censorship, suicide, the failure of mandatory standardized scholastic testing, etc., etc. This movie has got it all. The story revolves around a quiet student at Hubert Humphrey High, a large suburban school in Arizona. His parents are sell-out former hippies who have produced in him a resentment of the failed idealistic values of the 60s generation which have created a fallout whose repercussions are still felt today. Mark is a loner who cannot communicate with his teachers or his peers. He is an intelligent and creative recluse who eats his lunch alone, reading a book, while the problems of high school life swirl around him. It is only as his secret pirate radio alter-ego Hard Harry that he finds his voice and is able to speak to those disaffected peers who share his fate at a school that reflects the flawed and conformist society at large that has not only overlooked the problems of his generation, but continues to add to them by treating the kids as second-class citizens. The school principal, who is obsessed with standardized test scores and the prestige of her school, flags "problem" students who threaten to tarnish school image and pull down test scores and has them expelled rather than try to help these kids who truly need help, while the school counselor rats out these same students to the corrupt administration when he should be the one providing them with the guidance they need. And to make matters worse, the one concerned teacher who dares to stand up for her students is fired for insubordination. As Hard Harry begins to make an impact, other afflicted students begin to open up with their problems to an outlet that is genuine and not some contrived school-sponsored joke. Harry confronts an isolated over-achiever who takes his own life rather than face another day at his "award-winning" school. Another caller describes an incident of homophobic violence committed by the school jocks. In the end, Harry finds he must face his problems without his mask of anonymity and face up to being the icon of hope that he has become. Pump Up the Volume is a fine movie with a great soundtrack and speaks to a lot of the issues that plague us in this post-Columbine age. It is definitely one to watch..." "Finally, somebody has the intelligence and the guts to come out and ask, "WHAT IS WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?!?" His words are powerful. Maybe you'll blow this one off and say it's unrealistic (hello people... what movie is), or maybe you'll feel liberated and completely change your outlook on life, like I did. "Doesn't this blend of blindness and blandness make you want to do something crazy?? Then DO SOMETHING CRAZY!!"... "Teens are shown as being trapped within believable personal hells, problematic circles of existence and strained family relationships."... "The heroine is based on the rather classic high-school heroine girl, invented by Tim Burton in Beetlejuice. She is introspective and slightly Goth. Reads much, and has friends at school who cannot appreciate her depth. Short black hair and libidinous skin. Wears black a lot. She sometimes exhibits a remarkable fashion sense, and she is at once moody and clear-headed, impulsive and sensible. Her sense of adventure and her

attraction to DJ's pornographic rant (much of his early rant is porno - only does he gain maturity [a little] later in his invented DJ personality) leads her to seek out his identity."... "Pump Up the Volume' is based on a very good idea, and is given from a high schooler's point of view with all of its cynicism yet ideology."... **"Eat your cereal with a fork and do your homework in the dark,** As an angst-ridden teenager much like Mark (AKA Hard Harry), I worshipped this film when I was in high school, often referring to it as "THE Teen Movie"...not just A teen movie. In a lot of ways, I was a lot like Mark. I couldn't talk to people, either. I felt really connected with the character and marveled at the guts the film had in portraying serious subject matter and dealing with it in an intelligent, believable manner. When I look at the so-called teen films of today, I miss the real edge of films like "Pump Up the Volume" and "The Breakfast Club." These were the teen films that truly mattered...the ones that had something important to say. "Pump Up the Volume" personifies that genre, as far as I'm concerned...even more so than "The Breakfast Club," which, despite its brilliance, occasionally (though not frequently) lapsed into unbelievable situations. And to the reviewer who asked what was wrong with Hubert H. Humphrey High School, just look at the actions of the principal...that should clear it up. Students were being expelled on specious grounds simply because she considered them "unfortunate." This is why she was eventually (and thankfully) suspended from her administrative position. The school was an absolute travesty. It was this, coupled with Mark's feelings of alienation and isolation that drove him to such extremes in his all-too-perceptive rants. Mark invented Hard Harry so that he could say all of the things he truly felt, but felt unable to say himself. I did the same thing in school, inventing an alter ego for myself who could stand up for himself and say whatever was on his mind. I didn't use pirate radio, of course...I just went out into the world in my new persona and found that people actually started to listen...just like they listened to Mark when he became Harry. All in all, this film made a serious impact on my life and has many important things to say to people of any age...and especially to teens. The performances are stunning all around, particularly Christian Slater (in his finest role) and Samantha Mathis (who is equally capable and absolutely perfect in the role of Nora). This film will make you laugh, make you think, and may even make you cry. It's a powerful and emotional film that deserves all the praise I can give it."... "I first saw this movie when I was a teenager and now I'm in my late twenties. It still affects me the same way every time I watch it - I still get that rebellious feeling. Its the story of a shy kid who becomes Hard Harry on his pirate radio station by night. A boy fighting boredom, fighting suburban monotony and a school ran by a tyrant. His commentaries on life are really on target, he tells it like it is and the kids love his message. I think its the rarest of films in that its still enjoyable ten years later. Though it takes place in a different decade, it still has the same intensity it did for me then. I think everyone should watch it including teens now. Its a great film that I highly recommend to anyone sick of teen films that aren't realistic. This one stays with you long after its over."... **"Hi dad, I'm in jail!"** This is possible the best (along with "Heathers") 'teen' film ever made, not a moment of it is patronizing or stereotyped, Christian Slater looks great and it is intelligent, insightful and witty. A must for everyone with a brain."

Pump Up the Volume: Here is a GREAT movie and voice that realized and addressed the angst of being young, confused, creative, and *alive*... "All the great themes have been used up and turned into theme parks"... "I don't find it exactly cheerful to be living in the middle of an exhausted decade where there is nothing to look forward to and no one to look up to"... "She's probably a lot like me - a legend in her own mind"... "Your purpose is to get accepted. Get a cute girlfriend and think up something **great** to do for the rest of your life - but if you're confused and can't imagine a career"... "If you're funny looking and can't get a girlfriend - you see, no one wants to hear it"....Here were great empathetic characters with depression, confusion, and shyness similar to my own. I love every bit of this movie. Few movies have spoken to me so directly and personally before. This one will forever be one of the greatest films I've ever seen.

Pump Up the Volume: "His name is "Happy Harry Hard-on". He's a total sex maniac"... Great button: "Being weird isn't enough"... "Things to do with your body when you're all alone"... Radio Masturbation!... "How to Talk Dirty and Influence People' by Lenny Bruce? Any good?" -That reminded me that I seemed to be the only person in Mercer county who knew who Lenny Bruce was. I was also one of those painfully shy guys in high school when in crowds or around girls... Samantha Mathis' character was in a writing class, made art, worked at the school library, and wore black and white striped tights. She was my dream girl... "She's probably a lot like me... *A legend in her own mind*"... Then there is the issue of loneliness that this movie readily addresses, especially during a scene of empathy with the suicidal teen and "Hard Harry". The teen cries that he's completely alone and Harry confesses that he also didn't talk to a single person at school that day, excluding teachers... "Rejected again. That's OK, I'm used to it. Terminal loneliness"... "Mark, we thought you might benefit from seeing a psychiatrist." Little did his parents know that his radio show was his psychiatry, his catharsis... "One day I woke up and realized I was never going to be normal"... *"I never meant to hurt anyone"*... Pump Up the Volume possibly was one of the movies that provoked me to become an artist. "They say I'm disturbed. Of course, I'm disturbed! We're all disturbed, and if we're not, why not? Doesn't this blend of blindness and blandness want to make you do something crazy? *Then why not do something crazy?* It makes a hell of a lot more sense than blowing your fucking brains out! Go nuts! Go crazy! *Get creative!*... As in comic book characters, duality issues are explored. Mark Hunter walks around school as this shy loner with a great secret identity. He doesn't want to be "Happy Harry Hard-on" anymore because of how out of control his words have become to the public... "I believe with everything that's in me that the whole world is longing for a healing."

Pump Up the Volume: "Instead of blowing your brains out, *get crazy* - get creative!"

I rewatched a scene from Pump Up the Volume and I felt a reaction: I reached a point where I *had* to speak my opinion when I was able to give it. I thought of all the times (in classes) when I sat passively, laughing at dead people's jokes. It is time to wake. No reason to withdraw. I have to express my feeling or I might as well be dead.

7-21-03: I have to give credit that Pump Up the Volume has been one of my largest inspirations in my life for liberating the mind, the body, and, most importantly, the emotions. The character of "Hard Harry Hard On" was all about *speaking out* where justice needs to be served. He even did it in the face and audience of his "superiors". It was the ultimate teen rebellion self-expression movie experience. It changed my life. At the end of the movie, "Hard Harry" is caught after running away from the law. Yet his message and influence got out to hundreds over the airwaves and those he inspired started expressing themselves as well, through radio transmitters, writing, painting, or other forms of artistic expression. It was the greatest thing I'd ever seen, especially since I was sixteen year old at the time. I sustained keeping a journal on a regular basis because I also had something to express. "Talk hard!" was Harry's catch phrase. I've been living the ongoing sequel to the movie in my own life.

Pump Up The Volume Quotes

Mark Hunter: I'm dedicating this unusual song to an unusual person who makes me feel kind of... unusual.... Mark Hunter: "Talk hard," I like that. It's like a dirty thought in a nice clean mind... Mark Hunter: Just look inside yourself and you'll see me waving up at you naked wearing only a cock ring.... Mark Hunter: They think you're moody, make 'em think you're crazy. Make 'em think you're about to snap. They say you got attitude, you show 'em some real attitude!... Mark Hunter: I mean, if I knew any thing about love, I would be out there making it, instead of sitting in here talking to you guys.... Mark Hunter: Remember my dear, I can smell a lie like a fart in a car... Mark Hunter: I say do it. I don't care what, just do it. Jam me, jack me, push me, pull me, talk hard!... Mark Hunter: Now I'm depressed. Now I feel like killing myself, but luckily I'm too depressed to bother... Mark Hunter: I don't mind being dejected and rejected, but I'm not gonna be ashamed about it. At least pain is real. You look around and you see nothing is real, at least the pain is real.... Mark Hunter: Feeling screwed up at a screwed up time in a screwed up place does not necessarily make you screwed up.... Hard Harry: Sometimes being a teenager is worse than being dead.... Mark Hunter: Being a teenager sucks. But that's the whole point! Surviving is the whole point... Mark Hunter: Quitting will not make you strong, living will.... Marla Hunter: We think you should see a psychiatrist. Mark Hunter: Is it that obvious?... "A voice can just go somewhere, uninvited. Just kinda hangout, like a dirty thought in a nice clean mind. Maybe a thought is like a virus. It can kill all the healthy thoughts and just take over. That would be serious." Mark Hunter - one of the earlier statements made on air to indicate adults fear of the truth being told. "All the good themes have been turned into theme parks."

Mark Hunter - another comment indicating that there is no where and nothing for youth to do. No fresh ideas remaining because they've all been exploited. "I'm done. Stick a fork in me. It's been grand!" Mark Hunter - This is from a point in the film where the school traced his call and the police were on their way to arrest him. The police had a real surprise waiting! "I could be that anonymous nerd, sitting across from you in Chem lab. Staring at you so hard, and when you turn around, he tries to smile, but the smile comes out all wrong. And you just think 'How pathetic', and, he just looks away, never looks back at you again." Mark Hunter - a very touching moment when he hypothetically comments on his true feelings and situation in life. Come in. Every night you enter me like a criminal. You break into my brain. But you're no ordinary criminal. You put up your feet and you pop a Pepsi. You start to party. You turn up my stereo. Songs I've never heard but I move anyway. You get me crazy. I say "Do it". I don't care what. Just do it. Jam me, jack me, Push me, pull me, Talk Hard! The "Eat Me Beat Me Lady" aka Nora Diniro... You're the voice crying out in the wilderness. You're the voice that makes my brain burn and my guts go gooey. Yeah, you got me. My insides spill on your alter and tell the future. My steaming gleaming guts spell out your nature. I know you, Not your name but your game. I know the true you. Come to me or I'll come to you. The "Eat Me Beat Me Lady" again. These letters are a good example of the passion that Hard Harry was able to invoke from his nightly broadcasts.

Mark Hunter: Talk hard! Mark Hunter: You ever get the feeling that everything in America is completely fu**ed up? Mark Hunter:[T]his is Hard Harry reminding you to eat your cereal with a fork, and do your homework in the dark. Mark Hunter: I just love being the rap king of Arizona. Mark Hunter:[T]here's nothing to do anymore. Everything descent's been done. All the great themes have been used up--turned into theme parks. Loretta Creswood: I can quite legally expel you. Mazz Mazzilli: Yo, Loretta, I'm already expelled. Don't you remember? You booted me out the first week for dress code. Mark Hunter: I don't mind being dejected and rejected, but I'm not gonna be ashamed about it. Mark Hunter: We're all disturbed! And, if not, why not?! Doesn't this blend of blindness and blandness wanna make you do something crazy?! Then, why not do something crazy?! It makes a Hell of a lot more sense than blowing your fu**ing brains out. You know, go nuts, go crazy, get creative. You got problems? You just chuck 'em--nuke 'em! They think you're moody, make 'em think you're crazy. Make 'em think you might snap! They think you got attitude? You show 'em some real attitude! Mark Hunter: Do you admit it, sir? David Deaver: Admit what? Mark Hunter: That you're a slime. Mark Hunter: Just look in, and I will be there, waving out at you, naked wearing only a cock ring. Nora Diniro: I'm not really like that, except when I am. Mark Hunter: Being young is sometimes less fun than being dead.

- Did you ever get the feeling that everything in America is completely fucked up? - Tonight I am as horny as a ten peckered owl, so stay tuned because this is Happy Harry Hardon reminding you to eat your cereal with a fork and do your homework in the dark. - I tell you since you ask. I just arrived in this stupid suburb. I have no friends, no money, no car, no license. And even if I did have a license all I can do is drive out to some stupid mall. Maybe if I'm lucky play some fucking video games, smoke a joint and get stupid. You see, there's nothing to do anymore. - Everything descent's been done. All the great themes have been used up. Turned into theme parks. So I don't

really find it cheerful to be living in totally exhausted decade where there is nothing to look forward to and no one to look up to. That was deep. - I hate the sixties, I hate school, I hate principals, I hate vice principals!! But my true pure refined hatred is reserved for guidance counselors. - Well first of all you're not screwed up, your an unscrewed up reaction to a screwed up situation. - Feeling screwed up at a screwed up time, in a screwed up place does not make you necessarily screwed up, if you catch my drift. - I like that. Talk Hard. I like the idea that a voice can just go somewhere uninvited and just kind of hang out like a dirty thought in a nice clean mind. To me a thought is like a virus. You know, it can just kill all the healthy thoughts and just take over. That would be serious. - Ah, so be it. - We just keep waiting for some new voice to come out of somewhere and say "Hey wait a minute, what is wrong with this picture." - Now I feel like killing myself, but I'm too depressed to bother. - Well hey, who cares, that's my motto. - So when is Johnny gonna concentrate, get happy, get a girl friend and then write a best seller? (Mark) - ...anyway one day I woke up and I realized I was never going to be normal and so I said fuck it, I said so be it and Happy Harry Hardon was born. - Er...anyway I'm done, stick a fork in me it's been grand. - Rise up in the cafeteria and stab them with your plastic forks! - A voice can just go somewhere, uninvited. Just kinda hangout, like a dirty thought in a nice clean mind. Maybe a thought is like a virus. It can kill all the healthy thoughts and just take over. That would be serious.

1. make 'em think you're crazy the world is a fucked up place. anyone who says anything different is trying to sell something. that's not to say that you surrender in any way, be it by buying a briefcase or by killing yourself. everything can (and in fact is) fucked up, but being frustrated, pissed off, subversive and disillusioned is not an unnatural state of being. in fact, it's far more natural than the fluffy-bunny, feel-good bullshit that the nineties have flooded us with. **2. steal the air** the world is ours for the taking, and take it we should. the resignation of our elders need not be ours. we do not have to surrender our frustration, we do not have to throw up our hands in despair and "grow up." we do not need to ask for permission to have what is ours by birthright, namely the opportunity to have ourselves heard. find your medium. then use it. **3. talk hard** our voices our powerful, and we should be shouting with them from mountaintops, over the airways, on the web...wherever. the silent swallowing of injustice, inequality, and general antipathy for the world has to stop. if no one speaks, we could all end up in little houses with two point three children, a dog named spot, a no-wax kitchen floor, completely miserable just like those that came before us. **4. so be it** however powerful our voices, there are still those that would quiet us down. there is no reasoning with them. they are too blinded by their own submission to the universe to understand. they will say we will grow out of it. they will say that someday we will understand. we say bullshit. they say, and rightly so, that they (and not we) control the reigns of power in the world today, and that they will make us conform. we say we doubt it. someone will wind up right and someone will wind up wrong. in the end, the universe will decide. so be it...

.....and I got that feeling, mmm that familiar feeling that something rank is going down up there. Yeah, I can smell it. I can almost taste it. The rankness in the air. It's everywhere. It's running through that old pipeline out there, trickling along the dumb concrete river and coming up the drains of those lovely tract homes we all live in. I mean I don't know. Everywhere I look it seems everything is sold out. My dad sold out. And my mom sold out years ago when she had me. And then they sold me out when they brought me to this hole in the world. They made me everything I am today so naturally I hate the bastards. Speaking of which, I am running a contest on the best way to put them out of their misery. -Mark... You hear about some kid who did something stupid, something desperate. What possessed him. How could he do such a terrible thing. It's really quite simple actually. Consider the life of a teenager. You have parents, teachers telling you what to do. You have movies, magazines, and TV telling you what to do. But you know what you have to do. Your job, your purpose, is to get accepted, get a cute girl friend, and think up something great to do with the rest of your life. What if you're confused and can't imagine a career? What if you're funny looking and you can't get a girl friend? You see no one wants to hear it, but the terrible secret is that being young is sometimes less fun than being dead. Suicide is wrong, but the interesting thing about it is how uncomplicated it seems. There you are, you got all these problems swarming around your brain, and here is one simple, one incredibly simple solution. I'm just surprised it doesn't happen every day around here. -Mark.... Well, well, well, well. The big news! The emergency PTA meeting to discuss yours truly. Yes all the professionals have come out to talk about little old me and now they've all run home to tune in and listen to what they've all been talking about. They say that I am disillusioned, demented, deranged and so guess what I say, SO BE IT! I say rise up in the cafeterias and stab them with your plastic forks. I say flogging and flatulence for Mrs. Creswood, she gets a hundred lashes for every kid she's hounded out of that fucking place. I say down with all guidance councilors; make them work for a living. -Mark

Pump Up the Volume: This movie is my therapist: whenever things couldn't seem worse, I pop it into the VCR, and feel a million times better for it. Last I knew, I understood that this was Christian Slater's favorite of his movies. It > angst, certainly, but with a kind of catharsis. Is it a great movie? H*ll no! But is it fun? Completely. And if you're a free speech nut like I am, you'll love it.

This movie and the music was a great help in getting me thru my early teenage years. I recommend it to anyone but especially

for youths at the age of 13 to 17. Slater was excellent and this was one of the best performances of his life. If there were only more movies that could touch young people as this one touched me. Parents maybe this movie will remind you to listen to your children and pay attention more of what's going on with them. Being a teenager is very hard and nothing will change that no matter where you come from. If you have teenage children this is also a great gift idea. I think I still have my VHS of this and do get the opportunity to watch it. I do however still listen to the music.

-Winona Ryder/ "Veronica Sawyer"/ Heathers

When I was an adolescent in the late 80's and early 90's, I found myself with a heavy, *heavy crush* on Winona Ryder. Seeing her as an angsty outcast teen with startling black hair in "Lucas", "Beetlejuice", "Heathers", "Welcome Home, Roxy Carmichael", and "Edward Scissorhands", I found myself transfixed by her rebellious, yet strangely innocent presence. She was someone I could relate to who seemed to be going through the same teenage difficulties and upset emotions I was going through. At a time when I couldn't find someone of the opposite sex that I could relate to, this gallery of outcast characters that Winona Ryder was playing in the late 80's was exactly who I could understand and talk to. Hence, I developed "a bit of a crush" on her... to put it lightly. The Tim Burton-type individuals she portrayed touched a special part of my still-innocent heart and complicated personality that desperately needed a girlfriend to fill in the loneliness. I yearned and needed a pretty companion who I could talk to and love. In a way through spending time with her through her movie roles, she was a sort of early celluloid "girlfriend" for me. During my adolescent, I wished and prayed that if we'd meet, we might fall in love and live happily ever after. Of course, that was just a teenage wishfulfillment unrealistic fantasy. And once she entered her mid to late twenties, she grew up out of her outcast character type and into a "typical" Hollywood actress. Though she became a greater and greater actress in a wider range of roles, I found myself unable to relate to these more "adult", "ordinary" characters from "Mermaids", "Bram Stoker's Dracula", "The Age of Innocence", and especially "Reality Bites" (all very good movies, mind you). Yet that wounded innocence had faded away once she entered her twenties. My peculiar interest in her waned as she became less "interesting" and more adult. I truly believe her youthful innocence, her mysterious dark eyes, and outcast feelings were what made me fall in love with her in the first place. Once they disappeared, all I could see was the shadow of the girl I once knew. Yet I grew up as well. But that special connection and the movies she made as a teen and young adult still remained behind. Though she'd grown up, somewhere deep inside of me, she'll always be Veronica from "Heathers" and "Lydia" from "Beetlejuice". She'll stay young inside me forever.

Notes from *Winona Ryder: The Biography* by Nigel Goodall: "Playing cute and confused doesn't interest me anymore. I'm a grown woman and it's ridiculous that I still keep being offered these parts. I'm sick of being nice and I want everyone to know that"... "Brings a creative intelligence to bear"... "Every guy I've ever talked to has a crush on her"... "Winona spent her childhood immersed in books"... "Winona had read J.D. Salinger's *Catcher in the Rye* for the first time when she was eight. The second time she read the book it finally clicked. 'Wow, it was gospel'"... "Eventually she discovered the only way to induce herself to sleep was through boredom. Her algebra textbook was ideal"... "Winona's childhood was further complicated by the difficulty she encountered of fitting in at school"... "The other students, staring and gazing, would do their best to successfully unsettle her. And if that wasn't enough, every time she passed through the hallway she was greeted with a hail of Cheetos"... "She was able to turn her injury into art"... "Characters like Tom Sawyer, Holden Caulfield and JO March were her allies. 'They kept me from being lonely'"... "No sooner had the bullying incident passed than Michael and Cindy become concerned. They didn't want Winona turning into a teenage recluse, so they decided to enroll her in acting classes three days a week at A.C.T."... "To provide a creative outlet for her, and some stage work. We just wanted her to be happy, to be around more imaginative peers"... "A.C.T. was ideally placed for her to meet 'brighter kids'"... "She had the kind of presence I had never seen, an inner life"... "Seltzer remembered how urgent, how innocent and how idealistic that time can be"... "Winona was to be Rina, the girl with a crush on the title character"... "Winona Ryder, the girl with the alert expressive eyes"... "There is something strangely magical and wistful about her, that is ultimately reflected in her performance. She was sympathetic playing a child who thought she would never be beautiful. It was very poignant because she was clearly about to blossom into a beautiful young woman herself"... "Described Winona as fragile with a certain poetic justice"... "The kind of character she would play over the next five years, the alienated teenager"... "A gentle, innocent romance develops between them"... "Her young beauty glowing from the screen"... "Burton found himself more and more disenchanted with the lack of imagination and originality of the screenplays dropped through his door"... "Beetlejuice was described as a 'feel-good movie about death'"... "I was in my all-in-black phase. I had this really gloomy look"... "My skin was actually that pale"... "She is both the echo and symbol of what is best described as teenage angst with a touch of adolescent morbidity thrown in for good measure, reflected by her black clothing"... "When she was no more than six years old, she told her mother she wanted to kill herself, 'so I could see what it was like after'"... "Even the suicidal aspect of her character is nowhere better expressed than when she pens her desperate journal entry: 'I am alone, I am, utterly alone'"... "Weird was good, weird was acceptable, weird was successful"... "Once a no-one, a nothing, she was suddenly the star of what became the 10th most successful movie in America in 1988"... "I wasn't anonymous anymore. I was that girl in *Beetlejuice*. I was constantly being stared at and bothered by the other students. It was the first time people recognized me, and at first I thought I would enjoy being the object of that much attention. But I hated it"... "There's something very genuine that comes through, a certain humanity"... "It was the closest I've been to anything since *Catcher in the Rye*, and that book changed my life"... "We all knew we were on the same wavelength"... "Whatever you said to me wouldn't make a difference. Even if you said to me the movie would never be released, or that I wouldn't make any money from it, I wouldn't have cared. I just wanted to say those lines, and I wanted to work with those people. I felt like if I don't do this movie, I'll never be able to live with myself. And I'll kill whoever does do

it!"... "A pure-at-heart person who knows that the darkness is all around her"... "The person I'd really want to be is Veronica Sawyer. I loved her literal ability, her insight into life and, above all, her honesty. For me, that's the key aspect of any part I play. It has to be honest"... "It's just the greatest saying ever, 'Whatever will be, will be'"... "But one that soon becomes more twisted than most and certainly takes on darker tones than any other"... "Swatchdogs and Diet Cokeheads"... "JD announces his plan for a 'Woodstock for the Eighties' in which the entire student body will be blown up"... "A teen movie to end all teen movies"... "It's the first time I've done a film I could say was really important. Even if you don't like it, you have to admit it opens up a whole new can of worms"... "She was so cute, so beautiful and so natural"... "She has a naivety, a vulnerability almost, that makes her attractive to be with and to watch"... "It is the gossip factory that Winona hates most"... "It was the first onslaught of the physical and emotional exhaustion that would affect the next five years of her life"... "Debbie Gibson Is Pregnant With My Two-Headed Love Child"... "They had a mutual obsession with *The Mission* soundtrack"... "WINONA FOREVER"... "In another of her alienated roles, she generates real charisma"... "I had read her book, *First Born*, which was about an abortion that came back to life. It was good. Close to the feeling I wanted for *Edward Scissorhands*"... "To get off a plane after you've worked all day and flown six hours to have fifty photographers trip you and call you a whore to get a response is repulsive"... "She also knew that it had tapped into some of her own insecurities"... "Being emotionally on the brim can be very beneficial and also very destructive. If you're doing something where you don't want to be that emotional, it's like they spill over anyway"... "Winona decided to sit back and allow herself some time off to take stock of her life"... It was apparent they had begun to drift apart"... "Admitted Winona of her psychological and emotional state, which had all the symptoms of some kind of identity crisis"... "Winona was still struggling with her problems over sleeping, and wondered how on earth she would make it through the seemingly ever-restless nights"... "Unable to sleep, lonely and depressed, to discover her picture on the cover of *Rolling Stone* at a news stand. 'Winona Ryder' it said, 'The Luckiest Girl In The World'"... "You don't have to be miserable to be a good actress"... "I was just really young. I don't know what his excuse is, but that's mine"... "Al Pacino was beginning work on what he termed 'a personal documentary'"... "For some time, the press would refer to Pacino's project as nothing more than an extravagant home movie"... "I was born in the seventies, and so my generation were really the eighties"... "Seventies culture retro"... "Making a video documentary about her friends"... "Shy, but talented"... "I seemed to be attracted to characters who are really confused, probably because I'm really confused most of the time"... "I'm currently happy just spending a lot of time with myself"... "The girls at the beginning of the picture are starting to throb with a sexuality that grows in all of us when we come of age. But in Salem 1692, there was no place for them to put that. When they dance in the woods, it's so alarming to the rest of the community that it's identified as witchcraft. It's a story about how sex can bring a whole community crumbling down"... "It is a remarkably mature attitude for someone so young. All the more so since Winona works in an industry that appears to discourage such individuality."

"Winona Ryder: Celebrity Profile": Suffering from emotional and physical exhaustion, she had to make a change to her life. So she split with her long-time boyfriend, Johnny Depp.

Beetlejuice: I remember watching this movie when I was about 14 and I developed a crush out of empathy for Winona Ryder's character. She was like a dream outcast teen... So innocent, so black... "Ya know, you look like someone I could relate to."

Welcome Home, Roxy Carmichael: One of the most under-appreciated "sleeper" movies of the 90's... "I can't help the way I feel"... "I just don't fit... It happens"... I adore the outcast Winona Ryder beauty type. I saw her as an illusion of the girl I wished to fall in love with from watching these early Winona Ryder "outcast" pictures (*Heathers*, *Lucas*, *Beetlejuice*)... How I empathized with Winona's teenage outcast character in an Ohioan small town. She played teenaged, quirky, confused, Dinky Bosetti. She lives in a small town where she doesn't relate to the people, 1950's-esque residents – and they don't relate to her... Ingredients for a small town: a water tower, a church, and families... "I prefer books to dolls, boots to ballet slippers"... Asshole classmates throwing papers wads at her during lunch - and she just ignores them just as I did when I was in junior high and high school... I wasn't going to endure all that torment in school and *not* be special. It just wasn't an option for me, psychologically... "I'm not much for parties"... "I'm beyond men"... He would spy on her when she wasn't looking.

Edward Scissorhands: An angelic, handicapped Goth outcast in pastel-colored housed suburbia... This was vintage Winona Ryder: doe eyes, sweetness, sincerity, and such beauty.

Heathers: This movie "saved" me when I was in high school. J.D. was the kind of guy I wanted to be when I was in high school, but could never be - Christian Slater with a Jack Nicholson tinge to his voice. "But that's just the way her talks"... "I'd skip my own birthday party for a date"... "Fuck me gently with a chainsaw"... "Greetings and salutations"... "How very!"... "The extreme always seems to make an impression"... Sherwood, Ohio... A pre-Columbine teen angst comedy... myriad: a 50-cent word... "I'm sorry. I was feeling a little superior tonight"... "Our love is God. Let's go get a Slushie"... BIG FUN... "Oh, the humanity!"... "I have no control when I'm with J.D. Are we going to prom together or to hell?"... Chaos is GREAT!"... "*Teenage Suicide - Just Do It!*"... "I really missed you. I know I'm not as exciting as your other friends"... "You know, your daydreams are better than my realities, *believe me*"... Write your suicide note before you die, people... "Wanna go out tonight? Catch a movie? Miniature golf?"... "LIFE SUCKS"; therefore, any murder could be ruled a suicide... "*Recognize the Handwriting?*"... "When our school blows up tomorrow, it's gonna be the kind of thing that's gonna infect a generation!"... A pep rally teenage mass suicide... "Let's face it, alright! The only place different social types can generally get along together

is in heaven!"... "It's pretty deep, huh?"... "Now that you're dead, what are you going to do with your life?"
Heathers: "Dear Diary": They live for inflicting cruelty on others for the fun of it... She thinks he's cool... "There's a sort of dark horse in the running"... "Keeps me sane"... "The extreme always seems to make an impression"... "Maybe it's time to take a vacation"... "Let me dream of a world without Heather"... There's a wonderful chemistry between Slater and Ryder. They're two outcasts who have found each other and love to "play" together... Peer pressure kills her too... "I can't believe this is my life!"... They've thought about doing extreme things. Now one of their thoughts has carried through and they have to live with the consequences... until they make it look like a suicide... Other people may not get this film. But once you're on its wavelength, it's impossible not to enjoy its pleasures and perversities... "Talk and feel together!"... This film is also a fantastic time capsule of life in the 80s. I love how they dress... "Let's talk emotions"... Holy water facial moisturizer... "What is this shit?"... "Another fucking Heather!"... "I'm sorry. I'm feeling a little superior tonight!"... "Our love is God. Let's get a Slushy"... Revenge: Artist Style! Teenage fantasy extraordinaire... Choral music score... "Football season is officially over"... "It's a weird kind of sad"... "Are we going to prom or to hell?"... "Chaos is great!"... "We scare people into not being assholes!"... This movie makes you feel giddy and alive with *ideas*. And that's a powerful feature...
HEATHER, OHIO: "The New Happiness"... Commit suicide to be popular... "I don't patronize bunny rabbits"... "If everybody jumped off a bridge, would you?" - "Probably"... "Care to go see a movie, play some miniature golf"..." "Tomorrow someone else is going to move into Heather's place. And that Heather could be me"... "It's not very subtle. But neither is blowing up an entire school. It's something to affect an entire generation!"... Creative disturbed types who have ideas and access to explosives... What if an entire high school decided to kill themselves because "LIFE SUCKS"? This movie dares to ask that question... "Nobody loves me!"... "You got power... power I didn't think you had"... "Pretend I did blow up the school... all the schools. Now that you're dead, what are you going to do with your life?"... "This movie saved me in high school"... "We didn't think this movie would make money or be seen by anybody. So there was no interference by the studio."
Heathers: "Let's face it... The only place where different social types can generally get along with each other is in heaven!"... "Pretend I did blow up the school... all the schools"... "Now that you're dead, what are you going to do with your life?"

Heathers: This movie is such an orgasm for my mind, spirit, and emotions... "Ya know, Betty, your daydreams are better than my realities, *believe* me!"... High schools should perform "Heathers" for their annual play.

Heathers: Fast Film Facts: Winona Ryder celebrated her 16th birthday during production... Justine Bateman was first offered to play Veronica Sawyer... Daniel Waters originally wanted Jennifer Connelly for the party of Veronica... Heather Graham was supposed to play one of the Heathers... Ohio filmed in California... Winona Ryder plays her character straight and doesn't put on that this is a comedy... The shower scene was a parody of other shower scenes in John Hughes teen comedies... Yellow butterfly wings behind Veronica... Winona Ryder has just enough innocence to her to make you like her... "Your true feelings were too gross and icky for you to face"... "Kurt and Ram had nothing to offer this school but date rape and AIDS jokes"... "We're scaring everyone in not being assholes!"... "That's it! We're breaking up!"... "I'm not trying to bring anyone back but myself"... "Kind of scary how everybody has a story to tell"... "Heather, Ohio"... "I've got a meaningfully marked up copy of *Moby Dick*. What more does a suicide need?"... "I knew that loose was too noose"... "You have strength that I didn't know you had within you"... "Pretend I did blow up the school - all of the schools. Now that you're dead, what are you going to do with your life?"... Two stars of the film died at an early age: Jeremy Applegate, who played Peter Dawson, committed suicide with a shotgun on March 23, 2000 (apt given the film's subject matter); and Kim Walker, who played Heather Chandler, died of a brain tumor on March 6, 2001 (also morbidly apt, as one of Walker's lines is "Did you have a brain tumor for breakfast?").

12-8-94: Finally, throughout yesterday and today I've been taking obsessive glances at a photo from the movie **Heathers** in a "People" magazine. It has my charismatically psychotic alter ego, J. D. (Christian Slater) on a bed with my favorite lady, Winona Ryder, in a sexy prep school outfit with her shoes off. I could only dream of a life I could be J. D. and live with Winona Ryder's character, Veronica. She is my ultimate dream girl of my teenage years. I get enviously anxious every time I see this "perfect" picture. I would love her so. Her character of Veronica just seems like someone I could really get along with and understand....

Quotes from **Heathers**: "People will look at the ashes of Westerburg and say, 'Now there's a school that self destructed, not because society didn't care, but because the school was society!' Now that's deep." (JD) - "This is Ohio. If you don't have a brewski in your hand you might as well be wearing a dress." (JD) - "I better motor, if I'm gonna make the funeral." (Veronica) - "I like it. It's got that it's-a-cruel-world-let's-throw-ourselves-in-the-abyss type ambience." (JD) - "Our love is God, let's go get a Slushie." (JD) - "If you were happy every day of your life you wouldn't be a human being. You'd be a game-show host." (Veronica) - "I don't patronize bunny rabbits." (Dad).

Miscellaneous **Heathers** Quotes: "It's just like - they're people I work with, and our job is being popular and shit!" - Veronica... "Dear Diary, I want to kill- and you have to believe, it's for more than just selfish reasons, more than just a spoke in my menstrual cycle. You have to believe me!" - Veronica... "Betty Finn was a true friend and I sold her out for a bunch of Swatch dogs and Diet Coke heads" - Veronica... "Heather Chandler's one bitch that deserves to die" - JD... "I say we just grow up, be adults, and die - Veronica... "Ram and I died the day we realized we could never reveal our forbidden love to an uncaring and un-understanding world. The joy we shared in each other's arms was greater than any touchdown. Yet we were forced to live the lie of sexist, beer-guzzling, jock assholes!" - Veronica reading the fake suicide note... "Dear Diary, my teen angst bullshit has a body count!" - Veronica... "Dear Diary, last entry. No-one can stop JD. Not the FBI, the CIA or the PTA." - Veronica... "Talk about your suicide pacts, huh? When our school blows up tomorrow, it's going to be the kind of thing to infect a generation! I mean, it's going to be a Woodstock for the 80's!" - JD... "The slate is clean. Pretend I did blow up the

school. All the schools. Now that you're dead, what are you going to do with your life?" - JD... "Grow up, Heather. Bulimia's so '87!" - Heather Chandler... "Veronica, why are you pulling my dick?" - Heather Duke... "This is Ohio. If you don't have a brewski in your hand you might as well be wearing a dress." - JD... "Heather says real life sucks losers dry. If you want to fuck with the eagles, you have to learn to fly." - Veronica... "What's your damage, Heather?" - Veronica

PD-Peter Dawson HC-Heather Chandler HD-Heather Duke HMN-Heather McNamara KK-Kurt Kelly RS-Ram Sweeny MD-Martha Dumptuck VD-Veronica's dad... PD-Westerburg feeds the world. Come on people, let's give that left over lunch money to people who don't have lunches. Those tator tots you throw away... HC-Check this out, you win five million dollars from the Publishers Sweepstakes and the same day that that Big Ed guy gives you the check, aliens land on earth and say they're going to blow up the world in two days. What do you do?... HC-Fuck me gently with a chainsaw. Do I look like Mother Teresa? If I did, I probably wouldn't mind talking to the geek squad... HC-You wanted to be a member of the most powerful clique in school. If I wasn't already the head of it, I'd want the same thing. Come on Veronica, you used to have a sense of humor... HMN-God Veronica, drool much? His name is Jason Dean. He's in my American History... RS-Who does that guy in the coat think he is anyways? Bo Diddley?... KK-Veronica is into his act no doubt... KK-Shit Ram, were seniors man. We're too old for that kinda crap. Let's give him a good scare though... RS-You gonna eat this?... KK-What did your boyfriend say when you told him you were moving to Sherwood, Ohio?... KK-Hey Ram, doesn't this cafeteria have a no-fags allowed rule?... HC-Easy shot Heather... HMN-No way, no day... HC-I'm giving Veronica her shot. Her first Remington party. You blow it tonight girl, and it's keggers with kids all next year... HC-CORN NUTS!... HC-Let's party!... HC-What's your damage? Brad says your being a real kuse... HMN-Yeah, where's your urge to purge?... HMN-What a waste!... HD-Oh the humanity... RS-Jesus God in Heaven... why did you hafta' kill such a hot snatch? Hey it's a joke man. Jeez, people are so serious. Hail Mary who art in heaven, pray for all the sinners so we don't get caught. Another joke man... HD-I prayed for the death of Heather Chandler many times, and I felt bad every time I did it, but I kept doing it anyways. Now I know you understood everything. Praise Jesus, Hallelujah!... HMN-Please Veronica, put Billy the Kid on hold tonight. I'm your best friend... HD-Me and Martha Dumtruck? Where did you get these?... VD-Isn't that that flake we met at the open house?... VD-I don't patronize bunny rabbits!... HD-She's going to cry... HMN-Suicide is a private thing... HD-Jealous much?... HC-Is this turning out weak or what? There were at least 70 more people at my funeral... HC-God Veronica, my afterlife is so boring! If I have to sing Kumbaya one more time!... HC-I made your favorite. Spaghetti... lots of oregano. DINNER!... HD-Veronica?! you look like hell!... MD-I'd like that.

Veronica Sawyer Quotes

VS-Dear Diary, Heather once told me she teaches people real life. She said "Real life sucks losers dry, if you want to fuck with the eagles, you have to learn to fly." And I said so, you teach people how to spread their wings and fly?. She said yes, and I said your beautiful... VS-You're beautiful... VS-True friends work is never done... VS-Now way, he used blanks. All JD really did was ruin two pairs of pants. Maybe not even that, can you BLEACH out urine stains?... VS-Give it up girl... VS-Maybe... there's a dark horse in the running... VS-No, but if your nice I'll let you buy me a slushie. I see you know your convenient speak pretty well... VS-Betty Finn was a true friend and I sold her out for a bunch of swatchdogs and diet cokeheads. Killing Heather would be like offing the Wicked Witch of the West... wait east... west, God I sound like a fucking psycho... VS-Oh my God, I can't believe it, I just killed my best friend... VS-Same difference... VS-Like a suicide thing?... VS-I can't, my mom's making my favorite meal tonight, Spaghetti... lots of oregano... VS-Hi, I'm sorry. Technically I did not kill Heather Chandler, but hey, who am I trying to kid right?. I just want my high school to be a nice place. Amen. Did that sound bitchy?... VS-Listen, my Bonnie and Clyde days are over... VS-First tell me the similarity is not incredible... VS-Ich Luge bullets! I'm such an idiot!... VS-Looks like Ms. Phlegm's on another one of her crusades. Usual success of course... VS-Our way is not our way... VS-I'm telling it to you! God!, you can be so immature!... VS-And to think that there was a time when I actually thought you were cool. Man, if you can't deal with me now, then stay home and shoot your tv, blow up a couple of toasters or something. Just don't come to school and don't mess with me... VS-If you were happy everyday of your life, you wouldn't be a human being, you'd be a game show host... VS -It's over JD. Over. Grow up!... VS -Get off my bed you fucking psycho!. Do you think you're a rebel? Do you actually think you're a rebel? You're not a rebel, your fucking psychotic... VS-Get a job!... VS-May I see your hall pass?... VS-It's all over JD. Help me stop it!... VS-You know what I'd like babe?... VS-Cool guys like you out of my life... VS-Yeah? I just got back... VS-Heather my love; there's a new sheriff in town. Hey Martha! my date for the prom kinda flaked out on me and I was wondering if you aren't doing anything that night, maybe we could rent some new releases... .pop some popcorn?... VS-Yeah?! So would I!

Jason Dean's Quotes

JD-Greetings and Salutations. You a Heather?... JD-Well, they seem to have an open door policy for assholes though, don't they?... JD-Are you gonna pull a super chug with that?... JD-Yeah, well, I've been moved around all my life. Dallas, Baton Rouge, Vegas, Sherwood, Ohio. There's always been a Snappy Snack Shack, any town, anytime just pop a ham and cheese in the microwave and feast on a turbo dog. Keeps me sane.... JD-Yeah, well, the extreme always seems to make an impression.... JD-Maybe it's time to take a vacation.... JD-Dreadful etiquette, I apologize.... JD-Im a no-rust-build-up man, myself.... JD-Veronica knew you'd have a hangover, so I whipped this up for you. It's a family recipe.... JD-And your worst enemy... JD-Heather Chandler is more popular than ever now.... JD-Were not going to be using blanks this time.... JD-Wait a second, wait a second, do you take German?... JD-Alright, these are Ich Luge bullets... JD-Incredible similarity.... JD-Lets take a look at some

of the homosexual artifacts I dug up to plant at the scene. Alright, an issue of Stud Puppy, a candy dish, a Joan Crawford postcard. Let's see...some mascara. Alright, here's the one perfect-o thing I picked up. Mineral Water... JD-Is this as good for you as it is for me?... JD-Tell that to the judge, alright... tell it to Kurt Kelly! Oh God, Veronica!... JD-Hey, they're playing our song!... JD-You'll be back!... JD-Right. Some teeny-bopper-rag says they want to play at a prom. Could be Westerburg's if we get everybody's John Hancock... JD-Want to go out tonight? Catch a movie, you know, some miniature golf?... JD-You say tomato, I say tamato.... JD-What do you think I'm going to do with it, take out her tonsils?... JD-I knew that loose was too noose. I mean, noose too loose. Damn you!... JD-You didn't say "Simon Says"... JD-You think that just because you started this thing that you can end it?... JD-Press the one in the middle to turn it off... if that's what you really want... JD-I'm impressed. You really fucked me up pretty bad Veronica. You...you've got power. Power I didn't think you had. The slate is clean. Pretend I did blow up the school. All the schools, now that your dead, what are you gonna do with your life?

-Judy Davis/ "George Sand"/ Impromptu

Impromptu: A great 1830's sex farce: During my years when I was in high school, I first experienced this movie by mistake on a Sunday night at 9 p.m. on PBS. I wasn't even sure what I was going to be watching and I just decided to watch this movie since I was bored. Yet once I got a taste of the movie, I was seduced by the artistic fever and lifestyles of this film. Not so much their affairs, but rather their collective passion for life! I was in *LOVE!* It seduced me in a major way to such a degree that I also wanted to be an artist, writer, or creative person like they were! It was a delight to be in their company for that two-hour movie. And I was especially taken by Judy Davis playing George Sand. Here was passion incarnate! She devoured me with her passion and vigor just like she did with all the other men in her life. I swooned for her. Suddenly, all the pretty girls at my school were nothing compared to her. I had found my muse. And almost every other line of dialogue from this movie was memorable... Chopin's music plays through the woods like a breeze... She is George/Aurora. She wears men's clothing as "disguise" to walk about as a man rather than a upper class and privileged woman... "I want to know perfect, perfect love"... "Oh balls!"... George Sand walks and dresses like a dignified man, but is a woman in the late 1880's France. What glorious eccentricity!... "I'm a coward, of course. I can never boot my lovers down the stairs"... "It's her memoirs about her childhood"... "It's true. She's a cannibal"... "They are *deadly* little charmers!"... "It's funny. I used to think I'd die of suffocation when I was married. Now it's my freedom that's killing me"... "And all you have to be is brilliant at dinner!"... "She doesn't seem bothered that she's being eaten alive. It's like she's saying to herself: 'It's better to feel something than nothing'"... George Sand is transfixed by Chopin's piano playing. His music seduces her wild, creative soul. Music as lovemaking. "Do you ever *pray*, baroness? Do you ever hear an *answer*? *There* is the answer"... "George! You will want to sit over here, my dear. All the *respectable* people are on the other side"... "Chopin's as frail as a holy wafer"... "I'm thrilled not to be one of them anymore. There lives are so *boring*"... "Each one of them is throbbing for him"... "I've just received the most extraordinary letter! Madame George Sand has just brazenly invited herself to the fortnight!"... "They say no marriage is safe around her!"... "She's probably famished for culture and is willing to import it at any cost"... "In my house, you are the nobility!"... "I'm a *girl*"... "Up! We have food for a picnic!"... "What is wrong with our dear George?" -"She is incurably disgusted with love, no doubt"... "I adore this silence!"... There's a hilarious scene where George Sand is out walking and wondering the woods by herself when she comes across the sight of her host, who was out hunting and is unaware of who she is or even that she is a she since she's dressed like a man, and his beloved horse, who is dying. Seeing his pain and anguish and knowing that he can't put the horse out of misery himself, George takes his gun and kills the horse for him. Oh, what glorious strength!... "This will be judgment day for George. She should pay for her sins like any fallen woman!"... "Your message was clear... between the lines!"... "Oh my poor boy. It (the heartbreak) won't hurt for long!"... "You promised to love me!" -"I didn't promise to *succeed*"... "Your rival is imaginary!"... George Sand listens underneath to Chopin play this piano. When she stops, she bursts out as if he had stopped making love to her: "Don't *stop!* Monsieur Chopin, you're in the middle of a miracle! And I am not fully cured!" -"Who are you?! How did you get in here?!" -"I am your *slave*. And you have summoned me with your *music*"... "Have I offended your modesty!? I *apologize*"... "You are not a man at all. You are an angel"... "Goodnight, my dream"... "I am a *resurrected wreck!*"... "We'll hold the king for ransom"... "This could be very useful!"... She runs away from her favorite painter from having over-flirted with him! *Hilarious*. She's a sexually repressed wreck who is in a dead marriage while being in love with her artists and eccentrics... "I am no longer afraid of death anymore. I have already visited the beyond... in your music"... "I've been avoiding him all morning. I feel he's had a poor first impression of me. Before I meet him again, I want him to be convinced of my complete *sincerity*"... "Why pounce on poor Chopin? He's got one foot in the grave!" -"No, no. We will all be in our graves soon enough. But Chopin is *eternal*"... "Please, excuse me. I don't really like the sun"... "George seems more cheerful." -"She has a crush on Chopin"... "He's so frail. George will finish him off!"... "They're so different that they're bound to be together"... "It's a revelation to wear trousers! Everyone is staring at me! I feel like quite the bully!"... Only George would change from wearing men's clothing to wearing a dress for Chopin. And she's wearing a dress of the red and white colors of the Polish flag, his home country!... "It is difficult to find God in our modern age. And artists are our only hope!"... "Sit down, you great *ass!*"... "You're not fit to be *men!* *MORONS!* *IDIOTS!*"... "Leave her alone! She's off to her room for her nightly regurgitation of twenty pages. The only reason she needs me, or you, or anyone is for characters for her *GHASTLY NOVELS!*"... "I want to die. I want to be on your conscious"... "I was too good to you. I spoiled you. I nursed you when you were sick." -"And then you *FUCKED* the doctor!"... The horse in her bedroom shits on her previous night's writings. "The horse is a critic!"... "One has guest to... *entertain*. Stupid, stupid rain!"... "Art will save the world!"... "Does everything have to be dusted with sugar, Chopin? Like your music?"... "ART DOES NOT APOLOGIZE!!!!!"... "You're always looking for someone better, Aurora"... "All I wanted was to inspire you to write great music"... "I've been so depressed. Seeing some friends would do me some good"... "I've tried so hard to put him

out of my mind. And for a few heavenly minutes, I thought I had him, too! *Heh!*... “He’s an emotion in refinement”... “This is *enlightening*. Tell me *more*”... “You are *sublime!*”... “She has a most alarming way of turning up wherever I go”... “I do find her somewhat compelling. I wonder if she is different when one is alone with her”... “You know what? She can’t cum. She makes a lot of pretty noise, but she can’t cum”... “If you plan to invade ‘Poland’, George, you should know that the countess has placed her ‘troops’ at the border”... “Marie’s jealous of you, George. She couldn’t stand it if you got a better composer than hers”... “You were always running off into the woods where no one could find you. Aurora, where did you go?” – “I wasn’t going anywhere. I was just *running*”... “Simplicity is the hardest thing”... “You can’t fail but not I’ve been pursuing you. I’m in love with you”... “I don’t know you at all, but I know this: You are great. You’ve made a single instrument speak the language of God. And I wanted to learn it from your lips, you see. Anyway, you don’t want me. And it’s become complicated like everything between two people. And it’s really such a pity because it could have been so simple”... “She’s right. I’m not full of virtuous qualities. I love, that is all! *But I love strongly, exclusively, steadfastly*”... “Yes, I took a chance. You will forgive me for speaking the truth of my heart”... “I seem to owe Madame Sand an apology. And I hope that she and I can become friends”... “George will never be content with just your friendship. She wants your manhood, too! Your genius, your soul!”... “This chapter you’re submitting is a bit on the thin side.” – “So is my life”... “Hmmm, do I hear a duet?”... “Give me my money, *you jackal!*”... “Aurora was the name I was born with.” – “Aurora, what a lovely name”... “I feel that if I ever finish this Impromptu, it will finish me”... “Me? Suffer for art? I suffer quite enough for life!”... “Your books are admirable. I’ve been reading them.” – “*Have you?*”... “That is a picture of my fiancée. Or was my fiancée. Her family objected to me since they didn’t expect me to live very long.” – “*Balls!* I don’t believe you’re ill at all. You just need more strength. *Take mine. I have too much of it.*” Here is the reason why I fell so hard in love with Judy Davis as George Sand. It was her great strength in life and how she gave it to the one she loved: Chopin. And as a viewer, I took her strength and zeal with life as well... “It’s no wonder you’re choking to death. Someone’s got to show you how to breathe!”... “You need light and air. You need to move about!”... “You have stolen my lady’s affections! I wish the chance to avenge myself”... “It’s too late. *He’s in love!*”... “Are you *insane?*!”... “This man is wounded!” – “*Too bad!*”... “How could you?! After all the time we’ve spent together?” – “It was *easy*. You’re a menace to the future of art”... “I know what he needs”... “You were overcome by the violence that you’d done. You’re a sensitive man”... “Why don’t we stay here for a few days? It’s peaceful... and discrete”... “Do you love me?” – “God help me, I do. You are *superb!*”... “What is *wrong!*?”... “I am frightened”... “It’s an act of love. It’s the divine mystery itself!”... “My body is such a disappointment to me that I’ve already said goodbye to it. I’m not really in it. I’m just floating about in music... Forgive me, I am ashamed”... “I’m a fraud, you know. ‘Divine mystery’ – I’ve never experienced that with anyone. I’ve always had *disastrous* relationships. I’ve never been able to stay in love. I *want* too much... except for when I hear you play.... *I simply want to be with you*. The rest doesn’t matter. Do you think we could just *be* together?”... “And that’s enough. And I’m *happy*”... “Franz knows exactly who she is!” And George replies from behind her: “*I’ve always wanted to know*”... And then as their “romantic” finale slap to the countess who tried to keep them apart, Chopin (and George) decided to dedicate his latest musical score to the countess, hence inventing a phony affair that never happened, but would put her in hot water with her lover Franz Liszt! What a lovely made-up deception!... “We’re in love! We can afford to be generous!”... “Don’t you know?! She’ll kill him! She’ll kill him!”... It was in this movie during the final scene of the film that I first recognized Chopin’s “Impromptu” for the gorgeous beauty that it is. I fell in love with his music as George Sand did herself.

1-1-95: I spontaneously decided to watch [Impromptu](#), a *superb* British comedy that was featured unedited on PBS’s “Masterpiece Theater”. It starred Hugh Grant in one of his earlier movie roles. But it wasn’t Hugh who stole the show – it was the dangerously marvelous Judy Davis. She played the daring and strong George Sand, a female writer who dressed and acted like a man. She had one of the best roles I’ve ever seen for a woman – which are so rare these days. It was spiritedly wonderful to see her stroll around in slacks and act just as mighty as her “light” love admirers. I adored the scene where George dressed in a white and red dress (the colors of the Polish flag) to impress her Polish love interest, composer Fredrick Chopin (Hugh Grant). Even more hilarious was when Chopin swooned during a “manly” duel. George had to run to his side, pick up his gun, and shot the other duelist – her former lover. A pure, delightful, and unexpected surprise this movie was!!

1-2-95: Tonight, to my uttermost surprise and delight, [Impromptu](#) was on again on PBS. On second viewing, I enjoyed the brilliant period film even more. I raved and awed at Judy Davis’ performance yet again. Davis has such a graceful beauty and powerful charisma that attracts my attention. Lara tried interrupting my attention on watching the movie. I totally ignored her. It was like interrupting a private conversation I was having with the movie.

I re-examined why I sensitively adore Judy Davis: the passion delivered in her voice, an eternity of longing in her stare, the paleness in her cheeks, the profound vigor in her motion, and the dark, damp shade of scarlet below her eye lashes. Her character in [High Tide](#) moved me for yearning a person who acts ALIVE enough to use the tide of her emotions.

I watched the oddly brilliant [Barton Fink](#) for Judy Davis and the Coen Brothers. Unfortunately, Judy was not in the movie all that much. Yet whenever she was, she was amazing! (I wondered how I would react if Judy Davis suddenly died – sort of like the same way Jim Henson’s or John Lennon’s deaths affected me).

[My Brilliant Career](#): Judy Davis can bring such erotic charge to being intelligent and high-minded, it’s unreal! And just look at the confident way that she walks. Even her walk is inspiring and uplifting to watch! “Judy Davis is like a summer storm!” cried one movie critic, and I agree... “I make no apologies to be egotistical because I am!”... “Illusions of grandeur!... “Don’t you ever dream that there’s more to life than this. Don’t you want to meet people and talk about book and words and visions!”... “If I live out here in the bush for the rest of my life I might as well be dead”... “I’m so ugly and nobody loves

me"... "You have a wildness of spirit that is going to get you into trouble for all of your life. So you must learn to control it"... "Plain looks has never stopped anyone from being intelligent, witty, or making friends"... "The best kind of marriage isn't love-marriage; it's friendship-marriage"... "Ugly children should be strangled at birth. It's one thing to be born a girl, but it's another thing to be born ugly and clever"... "There has to be something that I am good at"... Pillow fight in a garden as an innocently subliminal and playful sexual act... "I thought we were mates"... "The boy's an idiot. But you did lead him on"... "Loneliness is a terrible price to pay for independence"... "Don't throw away reality for some impossible dream"... "I was afraid of losing you as well"... "Marriage means respectability"... "Maybe I'm ambitious... selfish"... "I need to make my life by myself... without you. I hope you understand."

-Gary Oldman

Leon: The Professional: This is Gary Oldman's finest eccentric overacting. His performance is simultaneously hilarious, terrifying, unpredictable, psychotic, and charismatic. He's even making silly voices and singing his lines! Watching movie characters like this offered me a wide variety of eccentric and exciting personalities to try out... "I like these calm little moments before the storm. They remind me of Beethoven. Do you like *Beethoven*? You don't know what you're missing!"... Enjoy this film with a glass of milk... "So this is something personal?!"

I was previewing through some movies. One in particular, The Professional, featured Gary Oldman awesomely overacting with the spirit of Kermit the Frog, Beethoven, the Punisher, and Christ fueling him in the same minute.

State of Grace: Gary Oldman's overacting somehow curls a grin on my face: hyper mannerisms, wildly manic behavior, over-the-top vocal range, violent temper, and drugged adrenalin.

While watching the contagious whimsical comedy of Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead, I found Gary Oldman and Tim Roth's characters remained inspired in me as after-thoughts and actions.

The Contender: *Gary Oldman the Great*... An intelligent movie that makes a statement of ideals and ideas.

True Romance: Gary Oldman playing a black dread-locked pimp... One of the most rare of films where every character is an individual and talks like no one you've really ever heard before (thanks to Tarantino's screenplay).

-Tom Hanks/ "Josh Baskin"/ Big

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Tom Hanks": "You are attracted to loneliness." -"One of my teachers told me: 'Ultimately, all the great stories are about loneliness'"... "Making it in acting is about perseverance. Being able to stick it out while out of work for a year."

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Tom Hanks": "Great movie moments impregnate your life."

I watched Big for about the 8th time and it still has power in its underwear. Just watching it again made me realize that I had my childish self-locked up. Movies do create a change in its viewer. My Own Private Idaho, Big, and Schindler's List are clear proof of that.

Big: While watching this movie today I realized that I've become Tom Hanks' man-child character. I'm an adult with a child-like sincerity, giddy playfulness, vivid imagination, and curiosity. I was laughing hysterically throughout most of the movie because I identified with his character. I wondered if my liking to physical comedy came from having watched Hanks' performance when I was growing up. Funny how my awkwardness in the adult world matches his own. I have to acknowledge Big as one of my personal favorite movies. Watching Big is my idea of fun. Sharing the movie with a group of people would be like allowing everyone to feel like kids again. The movie even serves as emotional medicine for adults who have lost touch with their innocence from being corrupted by the real world. Big offers a glimpse of what primal joys one can feel from simply *feeling* young... "I'm not a big one for parties. I like things that are a little more... intimate"... "Do you mean you want to sleep over?" -"... Well... ya." -"Okay... but I get to be on top"... "An electronic comic book."

At times, I felt like Tom Hanks' character in Big when he goes back to the neighborhood where he grew up in and reflects bitter-sweetly with a sad smile. I was ready to bike with a girl every evening after work. It was possible.

-John Cusack/ "Lloyd Dobler"/ Say Anything...

Say Anything...: I'm watching this movie for the first time in probably five years and I've experienced so much more that my insights have grown. What a different movie this is when you're 25 instead of 18!... "It's just that, Lloyd, you're a really nice guy and we don't want to see you get hurt." -"... I want to get hurt!"... "You used to be fun. You used to be warped, twisted, and hilarious. And I mean that in the best way. I mean that as a compliment"...

Features one of the best-written "Asking a Girl Out" scenes in movie history. John Cusack perfectly played a sincere, upfront, charming, idealistic, slightly eccentric, kick-boxing 19 year old who hopes to go out with the brainiest girl in school who also happens to be quite beautiful. His performance has all the insecurities of a real teenager. He'll sometimes say something of great truth and honesty that will make me take dear notice of him.

What ultimately attracts me to this movie is that both characters are "outcasts". Diane Court (Ione Skye) played a girl who spent so much time studying in high school in her over-protective home that she missed out in discovering who she really was. She's a nice girl, but she hasn't truly grown up inside. Yet it is Lloyd who finally manages to

help her out by getting her out of her rich father's house... (Upon seeing Diane in a white dress on their first date) "Whoa"... "I don't know what kind of career I want. *But I do know that 'I don't know'*"... "If it wasn't for Diane Court, I probably wouldn't have gotten into Cornell because you made me study twice as hard. Thanks"... "No, I'm totally and completely serious"... "I feel bad when I'm with you. I feel so selfish since I feel I should be spending more time with my dad"... "I just can't have a social life right now"... "Don't worry about it. We'll be friends... with potential"... "I'm shaking because I'm happy"... "Your father thinks I'm below you"... "And I never felt nervous around him. So we started spending all this time together – as friends. But then I could feel him getting anxious... and then I knew there would be a confrontation over getting *physical*. He started to get that look at the end of the night"... "It always feels good to tell you the truth"... "Get ready for greatness, Lloyd!"... "You should be going over to England with no attachments, no strings"... "*Did you just break up with me?*"... "I feel like crying. I gave her my heart and she gave me a pen"... "The rain on my car is a baptism. I'm a new man"... "Don't be a guy. The world is full of guys. *Be a man*"... "If you guys know so much about women, how come you're sitting at a gas station on a Saturday night with no women around?"... "You're a liar and a thief"... "Are you saying you need someone or you need *me*? ... Forget it. I don't care"... "Just sleep"... "I decided what I wanted to do with my life and I decided that I wanted to be with your daughter"... "Nobody believed that this would work." –"You've just described every great success story"... Lili Taylor looks like a teenage Tori Amos with a guitar... "Lloyd's a strange guy. He doesn't speak unless spoken to. He doesn't waste words"... Optimism as a revolutionary concept. Lloyd as its primary warrior... The universality of insecurity among teenagers.

"Everything clues you in to why Lloyd wants stability and why he's determined that his love for Diane last forever."
–From Pauline Kael's review on "Say Anything", which also explains my own "needy" love for past girlfriends. I desperately wanted stability of some sort.

-Charlie Chaplin/ "The Great Dictator"

The following was something I wrote in my journal in 1997 after watching the end of one of my personal favorite comedies of all time, *The Great Dictator*, from 1940. Charlie Chaplin plays dual roles of a Jewish storeowner and, ironically, a Hitler-like dictator. In the final sequence, Chaplin's Jewish storeowner character is mistaken for the Hitler character and has to make a speech to an audience of thousands while being broadcast on the radio to millions. I was so emotionally moved by his speech of immense sincerity and pathos that I went back and wrote out his entire speech, word by word. (Also, keep in mind that Chaplin was known for being a silent film star, so hearing his soft voice was truly something to be heard. Find the movie if you can. It was, by the way, immediately banned in Germany upon its initial release.) I thought it would be appropriate to share:

"...I'm sorry... but I don't want to be an emperor - that's not my business. I don't want to rule or conquer anyone. I shall like to help everyone if possible - Jew, Gentile, black man or white. We all want to help one another. Human beings are like that. We want to live by each other's happiness - not by each other's misery. We do not want to hate and despise one another. In this world there is room for everyone - the good earth is rich and can provide for everyone. The way of life can be free and beautiful - but we have lost the way. Greed has poisoned men's souls, has barricaded the world with hate, has goose-stepped us with misery and bloodshed. We have developed speed and shut ourselves in. Machinery that gives us abundance has left us in want. Our knowledge has made us cynical: our cleverness hard and unkind. We think too much and feel too little. More than machinery we need humanity, more than cleverness we need kindness and gentleness. Without these qualities life will be violent and all will be lost. The aeroplane and the radio has brought us closer together, but the very nature of these inventions cries out for the goodness of men, cries out for the universal brotherhood - the unity of us all.

Even now my voice is reaching millions throughout the world, millions of despairing men, women, and little children - victims of a system that makes men torture and imprison innocent people. To those who can hear me I say: do not despair. The misery that is upon us is but the passing of greed - the bitterness of men who fear the way of human progress. The hate of men will pass and dictators die. And the power they took from the people will return to the people. And so that men die, liberty will never perish.

Soldiers - don't give yourself to brutes - men who despise you, enslave you, regiment your lives, tell you what to do, what to think, what to feel! Who drill you, diet you, treat you like cattle, use you as cannon fodder! Don't give yourselves to these unnatural men - machine men with machine minds and machine hearts. You are not machines - you are not cattle. You are men. You have the love of humanity in your hearts. You don't hate - only the unloved hate... the unloved and the unnatural. Soldiers - don't fight for slavery - fight for liberty.

In the 17th chapter of St. Luke it is written that the kingdom of God is within man - not in one man or a group of men - but in all men - in you! You the people have the power, the power to create machines, the power to create happiness. You, the people, have the power to make this life free and beautiful - to make this life a wonderful adventure.

Then in the name of democracy let us use that power, let us all unite. Let us fight for a new world - a descent world that will give men a chance to work - that will give you the future, old age, and security. By the promise of these things, brutes have risen to power. But they lie - they have not fulfilled their promise - they never will. Dictators free themselves, but they enslave the people. Now let us fight to fulfill this promise, let us fight to free the world - to do away with national barriers, to do away with greed, with hate, and intolerance. Let us fight for a

world of reason, a world where science and progress will lead to all men's happiness. Soldiers! In the name of democracy - let us all unite!!" - Charlie Chaplin in The Great Dictator.

The Chaplin Revue: A film with only music and action - "a ballet of comedy".

City Lights: A nice contradiction of profession when during a boxing match, the ref got punched which resulted in him striking back.

The Circus: Mopping the filthy soil... Flipping and bouncing through the air in love to impress a girl... In this movie, "the funny man" doesn't win the girl. What a daringly original "realistic" ending. I respect that greatly.

Modern Times: Satire (or exaggerated documentary) on the factory assembly line. Charlie and a lady's quiet tea time is embarrassed with the weird noise of their embarrassingly audible digestion. Charlie hand-feeding a co-worker's only visible part of his body, his head, his lunch while stranded in the gears of a machine (which is rather surreal since a head does not have a place to digest the intake of food).

Limelight: Another character (like me) who was lonely, shy, artistic, "pathetic", lonely... Pity by a shy woman who shared his sense of melancholy. I believed this character defined and expressed part of who I am - only in a different body. "Cyrano de Bergerac... without the nose."

Monsieur Verdoux: Bluebeard... "We all get caught up in this world of speed and confusion"... "Pardon me, my time is **limited**."

The Gold Rush: "Hunger gnawed their bones"... Are there any nutrients in eating a leather shoe?... "Her loveliness lighting the room".

Charlie Chaplin never did win an Oscar for Best Actor or Best Director.

Chaplin: Comedy so honestly sad....

-The Marx Brothers

"I wouldn't belong to any club that would have me as a member." -Groucho Marx.

A Night at the Opera: A sly business manager and two wacky friends of two opera singers help them achieve success while humiliating their stuffy and snobbish enemies... The Marx Bros., the most charming, likable insane asylum escapees I've ever laughed with, delivered their wacky assault of humor in A Night at the Opera.

Duck Soup: Rufus T. Firefly is named president/dictator of bankrupt Freedonia and declares war on neighboring Sylvania over the love of wealthy Mrs. Teasdale... In a world where stupidity has no rules, no boundaries, no sanity, the Marx Bros. played. I purposely watched Duck Soup, the comedy that Woody Allen's Hannah and Her Sisters discovered to be a reason to live for to laugh, to save myself.

Animal Crackers: Insanity + Immaturity + Idiocy + eccentricity = Animal Crackers featuring the Marx Bros. "What is the matter with him! [Chico]" Exactly what I've been wondering. They made me laugh - and end with a sigh.

Horse Feathers: The Marx Bros.' spontaneous hysteria does expose the zany humor of living in a relatively insane society. Their insanity is part of their shtick. "Cut the Cards" and Chico pulls out an ax and quickly chops the stack of cards in two. On the first day of class, give a watermelon to your teacher instead of a traditional, predictable shiny red apple. God, I loved it.

Go West: The Marx Brothers come to the rescue in the Wild West when a young man, trying to settle an old family feud so he can marry the girl he loves, runs afoul of crooks... The Marx Bros. featuring white Hollywood actors surreally, stereotypically portraying Native Americans.

Room Service: What's the point of sane Marx Bros.? They're dull and instantly forgettable entertainment... "I killed myself once"... It's insanity vs. sanity. And insanity wins!

The Big Store: Marx Bros. madness does a sanity good! Groucho just goes into my pores and inhabits me!

AFI's 100 Years 100 Movies: The Marx Bros. comedy is practically abstract surrealistic comedy. It's exactly how nonsensical my own humor is.

-Peter Sellers

Being There: Over two hours of bliss... There's a confused hesitancy and childish awkwardness that I instantly identify with Peter Sellers' character of Chance. He's a man of few words with his head in the clouds. And he's enlightened. Once you identify with his mannerisms and his emotions, you can enter his head and become him. It's like personality math. His personality plus my personality equals a new hybrid personality... "I've never been allowed outside the house"... He's a human parasite who adapts the gestures and movements from what he sees on TV. If the president shakes hands a certain way, he does the same. It's an intriguing study of the way people emulate what they watch and observe from the schizophrenia of mass media, from "Loony Tunes" to politics... He has the mind of a four year old who can't even figure out how to feed himself outside of the reliance of a black maid. When he comes across violence in the streets of Washington D. C. when a black youth pulls out a knife on him, he pulls out a remote control and tries to "change the channel". What brilliant satire... "May I watch television, please?"... Here is a man who misunderstands life just as much as I do. And I certainly need someone else to empathize with. Chance reminds me of how I used to be as a boy. I wasn't all that interested in people as I was in television. What a glorious array of images, ideas, faces, and imagination it brought it. I was a TV addict. The television was always on in my youth. I couldn't live without it. Chance doesn't even have much of an interest in sex. He'd rather sit and watch television all the same... "I want fresh blood for dinner"... "He might be a breath of fresh air"... "He is different, isn't he? He very... intense." -"Actually I found him to have quite a sense of humor"... "Pumping in the extra oxygen keeps my spirits up"... "That's one of the things I admire about you - your admirable balance. You seem to be a truly peaceful man"... "You have the gift of being natural"... "A computer analyzed his vocal characteristics... but they cannot determine his

ethnic background.” It’s because he’s absorbed all the vocal patterns around him. He’s a true mix... “I’ve never seen anyone handle the press so well. You’re so cool and detached!”... He talks on a third-grade level – “in a way that all of America could understand”... There are days when I observe the world as a naïve child. I have quite a bit of Chancy in me. “Life... is a state of mind.”

Being There: Peter Sellers’ Chance is a person who is so empathetic I ended up acting like him for the rest of the day. He never grew out of being or thinking like a boy. Completely isolated from the complicated outside world... living only in his garden and watching TV. When he got kicked out of his home, he humbly responded: “I don’t understand”. What a simple, powerful, universal expression... “She used to bring me my breakfast. *She was kind to me*”... And I don’t think I want to leave this humble state of mind. It is calmer here.

After watching Peter Seller's performance in Hal Ashby's Being There, my inspiration for his subdued personality graced me for a kind hour. I was as honest and soft-spoken as ever - thanks to the movie...!

A Shot in the Dark: Inspector Clouseau - my idiot role model.

The Unknown Peter Sellers: “He was a true, emotional artist”... “If you thought Monty Python stole from The Goons, you should see what The Goons stole from Buster Keaton.”

-Robin Williams

While growing up, I found myself imitating Robin Williams in order to get attention. His manic energy wore off on me since I was searching for a personality that would be attractive to other people. His creativity was flying all over the place in hundreds of directions at the same time! I’d just erupt with multiple personalities and dozens of joke voices. It was sort of a creative free-fall. I needed to express my feelings and ideas in some way – so I did it through Robin’s persona. Many people didn’t get what I was getting at and labeled me off as “weird”, though a few with an eccentric sense of humor got what I was doing. Robin Williams reveled in the insanity of life and expressed it through his movie roles. I really empathized with that. And Robin could be serious and sentimental when he wanted to. But I could tell this guy went through an amazing amount of pain through his humor.

Robin Williams: Come Inside My Mind: “Are you thinking faster than the rest of us?”... “Do you have any fears?” –“I have a fear of not just being dull, but a rock”... “What happens if there is not spark? What do you do to keep yourself fresh? That you don’t burn out. That’s a never-ending struggle”... “Robin and Chris Reeve came in to Julliard as advanced students during our third year”... “We didn’t have many things. We had the art form. We had our work. That was where the focus was”... “Creating (with improv) was addictive”... “It was like sex without the guilt”... “He was always looking for connection”... “It was clear that he was developing his talent and going into a particular direction”... “I thought he could fly because he had so much energy”... “I didn’t need a microphone. I was trained to be loud”... “He had a lightning-fast mind”... “I think he needed a best friend”... “How to deal with life”... “He was really quiet in real life”... “Look man. I’m just looking for a little bit of balance”... “We were having an adventure. And then, everything changed”... “He’d never made that kind of money”... “Mork and Mindy” uncensored!... “On the second year of the show, Robin was doing drugs”... “It was just so much part of the scene”... “He loved women. Loved women”... “Cocaine is God’s way of saying that you’re making way too much money!”... “The illusion that I was going to be a movie star really quickly diminished”... “John was gone and that sobered the shit out of me”... “Fuck. It’s over”... “What’s going to happen next? What are you going to *do!*!”... “What other inner wishes for the child?” –“*Creativity*”... “Stand up was a great survival mechanism. It’s jazz. It’s what I have to do”... “He was quiet. When he was home, he would shut off and recharge”... “He would spend more and more time away working”... “That was the first time we connected, not through comedy but from being a father. I remember that so well”... “I had this wanderlust and so did she”... “So we gave each other up”... “She’s really grounded in that sense”... “Good Morning, Vietnam established him as an actor. He was suddenly becoming a movie star”... “I think he was very vulnerable in life”... “I always felt like he was holding himself together”... “You think faster than most people”... “The price you pay is that you can’t control a lot of those fast thoughts”... “The exploration of creativity”... “It gives you a different point of view”... “He would just take a thought and improvise from it”... “The urge to be funny and make people laugh was something that he had to do. He had to get it out of his system”... “He would get a high from it, an endorphin rush or something”... “He felt everything”... “That laugh is a drug”... “That thrill is really hard to replace”... “And then we get to choose who we want to be in our weird little worlds”... “Every character is driven by some deep, deep, deep, deep, deep, deep, deep, deep secret that no one else knows about”... “He had a restless mind”... “There was a lack of self-worth in there, too”... “His pathos was seeking to entertain and please”... “He was like the light that never knew how to turn himself off”... “Some years we’d see him only half the year (at home)”... “I was feeling really isolated up in Alaska. Well, there is one cure (drink)”... “He said to me, ‘I think I have a problem’”... “Suddenly, he was mortal. Suddenly, things in life got more precious”... “I could tell that something was just not...right. He was just not the happy soul that he had been”... “I’m really freaked out. I’m losing weight and I don’t know why. I’m having these tests run”... “That sparkle had really gone out in his eye”... “Are you alright, Robin?”... “And then he told me he had been diagnosed with Parkinson’s”... “That was the first time I’ve ever heard him sound afraid”... “The Academy Award-winning actor has died. Suicide is suspected”... “He was processing reality differently than others. He would have his OCD days”... “His brain was giving him misinformation”... “You’re given a little spark of madness. Don’t ever lose that. Because if you do, you’re nothing. Don’t ever lose that because it keeps you alive.”

Inside the Actor’s Studio: Robin Williams: “Legalized insanity or voluntary tourette’s”... “You were labeled as ‘Least Likely to Succeed’ in high school.” –“*Revenge!*”... “Life would be pretty rough if we didn’t have laughter”... “There is a high when you create”... “The best thing I ever heard was from Kurosawa when he was accepting the Academy Award and said, “Thank

you. But I'm still a student and I'm still learning."

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Robin Williams": "I was alone a lot"... "I'm introverted, quiet, and *absorbent* is a good word." He constantly picks up on things that are around him... "Stand up makes you fearless because it allows you to do *anything*"... "I was suffering from a case of the terminally shy"... "I would play different characters to myself in my room. Then I came to realize that these characters *could* do things that I was afraid to do myself"... "To me, the greatest drug is creation. It's the same kick (as cocaine). You get feedback. Because when you create, you get a little endorphin buzz. Why do you think Einstein looked like that?... "Tonight we are going to cook octopus balls"... "It was very difficult for him to speak because there are so many thoughts hitting him that they get backed up"... "I loved the old Warner Bros. cartoons. You relate to these characters so much because they're so frail and vulnerable"... Being around Robin Williams is like breathing in helium and laughing gas at the same time. It just fills you up with such giddiness that you can't help but find it addictive. I'll start acting like Robin because his creative comedic spirit has possessed my own.

Robin Williams interview: "I've had my personal life in flux while my professional life has soared. It's bittersweet times"... "*Is the failure of your marriage a great disappointment to you?*" -"It's not disappointing. That's why you choose to be separated rather than to call each other an asshole every day. Ultimately, things went astray. We changed, and then with me wandering off again a little bit, then coming back and saying, 'Wait, I need help' - it just got terribly painful."

An Evening with Robin Williams: This is Speed Comedy! His ideas come at you so fast! He's over here! No, wait, now he's over there! No, he's there! It's like creativity out of control... "Problems with erections during puberty"... "Isn't it strange how we spend nine months trying to get out of the womb, and the rest of our lives trying to get back in?"

Robin Williams: Live at the Met: "Getting your animals stoned"... "His face turns into a cheeseburger!"... "Do you think God gets stoned once in a while?"... Robin Williams on having a new son: "I see my new son working on emotions in the mirror!"

Robin Williams: Live On Broadway: A mile a minute stream of surrealistic visual gag humor: "Hitler was a homosexual"... "They're dropping bombs and food"... "We should drop frogs on Afghanistan! Frogs, gerbils, hamsters!! Things they've never seen!"... "Jesus or Jim-Bob the Son of God"... "How did we go from Crucifixion to Resurrection to chocolate bunnies?"... "Jamaica's atomic bong"... "Can everyone be quiet? I'd like to hear the grass grow"... A man who farts constantly and forever. "Flaming asshole!"... Viagra people with permanent erections.

Robin Williams: Weapons of Self Destruction: "It sounded like a slightly gay hurricane"... This shit is funny!! I almost peed myself!!! His humor is all about making you laugh at the absurdity of life... Congressmen should wear, he says, Nascar-like jackets with logos advertising the people (donors, lobbyists) who sponsor them... "I don't know why I made the raccoons Irish, but it works!"... "People in California give their cats Prozac"... "I'll put a whistle on my dick so when you blow me"... "We're a heavily medicated society. Look at all the drugs we take"... "The new car the Ford Fellatio"... "A Bob Dylan GPS"... "It's not longer Big Brother - it's Little Snitch"... "The uneven bars are for young girls in tight clothing. 'Daddy would like to watch this along'"... "You're about to fuck a Hobbit"... "Christopher Walken doing porn!"

8-11-14: News of the Sadly Surreal (for Real): "Actor Robin Williams found dead in apparent suicide." Horrible, horrible, horrible. This is a real punch to the gut for anyone who grew up with his films. The man who made so many of us laugh.

What's on my mind right now? This scene from Good Morning Vietnam with Robin Williams:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_8TsmYu0pIc Good Morning Vietnam was one of the first R-rated movies I ever saw, at a friend's house on HBO. Changed my life. Robin gave such a deeply felt performance.

We will always love you, oh captain my captain.

My favorite Robin Williams films: What Dreams May Come, The World According to Garp, Dead Poets Society, Moscow on the Hudson, Good Morning Vietnam, The Fisher King, Aladdin, Mrs. Doubtfire, One Hour Photo

-Andy Kaufman

Notes from "Andy Kaufman Revealed!" by Bob Zmuda with Matthew Scott Hansen: "He had always lived in his own mind, but his meditation somehow allowed him to turn inside out and see outside reality as no more dangerous than had been his make-believe world as a child. Andy Kaufman had reinvented himself"... "He was so painfully shy offstage that he had become a loner, speaking only to Budd and sometimes the waitresses"... "Andy had experimented with controlling an audience through offbeat and even unpleasant routines, but for Andy, Mr. X took psychodrama to a new level, risking injury, even death. Andy was enthralled that such a man existed. And survived. Constantly pushing the envelope, always striving to break new ground, Andy's childhood fears had given way to the adult Andy's mastery of those trepidations. He had preserved the child, but he had taken his fears, which could hold him back, and corralled them, yet he kept the best of what that child had been. In many ways, Andy never grew up"... "There was something so... confident... in the comedy"... "Andy was no longer alone in his room with an imaginary friend - that imaginary friend was now real"... "Every time I'd glimpse one of the famous Hollywood soundstages looming in the distance I'd get depressed because I wasn't a part of it. I didn't even drop down to Melrose to visit the Improv, for fear of running into someone I knew who would see how down on my luck I was"... "Feeling a lot of self-pity, I figured the parade had not only passed me by but also run me over"... "Andy was one of the hardest-working human beings I've ever seen, constantly in motion, but if it seemed like work, not play, then he resisted. So we didn't *work* when we wrote, we *played*"... Like his idol Elvis, Andy also was aroused sexually from watching women wrestle in skimpy clothing... "Then I introduced the contestants, Marilyn and Gail, who entered from the bedroom wearing skimpy little bikinis. It was all good, clean fun, but I knew Andy pretty well, and I could tell he was dizzy from overstimulation"... "He

would be bound to a schedule when appearing on "Taxi". Andy's recent proximity to the Elvis iconography had him fishing for parallels, and this was one that seemed to scream in similarity. He sensed the impending dissolution of his purity as an artist"... "The Comedy Wars"... "Andy's point was valid that getting paid would have affected his freedom to investigate the bounds of comedy"... "Andy's diminished presence on the set of "Taxi" was not he behavior of a prima donna, but rather was based on the precise calculation of an extremely goal-driven man of how much of his time this particular project deserved"... "It's almost as if Andy somehow knew his clock was ticking down and had a lot of less digits left than did most others"... "He didn't hate sitcoms, he just felt they were unimportant. That "Taxi" earned enormous popular and critical acclaim was moot to him, mainly because it wasn't his baby"... "And as the number of his appearances on television increased, so did the number of women who wanted to have sex with him"... "Andy was excruciatingly shy. He just wasn't equipped to make the small talk necessary to meet women on a normal basis"... "Andy thrived on confrontation"... "He believed that to excel at the art of living a person should experience all aspects of behavior, good and bad"... "After two days of all-you-can-eat co-eds, leaving them was one of the hardest things Andy and I ever did"... "To Andy, practicing elaborate deceptions in the past made us comedic soul mates – I was one of the very few he allowed in close. Andy was, despite his public persona and uncounted sexual liaisons, a deeply private person. The scant few who were allowed in were privileged"... "Andy needed an escape, and Tony Clifton represented the perfect vehicle with which to make his getaway"... "Andy Kaufman is the Antichrist! Andy Kaufman = Antichrist!"... Andy didn't drink or do drugs, but his only vice was women... "It was as if we'd gone to summer camp, had fun far beyond anything we'd imagined, and now had to leave our new friends behind"... "Realizing Andy wasn't the enemy, Mimi was eventually pinned under Andy on the mat on stage and, later, in his dressing room"... "Andy revered women, and his sincerity and innocence caused many of those he came in contact with to fall for him. And he for them. He was a very sensitive man, in touch with, as they say, his 'feminine side.' Dates were often surprised to accompany him to a touching movie, watch him cry his eyes out, and note that afterward he exhibited none of the guilt many men would show"... "Andy looked me square in the eye and said, 'You're here for your career.' I was shocked by the cold, simple truth of it. He was dead right. It was moments like that in which that rare but strong Andy surfaced, as if a dispassionate and levelheaded business executive had subsumed the man-child for a moment. Shelly and I broke up and life went on"... "He needed an emotional rescue, like a life-giving IV, and that rescue could be found only in the chaos of Tony Clifton"... "The studio was typical for 'Dinah!' Lots of women, mostly overweight, heartland-fresh tourists locked into their style the day they left high school. They were well meaning, but not terribly sophisticated"... "The audience was really wondering if this was real or not"... "As much as they loved and admired Andy, his family really didn't understand what he did or had gone through to get where he was"... "There was Andy, cap pulled low, in glasses and an apron... busing tables. No one recognized him, and why would they? A major star cleaning up your slop? Unheard of. He spotted me and ran over, as excited as a little kid. 'Thanks for the idea! I love this job!'"... "Andy vehemently registered his offense at the drug humor, as he had forsaken drugs some years prior and no longer supported anything related to the drug culture"... "My first audience was neighborhood kids younger than me. I never let the adults in because I was afraid they'd judge me"... "There was an unspoken agreement between us to push each other not only to improve creatively but also to grow personally. We needed someone in our lives to whom we looked for guidance at times, someone whose opinion or judgment we held above even our own – we played that role for each other"... "Andy himself felt he was boring when the mask came off, but he needed time to be 'off' as opposed to 'on,' which required a phenomenal output of energy. Andy saw what he did as a calling, and his life was devoted to his art. His sacrifice was that the time afforded him to be just Andy was limited"... "One expert felt Andy might have been demonstrating a rare case of "controlled" multiple personality disorder in that, unlike most other sufferers of MPD, Andy could actually regulate his disorder, calling it up almost like a channeler"... "Albert Goldman's tell-all bio, *Elvis*, was just out and had stirred up great controversy in its depiction of the King, particularly the sexual peccadilloes he allegedly exhibited, such as his fondness for girls wrestling each other while clad only in white cotton panties. That revelation was a stunner for Andy, who burst with pride that he and his idol shared such a fetish"... After his grandfather died who he was extremely close to as a child, he decided not to let anyone close to him again so he wouldn't get hurt... "What kept him out of the abyss was his faith. Transcendental meditation was his religion, and now more than ever he needed the refuge its practices and teachings could offer him"... "He was in crisis and desperately needed that haven to retreat to and mentally sift through the wreckage that had become his life. Each one of the recent blows had knocked down his confidence and stripped away that façade of invulnerability he had been building"... "George knew Andy's first love was his work, and therefore, he needed to keep Andy working, keep him busy and feeling vital while he fought the battle of his life"... "Then he launched into a dissection of the problems with his parents as well as his own strange childhood. 'I never joined in with the other kids,' he finally observed. 'I stayed by myself all the time. I was aloof and got lost in my own world. I'm not so sure if that was such a good choice. Maybe it was unnatural'"... "I despaired. This is what Andy's career had come down to: nothing. As my depression was about to get the best of me, an interesting thing happened – a few people laughed. Then a few more. It was infectious, and suddenly the audience began to enjoy the video. The laughter had a therapeutic effect on me, as I'm sure it did on the few others who were going through the same nightmare. The film was a tiny masterpiece"... "I woke with an epiphany: What the hell am I doing here? When my best friend is dying in the Philippines?"... "Nothing like visiting a third-world country to hammer home how lucky you are"... "Andy had stopped taking his pills, and his speech was slower and slightly slurred. It was often a real struggle for him to complete a thought. That frustrated him tremendously"... "Then he collapsed back on the bed, looked me straight in the eye and said, "I wasn't you to know that I'm proud of everything we did together"... "She'd been crying"... "Andy's brother then played the tape of Andy singing "Friendly World," which had always been Andy's closing song. That did it. Everyone burst into tears, destroyed by the reality of it all"... "Andy's death had kicked the life out of me"... "I went back to some advice Andy had once given me, 'Get over your fear and just go for it.' He'd been right, inspiring me then to become Tony Clifton,

and he was right again. Perhaps that is Andy's greatest legacy to us all: Failing is okay... not trying isn't"... "Andy's biggest fear was not that he would die, but that he would not be remembered"... "If you get only one thing out of this book, I hope it is this: don't take your friends for granted. For whatever reason, they have decided to share their lives with you, so cherish them."

7-27-03: I felt transformed while reading this book. Andy Kaufman was the rarest of things to me - a kindred spirit. During the final chapters of this book as he slowly died from the cancer inside him, I felt an immense part of myself crying and dying as well. I felt like I had lost a best friend. And I did.

Notes from *Andy Kaufman: The Truth, Finally* by Bob Zmuda & Lynne Margulies: "He said that he and his father talked and cried and connected"... "When the public didn't know is that for many years he had talked about faking his own death"... "Could he possibly have faked it?"... "Really shouldn't be judged through the prism of comedy, or you'll never come close to understanding him. Andy was funny (sometimes) because he was an absurdist, but being funny really wasn't a goal"... "If he wasn't a comedian, then what was he? To me, Andy was a behavioral scientist. He was constantly measuring people's reaction to stimuli. Andy instinctively knew back in '72 what neuroscientists have recently discovered: that laughter is one way the brain deals with the discomfort of an embarrassing situation (Foreign Man), inappropriate jokes (Tony Clifton), or the surprise of an unexpected punch line("Take my wife... please take her.")"... "When he first started going the foreign Man act, which he lifted from seeing a Pakistani man telling bad jokes at Café Wha? In Greenwich Village when he was fourteen"... "He just wanted real emotions"... "To search for the 'uncomfortableness' in every situation"... "Performance would therefore become a sacred ritual, performance as High Mass"... "That wasn't funny." But Andy, on the other hand, always found life funny, if not downright hilarious"... "I really feel like he was trying to lift us out of some morass of banality, of accepting everything for what it is rather than questioning it." Was Andy a wide-eyes innocent? Or was he a fearless and subversive outlaw, lampooning the mediocrity of the entertainment industry"... "I don't perform for the masses. I perform for a small group who knows what I'm doing.' I would even take it a step further and say Andy was performing for himself. Blissful self-indulgence"... "But I worried about him. I thought, 'Where is he going to do this (material)'"... "How was this guy going to make a living?"... "Remember, you told Lynne, 'Twenty or thirty years and I'll be back!'"... "It's not that I was crazy, it's just that I was sad at times because the world was sad at times. When I would perform, it wasn't sad anymore"... "Performance was distraction from the harsh reality of life"... "We were hell-bent on 'slaughtering' the status quo. I imagine we had a sense of youthful entitlement, but we weren't fascists about it. It was just fun. Fun was the key. Fun was the drug that fueled it all"... "Andy, who acted every moment of his life. It was one big improve continuously. Such fun. The best fun I ever had in my life"... "That's why Andy became disheartened when his fun turned to work on *Taxi*. WORK IS NOT FUN! As the brilliant clinical psychologist Dr. Stan Martindale said, 'Once they pay you for something you love doing, they kill it for you'"... "But the Bambi eye movement, innocence, and shyness are all part of the act"... "After all, there was a trunk load of alter egos just waiting in the wings, some of them bad guys who wanted to wrestle or the obnoxious lunge singer Tony Clifton who needed to come out. But innocence was in his arsenal of characters and could be summoned up whenever it was called for, even in everyday life, especially to pick up girls. That wide-eyed childishness just sucked them in. It was like a lost puppy they were gonna save. Once that puppy had got them in the sack, however, he would turn into a full-grown wolf - 'Wanna wrestle?'"... "Like an artist with a palette of colors, Kaufman could mix and choose whatever character it would take to get what he wanted"... "He was hiding in plain sight, every day gloating in the satisfaction of his legendary disappearing act. Look around next time you go out. You just might spot him"... "Equally remarkable is the last recording on the *Andy and His Grandmother* album"... "I chalked it up to the deal's having collapsed, something that took place on a daily basis in Hollywood"... "For all this, I was rewarded quite handsomely financially, along with a single-card producer credit in the film"... "There is no real Andy Kaufman.' Bingo! A light went on for them"... "Bob, the day we're too embarrassed to drive those cars on this lot is the day we've sold out"... "Celebrity attracted pussy like nothing else and Andy couldn't get enough"... "Shoot a documentary of Jim's journey into 'channeling Kaufman'"... "She became a fly on the wall (shooting the documentary)"... "Tony Clifton was a *controlled* multi-personality disorder; i.e., Andy suffered from multi-personality disorder"... "Lynne and I were really beginning to like this guy (Jim Carrey). He was a daredevil like Andy"... "Obviously this was becoming a test of wills as to who could be more outlandish. Jim wouldn't be outdone"... "Exorcising Kaufman's spirit"... "Rob Reiner told Jim that Universal should shelve the motion picture and release the documentary instead, as it, according to Reiner, 'was a truer representation of Kaufman's art.' For years, Lynne and I have been trying to convince Jim to release it. It's the most intimate and truthful work of Jim's career"... "Never before in the history of a major motion picture was a documentary camera (Lynne's) given the free range to be everywhere and anywhere she wanted to go"... "Milos Forman said it was the most miserable experience of his career. He was so distraught over it he managed to get no more than three to four hours of sleep a night while shooting. It was a damned same. Milos deserved better"... "*Andy Lives*"... "He's come not as Jim Carrey but as Tony Clifton, and Hef couldn't tell anyone that Tony was Jim"... "Clifton whispered back, '*So meet me in the grotto in a half hour. You like anal?*'" The girl's face at first looked shocked, but quickly recovered. After all, this wasn't just any schmuck who wanted up her poop shoot, but Jim Carrey"... "*Call Jim. Tell him to hold off for another hour. I need to knock off one of the Bunnies in the grotto before he gets here. This may just be the greatest day of my life*"... "No less than ten minutes late, he gave her a facial"... "I (Bob) couldn't help thinking that I must have died and gone to heaven. What it must be like to be Jim Carrey every day!"... "Hef snaps his head back to Clifton and quickly throws his arm off of this charlatan's shoulder. Hef stands there frozen in time, trying to make sense of it all. Soon, his face begins to turn bright red"... "As Tony would say, '*My jism is known to get rid of wrinkles*'"... "He too needed to put himself into the mindset of career suicide"... "Hollywood has a class system all its own"... "He apologized by saying he suffered from Tourette's

syndrome and couldn't control what came out of his mouth"... "Believe it or not, diligent documentarian Lynne captured the whole thing on tape by keeping the camera hidden"... "It will not save you. He knew it would not save him"... "Lynne and I felt awful. After all, we had been goading Jim to take risks like Andy used to and now he was seriously hurt"... "Coming from a blue-collar family, he has this extraordinary work ethic"... "It's not just about faking my death, it's about faking my dying also"... "By the time lunch break was over, they were all pretty much sloshed. Jim's assistant, Linda Fields, began looking real good to them. She locked herself in Jim's Winnebago before it was too late"... "Stanley was bipolar, and when his mood swings would kick in, he would charge up to little Andy's room and berate him horribly. Is it any wonder that Andy's only escape from such an abusive parent was to transport himself to an imaginary world where he would talk to the wall of his bedroom, believing a camera was inside and he could enchant its countless friendly viewers with his talent? That this little boy's only escape from such a tormenting dad was his own imagination is a testament to the endurance of the human spirit"... "Unfortunately, such domestic abuse is multi-generational. Stanley's father was abusive to him, so Stanley was abusive to Andy"... "My Shapiro-West NBC special, *A Comedy Salute to Andy Kaufman*, was nominated for best TV special"... "In fact, I doubt any member of the Kaufman clan had ever taken the time out to explore the early 20th century Dada movement, to which Andy's work was constantly being compared"... "Perhaps this was the core of Andy's entire career; making the world a 'happy place' where Howdy Doody was real, Santa Claus could actually fly in on his sleigh, and a grown man could tinker at the piano singing children's song and become famous for it. When Andy and Bob created Tony Clifton, was Andy perhaps impersonating his father Stanley?"... "Lynne's insight into the origin of Clifton may be spot on. I know a lot of the brutality Clifton displays when I play him comes from my own father"... "*Judge Tony*"... "Of course, we never told him about Andy being bisexual. We feared it might scare Jim away from the project"... "I managed to get George Shapiro and Milos on my side, but both men had no fight left in them"... "The most important: Clifton must never ever censor himself. Whatever thoughts pop into his alcohol-fueled head must immediately come right out of his mouth, just as if he had Tourette's"... "I think of the world as an illusion and we shouldn't take ourselves so seriously"... "You can't do a successful commercial film about Kaufman"... "Jim was Kaufman for real"... "Andy would develop a concept of 'bending reality' to suit his needs"... "I hesitate to categorize these psychological conditions as 'disorders' because in Andy's case he successfully integrated them into his act and publicity campaigns, reaping the benefits of fame and fortune by doing so"... "She and other friends of his worried terribly about him, realizing he had no skills whatsoever and that they couldn't see him working at any kind of job. Most of them are still in shock to this day that he became as successful as he did, as they all feared he actually would have become a street nut"... "Some people really get wiggled out when you start fucking with death"... "He smiled and in the Clifton voice said, 'She was good, but I was better'"... "When he had sex with women, he wanted them to 'play dead.' He didn't want any moaning or physical involvement from them. He just wanted them to lie there while he humped away"... "It read (from *Leprechaun 2*), 'Andy Kaufman died for our sins'"... "We don't do what we do for money. We do it as a labor of love"... "If Andy Kaufman was strange, sex made him normal. The stranger Andy got, the more sex he needed to bring him back to earth"... "Andy would have six to eight girls at the brothel during the same time period"... "If anything, he looked up to the hookers as 'sexual healers'"... "So what were we fighting for? Freedom. Artistic freedom. Freedom from the constraints of commercial entertainment"... "Freedom from the Jewish stand-up industrial complex"... "He didn't care how much money he made, he was in it for the purity of his art. And to have fun, of course"... "But I've been feeling down artistically. I want to start having integrity in what I do again, or else I'm just like everybody else"... "Andy withdrew into himself"... "Kids would be mean to him and taunt him for being such a recluse. But he oddly began to find solace in this loser kind of mentality"... "Rejection, rejection, rejection. It's a theme that would run throughout his entire life"... "Today Kaufman is considered as important as Warhol"... "We need more renegades like Andy in all walks of life, willing to put principles before their wallets"... Dave Chappelle: "Really, man, that book inspired me. Truly did"... "Andy was totally left alone, safe in his own bizarre world"... "It was the second time in his life that Andy felt dumped, the first being when he thought his grandfather had dumped him"... "Andy never fully recovered from it"... "The cast of *Taxi* could have told you that. I've never fit in anywhere. It's not my nature. That doesn't make me a bad person. It's just how I am. Sorry"... "Maybe that's why your show isn't funny! It's just become big business. It's not fun anymore"... "If I've made one person happy, it's all been worth it"... "Andy the anti-comedian"... "When SNL was funny during the Lorne Michaels years, you could drop Andy in the middle of it all and once again, the juxtaposition made it work. When SNL started going downhill comedically – plopping Andy in the middle of that and the anti-comedy stuff doesn't fly as well, because everything around him is anti-comedy; i.e., not funny"... "Andy didn't like being a 'star.' It separated him from normal, everyday people and he detested the feeling of him 'being better than anyone else.' That's why at the height of his career, he took a lowly busboy job at Jerry's Deli for minimum wage while pulling in \$40,000 a week on *Taxi*"... "Besides, Elvis's career was at an all-time low when he died, just like Andy's"... "Being different was his pride and joy. It's what made him a star, but at the same time it was a double-edged sword. America liked him strange but not *too* strange"... "Andy not only shit himself, e started making sculptures out of his doo-doo"... "The Andy Kaufman *Biography* was the best of the whole series"... "Andy's sister, Carol, called me in a rage, yelling at me, 'How could you talk about Andy's sex life? It was disgusting.' I told her, 'Don't be so prudish. Andy had a great sex life and it should be applauded'"... "Basically letting him know that he felt George wasn't supportive of his creativity"... "I'm a dead man anyway"... "Two years later, Andy Kaufman died. I went to his funeral. I didn't shed a tear. In fact, I had to bite my lip a few times to keep from exploding in laughter"... "They were not going to let him explore any more. He was scaring people"... "Andy Kaufman is the godfather of punk"... "And how about Lynne, the love of his life? All those years without him? Think of the family they could have had together. All the tears she shed. Was it really worth it?"... "He was impeccable and totally convincing as the 'dying man'"... "He holds these therapy sessions for families. I've been thinking about signing me and my family up for some. I'll do it when it's looking like I don't have long to live. I want to get a lot off my chest"... "To fake your

death, you need to pull of an illusion, very much like a professional magician does"... "Andy went to the Philippines for 'psychic surgery'"... "The illusion is now complete. The body double is safely buried, while the magician takes a thirty-year break, growing his hair back and also a beard, along with gaining as much weight as he can, so he will actually be fat for the first time in his life"... "It's a shitty world, Kaufman, but your newborn celebrity can bring a lot of attention to some very important issues"... "Your family is concerned about the state of my mental health."

Notes from "Lost in the Funhouse: The Life and Mind of Andy Kaufman" by Bill Zehme: "I am studying to be a 'famous T.V. Personality' at this school. I shall make it. If I didn't believe so, I wouldn't be here"... He had an invisible twin brother named Dhrupick... Tony Clifton: "I don't have to be here - you've lucky to have me!"... "He had met his first and only soul mate. He knew what he knew, which was that no one had ever made him so happy, so comfortable in his own skin"... "Having gone inward when his grandfather died, he stayed inward, coming out only when alone"... "He was playacting all the time"... The following explains a secret part of my own childhood and the unhappiness of a home where the father is unstable husband, a control-freak who blew up shouting at his wife and children for no descent reason. It also explains why Andy as well as myself went inward to escape the domestic home-life insanity going on around us children: "Chaos at work required perfect o-r-d-e-r at home - order unimaginable, thus unachievable, in a household where three young children grew and cavorted. And so, too, the rages enlarged, Janice took/ accepted the brunt. Stanley, the otherwise good and loving husband and father, would have to vent and rant for years to come. (Was there no aspect of his world that he could control?!)" His wife heaved her sweet deep sighs and patiently understood. The children, however, could not abide the storms. They witnessed their father carping at their mother, wishing she could stop him, knowing that she wouldn't. Michael remembered, 'Here was this fragile little woman - I was amazed that she didn't cry when he yelled at her. She hardly ever did. Us children would see a fight coming and think, 'Watch out! Let's head for our rooms!'"... "Andy's sister Carol turned from infant to teen with the cacophony ever resounding, wincing at it always. 'I saw our mother as a doormat, a victim. I'd be sitting there with knots in my stomach. It was almost like having an alcoholic father, in terms of not wanting your friends to see what was happening - and sometimes they did. I remember seething inside and thinking, 'Just tell him to shut up!' Later, I'd sometimes tell her, 'Leave. Just pack your bags, take us and leave.' Mostly, I just went and turned up the stereo.' Andy kept silent about it. Then and for always. Excused himself from the table, from the room, from the family, from the reality. He rarely spoke of his father's noise to anyone for the rest of his life; it never really came up in normal conversations; of course, he would make an inadvertent point of never actually having normal conversations. But he paid enough attention to the tone of the torrents - shrill, nasal, sibilant, snappish, relentless. Strangely, he would one day know a particularly bilious lounge singer who seemed to replicate, bleat for bleat, the singular staccato of Stanley Kaufman's fulminations. Enlarged on them, even"... "Storms came and went, trailing wakes of regret"... "Rainbow lights swirled and spun"... "His parents had been raising an unusual boy, they knew, and now they realized that they might have to try harder to respect his eccentricities, which grew exponentially"... "Andy's anger, he learned was best dealt with on paper, with pen or pencil, which was nicer than his father's methods of release"... "The doctor stated that I was in a fantasy world since preschool days and I was in a little bubble"... "And he had scored zero on every reality test ever given him, that he lived in a complete fantasy world"... "It was a godly time when words were god. Such godwords"... "He cherished his 4-F status, thought it quite funny. A 4-F was a letter stating he was 'paranoid schizophrenic with psychotic tendencies'. It kept him out of the Vietnam War"... "Andy *did* live in a fantasy world, but at the same time he knew what was goin on! He really was out of his mind, but was always exactly aware of it. He just encouraged people to believe what they wanted"... "Fun with religion!"... "Andy Kaufman impersonating 'God' with great expressiveness!"... "He was not opposed to letting her peek behind his facades"... "I've got the brains!!!"... Andy is the Intergender Wrestling Champion of the World!... "George called him an extremist"... "Cancer was how he would fake his death. It was the next step for his career at that point."

Notes from "Was This Man a Genius? Talks with Andy Kaufman" by Julie Hecht: "The publisher thought the story about Andy was too strange to be published. When I told Andy about this, he said, 'Don't worry about it. The story is ahead of its time, the way I'm ahead of my time'"... "If Andy was from a regular family, the question of how he got to be the way he was seemed even more mysterious"... "I never had any girls until recently. I never had a girlfriend in high school or college, so now I want to make up for it. I was too shy before. But now girls come up to me and they know who I am"... "Upon seeing his Elvis imitation, the kids in the audience went crazy with happiness"... "Wouldn't it be fun if we fell in love? What would we do? Would we go to the top of the Empire State Building and ride the Staten Island ferry and walk in the streets eating ice cream like couples in love are supposed to do?"... "I'm not trying to be funny"... Andy was an absurdist and surrealist song-and-dance man"... "I meant to make up a story to tell you, but I accidentally told you the truth"... "If you'd called me when I was watching *Gilligan's Island*, I would have been angry about the interruption and hung right up"... "There's this girl I'm in love with since the seventh grade and I was too shy to talk to her. Ever. She was one of the first beatniks, like you were, in high school, with the long hair and the black tights and all. And all these many years I've been yearning for her and thinking maybe someday I'll be famous enough to meet her. One day recently I met her father and got it arranged for us to meet. I was so excited when the moment came, shivers ran up my spine, I was tingling with bliss." - "And then you didn't like her?" - "No, I liked her, but it was no big deal. We didn't have that much in common"... Andy loves watching *The Twilight Zone*... "I was unhappy most of my childhood. I had no confidence. I was shy with girls in general"... "I was seeing a psychiatrist since age three"... "He was always a loner"... "Andy could use some play therapy."

Andy Kaufman - Celebrity Busboy: "I want to keep in touch with people." I want to keep my head out of the

clouds and remain a regular human being. I want to keep reminded that I'm not any more special than any other human being - *because I'm not*. And working as a bus boy reminds me of this."

Andy Kaufman is an excellent example of a performer who is so charming in his sincere childishness and varied personas that I act like him after watching him. He made me feel and act "young", giddy and irreverent. His "act" is all about *play-acting*, like one would when they were young. Instead of being yourself (which is impossible to do when you're under ten years old considering you haven't been alive long enough to know exactly who you are), you pretend to be someone else in your own fantasy world. I love being part of Andy's "world". It's a world without problems, worries, or concerns. In a sense when I create art, I transform my persona to be like his and escape into my own fantasy world of my own creation. It makes me feel alive and new. If I had to choose, I'd rather live in the fantasy world than in reality. If their mind was open enough, who wouldn't?! We all get sick and bored of reality eventually. That is the purpose of movies, comedians, music, books, or any other form of escapism out there. I've been in such hurt and pain and confusion for so many years now it doesn't make sense to stay the way I am. I've tried changing and altering my lifestyle to fit in with society. But it is society itself that should change. So in my fantasy world - be it in my art or in my imagination - I make it reality.

The Andy Kaufman Special: He's like a six year old inhabiting the body of an adult male. That is what makes it so freaking surreally funny! The edgy part of it all is that you can't tell if he really is a little kid! That blissed-out loony stare he gives cracks me up and sends me right back to how it used to feel to be a kid.

Andy Kaufman: Sound Stage: He's like a children's comedian for adults. He brings out the glee of being a little boy or a little girl because he acts so much like a little boy who wants to put on a show.

The Real Andy Kaufman: He could be so bad and bizarre that he was good. A grown man singing childhood songs with total sincerity?... "This is from the upcoming record 'Andy and His Grandma Willie'"... He'd directly take on the audience and ask them if they like what he's doing in a performance. "Did you not like what I did with my family? I must say that I am highly insulted!"... "If you want to heckle me, you win. I have no comebacks"... "I never claimed to be a comedian, or clever, talented, or witty. I came to do a variety. Some dancing, some singing, some songs with my family that hasn't been together in years"... He'll have an emotional breakdown as part of his "variety show" act!?! "I'm only trying to do my best!"... "Everything that you were seeing, I was just fooling. This is really me. Everything else was just characters"... Wrestling women as comedy routine?!... "He's really obnoxious tonight"... Wearing a "I Love Grandma" T-shirt... "He was famous for staying in character"... "He was so far from the mainstream. And that's why he stuck out"... "There were times when he wasn't funny. And that would just bother you"... Andy's variety show was really him presenting multiple personality disorder as a comedy routine?!... "I still have not met a soul that pure."

Fridays: Andy Kaufman/ The Pretenders: Andy Kaufman doing gospel song duets with his Christian fiancée?!? It's like he was dating someone way too conservative for him. Yet he took her strange Christian qualities and *embraced* them... "I just want to say something about drugs. People take drugs to put into their bodies to ease their pain. Yet when the drugs wear off, the pain doesn't go away"... Andy's key element was making adults feel like kids again, just by leading them into an audience participation with signing "Old McDonald Had a Farm"... Andy Kaufman's Gospel Born-Again period!

Man on the Moon: "Andy's in between method acting, dada, and vaudeville"... Andy's priceless celebrity buggers... The whole Andy wrestling women is one grand comedic erotic fantasy... "I can't play stoned. I feel... *stupid*"... "I have to take these classes. It's what keeps me balanced."

Man on the Moon: "We work in a creative business. There's no telling what people will like or dislike"... "If the thoughts of this world come into your head, don't be upset by them. It's just your stress unraveling itself"... "I think of the world as an illusion"... "You've got to win back their sympathy"... "You can't have the comedy without the tragedy"... "I've still got all my love to give. I will survive. I will survive! I will survive!"

Jim & Andy: The Great Beyond - Featuring a Very Special, Contractually Obligated Mention of Tony Clifton: The behind the scenes footage was withheld by Universal for almost 20 years... What's real? What's not?... "Andy spent less time making his audience laugh than trying to make his audience confused"... "I went too far. That's what people are telling me"... "I decided to speak telepathically to people"... Executive Producer: Tony Clifton... "It's really weird. It's totally surreal"... Jim/ "Andy" refusing to stop being Andy... "So bizarre!"... "Wow. This is different. This doesn't care what everyone else is"...

"Unbelievable idea"... "His genuine sweetness, this child-like quality"... "He didn't belong to the club - any club"... "It was that need to be special"... "I know that guy"... "I have a Hyde inside of me when I have a microphone in front of me. He just takes over"... "Oh my God! This is incredibly liberating!"... "Elton John's a good man. I don't care what he wants to put in his mouth!"... "On an anarchist level, it's funny (to play a character that no one likes)"... "So much of this came from being disenfranchised and resenting from being an outsider"... "How am I going to get your attention?"... "I don't know what to do. I have never had to deal with anybody like Andy"... "Have you ever played a real person before?"... "No one knew what was real and what wasn't real half the time"... "He's afraid that once he gets healthy that he won't have any creativity"... "Most people thought that movie was happening *behind* the camera"... "And I was comfortable with them to be around me filming me every day"... "The studio doesn't want people to know that Jim's an asshole"... "I've had plenty of crushing disappointments"... "Why don't you wrestle a man?" - "I'd rather wrestle a woman"... "Touching emotional and psychological buttons"... "He was just one his own wavelength. You were either going to join him or you weren't"... "Andy didn't like structure"... "When you create yourself to make it"... "Jim still hasn't shown up to work on this movie"... "Suffering is so valuable"... "He was compromising while raising a family. And when you're compromising and you fail, it really hurts"... "You might as well fail at what you do love rather than at what you don't love. There is no other choice to be

made"... "Jim Carrey got an invitation to the Playboy Mansion"... "He is fucking amazing! I hate him now!"... "He is definitely creatively bankrupt"... "This movie is turning out to be about our identities. What we need"... "It's been like role-playing therapy"... "Her dad was Ladka on *Taxi*"... "Where would Andy be now? He'd be in heaven playing with the kids"... "By that point, I was not me. I was making choices based on what Andy would have done"... "You're afraid to be an artist"... "As an actor, how far should I take this?"... "He wasn't about stopping once the cameras stopped"... "He came in to turn reality on its head"... "Andy really inspired me to do some insane stuff"... "You may have just blown it"... "This is what Andy felt all the time"... "I don't think he was trying to kill me. It's just creativity"... "The movie is an illusion"... "This is the dome. This isn't real. This is a story"... "This is the avatar that you create"... It's all an act. "We got about our days projecting that we're a winner"... "At the very same time, he was facing the abyss"... "They get so far into his character that they don't know how to get out of it"... "Where is the real me?"... "Absolute confusion. Absolute disappointment"... "I was trying to figure out who I was again"... "Andy was the great beyond"... "I didn't know who I was after the movie was over"... "I suddenly realized that I was back in my problems"... "It felt so good to be Andy because you were free"... "We're on a spiritual journey"... "I wonder if I could do that with other people. What would happen if I would be Jesus?"

"There is no real you," jokes Andy Kaufman's girlfriend to him. -"Oh... I forgot." -from Man on the Moon.

2-16-00: I had the weirdest, wildest realization tonight: Andy Kaufman might actually be Jim Carrey playing Andy Kaufman playing Andy Kaufman/ Tony Clifton in Man on the Moon???. It's all a disguise, a facade, and a grand joke that only Andy and I are laughing at.

-Lenny Bruce

Lenny Bruce's autobiography "How To Talk Dirty and Influence People"

"Anyone can make a dirty joke; but it takes talent to make a clean one".

I got repulsed by how typical a couple of girls were acting, which made me think as if I was Lenny Bruce: "Do we have any individuals in the audience tonight? ...You don't have to raise your hand - just know who you are."

Lenny was just so "fuc-" in strong in its own freedom of speech aloud way.

I've been following anything on Lenny Bruce ever since I noticed that the comedian inspired Christian Slater's character "Happy Harry Hard-On" from Pump Up the Volume. Force the system to yield to the logic and the insanity of a "madman". Brilliant as he was, Lenny Bruce was a one-man revolution of "obscene", *challenging* satire. He's a new, definitive "role model" for me. How appropriate that his message finally got through to a large audience as a motion picture.

Lenny Bruce Performance Film: Role Model Performance Film defending himself from the courts.

Lenny Bruce: Without Tears: "He was like that in the end - he stopped laughing"... "He was a very middle-class guy"... "He forces the audience to come to terms with issues in society with a naked honesty. He performs a psycho-analysis on the audience."

-James Dean

Notes from *Rebel: The Life and Legend of James Dean* by Donald Spoto: "'James Dean was a giant creative genius. He was not merely a young man in search of himself: he was a deeply awkward fellow"... "Longing for acceptance, he had a simultaneous fear of rejection that kept him at a distance from everyone"... "He could never remember the shy Dean with a girlfriend, or even a date"... "He could be moody and unpredictable, to keep people off their guard – and rude, to attract attention"... "Extreme emotionalism"... "A lonely boy sought out a single, older man who supplemented spiritual comfort with an introduction to art books and music"... "I felt sometimes that he had an inferiority complex that he was covering up"... "Fairmount High asked students to write a short autobiography, and James Dean turned in "My Case Study"... "James Byron Dean registered with his local Selective Service System, or draft board, claiming that he was a homosexual and thus assuring that he would be exempt from military duty"... "At Santa Monica, his grades were unremarkable, but in an effort to socialize – which never came easily to him – he volunteered to help at registration, ushered at performances and took tickets at dances"... "Like Dean, Brando was a Midwesterner who had been transplanted to California; like Dean, Brando had an unhappy relationship with his father"... "In fact, all accounts of his behavior at UCLA indicate that Jimmy could be insufferably immature. Resentments against his father, guilt and loneliness for his mother, a feeling of social inferiority and a longing to refine his natural acting skills"... "To explain how a character's history might be revealed through gesture and intonation, and how mood could be heightened through carefully placed pauses and implications of unexpected violence"... "I guess you can say he saved me when I got all mixed up"... "Dean's conduct throughout his short life indicates that he was not entirely heterosexual, as even his girlfriends confirmed. "He dabbled in everything. He wanted to experiment with life"... "When he was happy, there was no one more lovable, but when he was depressed, he wanted to die"... "Jimmy, lonely and begging for understanding"... "To prevent rejection, he would withdraw first. He would play the rascal, the truant, the delinquent manqué; the problem"... "There's always somebody in your life who opens your eyes"... "I saw three movies a day in an attempt to escape from my loneliness and depression – spent \$150 of my limited funds on movies alone"... "He was a loner in every possible way"... "We were poor and uncertain of the future, but somehow when we were together we didn't care. It was 'you and me against the world'"... "What Jimmy caught was the clash between the child's world of imaginative sensitivity and the adult world of speed and cruelty"... "A lonely outsider, needy of friendship but an instant hero to the world just because of his isolation and his instant epiphany about the necessity of inner vision"... "People wondered why Dean was

so extraordinarily secretive, why he seemed to have so much to hide. Only a few knew the reason"... "He had, in other words, a dilemma not uncommon to many men in bisexual relationships: unwilling or unable to make any sort of commitment. He was leading a double life worse than that of a married man with a mistress, for his was complicated by the social stigma attached to homosexuality"... "It is true that Jimmy was fascinated by unconventional behavior"... "Jimmy had dark circles under his eyes, he smoked too much and drank too much coffee in an attempt to energize himself after a sleepless night"... "He sensed his isolation, though he often caused it"... "He wanted to fool around, to do the forbidden thing, to be artsy, a renegade and an outside. But as for being a hustler or a whore – well, I don't know anyone who had an indication that was true"... "Jimmy became known as something of a dabbler in the varieties of sexual experience"... "He was most of all obsessed with himself and his career"... "God damnit!! I miss you"... "Very quickly, Leonard Rosenman became the object of James Dean's affection, admiration"... Kazan: "He was not like Brando. People compared them, but there was no similarity. He was a far, far sicker kid, and Brando's not sick, he's just troubled"... "The film was, she realized, the only family, the only purpose he had. 'At that moment, he seemed more than ever to me like a little lost boy. The rebel, the boy who wanted to shock and irritate, was gone, and suddenly there was Jimmy Dean, very vulnerable and very sweet"... "I could see in his eyes and in the way he moved and spoke that he had suffered a lot"... "His father was a monster, a person without any kind of sensitivity. Jimmy was doing everything in his career to get his father to like and approve of him, and his father never took the slightest interest. It was sad, but I could not fill that gap"... "That identity of Cal Trask in *East of Eden* was a naked portrait of himself"... "Here was a young man who cried out for help"... "Cal's first confrontation with his mother also provides the film's first scene of almost unbearable emotion"... "His gentlest hopes apparently dashed forever"... "Dean, torn apart in this great final rejection, has begun to break down"... "The boy in anguish as a disturbed animal, so needy of love that nothing else has any reality: not school, or career, or friendship"... "He was intensely determined not to be loved or to love"... "Derived from a passion for James Dean that haunted her for the rest of her life"... "He feels"... "Do you love me? Do you love me? Do you love me?"... "Teenage boys wanted to be like him, or to have him for a buddy or big brother or lover, and girls wanted to mother or marry or protect him, depending on their instincts"... "And like previous affairs, more was presumed than occurred"... "Dean contradicts fifty years of film acting. Each gesture, each pose, each reaction is a slap in the face of the psychological tradition of acting. He does not exploit his dialogue with insinuating force, he does not 'poetize', he does not try to outsmart anybody. He isn't concerned to show that he understands everything better than you... He carries within himself our own ambiguities, our duality and every human weakness"... Bogart: "Dean died at just the right time. Had he lived, he'd never have been able to live up to his publicity"... "James Dean died before he could fail, before he lost his hair or his boyish figure, before he grew up. He was something of a latter-day Peter Pan, telling his followers to hurry, to ride, to aim high, but never to grow up, as he never grew up. Marlon Brando, it may be noted, lost his iconic status before the 1950s were over, by simply living too long."

James Dean: He lost his mother at a young age. His father left him just after that... "He's a little too weird"... He's like a kid. When he got a role in a play, he took a few steps, jumped into the air, and clicked his heels... "How did you like that acting? Was it convincing? Could you hear me okay?"... "That must have hurt. We'll use it."

Francois Truffaut once commented that as an actor James Dean was more like an animal than a man, proceeding according to instinct instead of thought and calculation. What a great idea. They never taught me that in school.

He wasn't acting - he was *feeling*. "Actors shouldn't know their lines... it's more like real life that way"... An outsider... a farm boy from Indiana.

James Dean portraying a desperate youth in *East of Eden* who used desperate means to gain the love of his father and estranged mother. The Cain and Abel brother conflict was played with twistedly. Dean's frantic acting and presence was as iconic as I've ever witnessed.

East of Eden: "He looks at me like an animal"... "What's a farmer got to do with war?"... "You are crazy!"... "Do you think I'm *bad*?"... "I've been jealous all my life. So jealous I couldn't even stand it"... "I even tried to buy your love. But now I don't want it anymore."

Rebel Without a Cause: James Dean acted more like a weirdo/ eccentric than I had remembered. James was an animal raging over with emotions he couldn't control. He's just like me! "You think I'm funny?!" He's so electric and restless you don't know when he's going to go off and explode. He verges on overacting and appearing ridiculous, but it's because he's trying wildly to find himself. He personifies cool confused chaos, as if he's the most gorgeous insane asylum patient ever to be let loose upon this world... "I think I don't want to think"... He expertly played the handsome loser anti-hero. Then the next morning he reverts back into being a human, all quietly sensitive and emotionally repressed... "I'm just numb."

Forever James Dean: "He had expressed the anguish, loneliness, and confusion of growing up than anyone had before"... "His mother's death would leave him embittered and abandoned"... "That inarticulateness to his character."

-Robert De Niro/ "Travis Bickle"/ *Taxi Driver*

Notes on *De Niro: A Biography* by John Baxter: "Most creative people regarded analysis as essential to their intellectual growth"... "Everybody started a journal"... "There is no money in art"... "By nature, the actor is a kind of wonder who can allow himself to change personalities"... "Rage is Robert De Niro's gift to the cinema. When he injects into such roles the fury unleashed in *Taxi Driver*, *Raging Bull* or *The Deer Hunter*, we see De Niro at his most effective"... "I'll be frank and say that when I first knew him I did not expect him to become a star. But gradually, I could see he was so obsessive about

this work that he just had to succeed"... "He takes refuge in anonymity"... "*Taxi Driver* was a script that was written for the best of reasons, as self-therapy. The metaphor of the taxi cab occurred to me; a metaphor for a certain kind of male drifting loneliness. I just wrote two drafts of the script continually for ten days around February 1972. It jumped out of me like an animal"... "New York is a place where you come to be lonely"... "Plenty of people who read early versions of *Taxi Driver* admired it, but nobody believed any Hollywood studio would fund so nihilistic a project"... "All three performers became increasingly aware that Bertolucci was once again confronting, if not luxuriating in, one of his sexual fantasies"... "*Taxi Driver* became a manifestor announcing Scorsese's Manichean conviction, rooted in his Catholic guilt, that evil not only existed, but was infinitely seductive, and could only be exorcised by blood sacrifice"... "De Niro scowling at Shepard – only to launch into playful sexual fencing when Scorsese called 'Action'"... "De Niro and Scorsese lacked the mass appeal of Spielberg and Lucas. De Niro's films showed that he was a movie *actor*, not a more *star* – a crucial distinction when it came to bankability"... "De Niro is a number of things, all at once. There are lots of different people in him. He finds release and fulfillment in becoming other people. Picture after picture, he gets deep into the thing. He's found his solution for living at a time like this: in work"... "Success didn't modify the habits of De Niro's earlier frugal days"... "It's very hard to sustain that kind of intensity. I mean, we were really slapping each other; you sort of get worked up into a frenzy"... "Thinking the dialogue rather than saying it made Nick seem vaguely distracted, his mind elsewhere. 'That was a great direction. You don't have to say everything – think it'"... "Russian roulette is the ruling metaphor, a clumsy but potent representation of American foreign policy in Asia – moral and physical suicide for dubious gain"... "Sex, and in particular sexual jealousy, powered La Motta's success. Before a fight, Vicky would visit him in his dressing room, wearing a sheer nightgown under her clothes, and excite him to erection. Instead of ejaculating, however, he would douse his genitals in ice water, believing the conserved sexual energy helped him beat his opponents to pulp"... "Reflecting journalist Pete Hamill's vision of boxing in the forties and fifties as 'the great dark prince of sports', it depicted boxers as gladiators, battling to the death for the pleasure of wealthy patrons who crowded close to the ring, perversely delighted when blood splashed over their jewels and furs"... "Huge emotions right under the surface"... "Since *Raging Bull* would never appeal to a mass market, Scorsese decided to film in black and white"... "Playing the key scene with Pesci, in which he accuses him of sleeping with Vicky, De Niro didn't feel he was getting enough indignation from Joey's denials. Taking a leaf out of Cimino's direction in *Deer Hunter* that Christopher Walken spit in his face, he suddenly demanded of Pesci, 'Did you fuck your mother?' Pesci's startled reaction is proof that the technique works"...

"Few films are as exciting to listen to as *Raging Bull*. Evoking the tunnel hearing of the athlete high on endorphins, the mix isolates the clink of ice cubes in the bucket where Jake soaks his battered hand, the murmured advice of the seconds, the muted roar of the crowd, the half-heard announcements over the public address system, the crackled of an old-fashioned flashbulb imploding – matched often in the film to the crunch of leather on flesh"... "What does a punch sound like in his ears?"... "The inactivity that followed *Raging Bull* left De Niro feeling depressed, as the gaps between films increasingly did. 'Every character I play takes a great deal out of me. And afterwards there is a sense of loss and let-down until I start digging into the next one'"... "The Morricone score, made even more poignant by the breathy shrilling of pan-pipe virtuoso Georgy Zamphir"... "Hancock blamed celebrity for the change in De Niro. 'Everybody competes to get your limo, and provide you with a gym to exercise in, and get you women, it rots your spirit'"... "*The Mission* features his most somber and withdrawn performance yet. He's about as expressive as a church icon, and his contemporary acting approach and New York accent are comically inapt"... "Everyone thinks that all I have is this dark side"... "The press made him even more cautious about being spotted in public with any woman, particularly one of the kind he was known to find sexually attractive"... "She brought a girlfriend for moral support"... "He made me feel like a piece of raw meat, or a trophy for his collection"... "Williams and De Niro knew at first hand something of what the real patients were going through. Both actors were prone to a cycle of elation and depression, and had experienced the paranoia induced by cocaine"... "I slowly saw him build the character in front of me. He took one guy's posture, another guy's phrasing, and a bit of another guy's attitude. He was just drawing from all of them. He doesn't do accents or things unless the part calls for it. He's just Robert De Niro – but he isn't really. There's something about him which is just a little different each time"... "In many shots, the sky is optically tinted orange or an ominous purple to recall the artificiality of classic Technicolor"... "With Stella Adler, De Niro had learned the Method trick of basing a character on an animal"... "De Niro also encouraged the actors to try the technique he suggested to Walken in *The Deer Hunter* of thinking some lines rather than saying them aloud. 'Basically, he was telling us, 'Keep your mind alive'"... "He despises small talk."

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Robert De Niro: "Since you're young and have nothing to lose, make your work as personal as you can just because it makes it more interesting. I wasn't afraid of taking the chance. Some people are very good at making things people want to see. They know how to work that and that's okay. Yet it's always more interesting to do something that's genuine and you've done the best you can do with that, even if it seems crazy or off the wall. Follow that instinct because it will distinguish you from other people."

Taxi Driver: "Age?" – "26"... Within the aimlessness of existence, all he can do is write in his journal to dissect his days... "The days go on and on. And they don't end"... Cybill Shepherd as "Betsy" – "The most beautiful girl in the world"... "Do you know you have beautiful eyes?"... "I don't think I've met anyone quite like you"... "How can you stand it? I couldn't live without music"... "We're just different"... "It's got me down, real down. It makes me want to go out and do *something*"... The world moves in slow motion... "Too much sitting has ruined my body. Every muscle must be tight"... Wasted days with nothing to do... Flaming dead roses.

Taxi Driver: "I realize now how much she's just like the others: cold and distant"... "I don't know. ...I've got some bad ideas in my head"... Dress like

Travis Bickle so I can self-parody my lonely image and empathy for this pop-culture loner.

I decided to go ahead and watch [Taxi Driver](#) (which I had gotten from the library earlier). Though I wasn't as psychologically burnt-out by the movie as I was during my first viewing of the film, I was still moved by De Nero's great portrayal of Travis Bickle. [Taxi Driver](#) is a very personal movie for me as well. I adore the scene where Travis goes out to ask Betsy out, but ends up ruining his chances on the first date by taking her to a porno theater. It was a superbly personal journal through a modern hellish dream of horror. I accepted Travis's calm, somewhat kindly human talkative side.

3-6-94: Like I had predicted last night, I did have strong feelings from watching [Taxi Driver](#). It was too shocking for plain words. It had everything: adult themes, harsh language, nudity, sexual situations, everything. And, worst of all, the film did have a large emotional impact on me, just like it did on William Hinckley Jr., the guy who tried to kill Reagan to impress Jodie Foster. Hell, Jodie was barely in the film at all. I can see why the film nearly got an "X" rating. The climatic end was gory and gruesome. I'm not sure if there was something to learn from the film. It just showed that violence was a way to express yourself. Thank God my mother was absent. She would have been shocked. I even pushed my dad out of the room when he wanted me to see what he did with the tree we cut down. I wanted to have my privacy. I kept telling my sisters to be quiet when they passed through the room. Anyway, it's damn sunny and bright like a spring afternoon should be like. Ironic that I spent it watching [Taxi Driver](#) and [Rebecca](#) so I could dare myself to be different. Ha ha ha. Actually, I didn't have anyone to spend time with today, so movies were my companions and teachers.

I feel alienated like Travis Bickle in [Taxi Driver](#). In that fascinating article about that movie, a 1976 critic wrote: "[Taxi Driver](#)... is definitely not suitable for the squeamish, the impressionable, the very young, or the emotionally disturbed." It seems that I missed that wise advice. Now this movie's harsh reality remains in my memory (and emotions), possibly forever.

[Taxi Driver](#) DVD: "New York Gothic"... This was Martin Scorsese's "documentary of the mind"... "This movie was not about loneliness - but rather self-imposed loneliness"... Paul Schrader: "You may think that the pain you are going through is unique, but hundreds of thousands of young men are going through the exact same pain. I went through it; the people who made this movie went through it. When you see this movie, you recognize it. The beauty of recognizing it is that you realize that you are not alone."

[Taxi Driver](#): Since the last time I watched this movie I wrote down all the things I empathized with Travis Bickle, I'll note what qualities I am not like him: I don't watch porno movies, drink excessively, have little education, and act socially inept.

[Taxi Driver](#): I rediscovered why this movie scared me so when I first saw it: Travis Bickle is a young man without much direction in his life, or love, or friends. He keeps a daily journal like I've been doing since I was 16. Just this lonely, kindly loner who works really long hours each day because there isn't much else to do... "When I take the cab back to the station, I have to wipe the cum off the back seats"... This movie could have been called "Vincent van Gogh working as a New York City Taxi Driver". "The days just keep going on and on... they don't end... all my life all I needed was a sense of some place to go."

"The AFI Salute to Robert De Niro": "There was quite a lot of people who identified with Travis Bickle. Many people felt alienation living in New York."

"You never got me down, Ray. You never got me down..." –Dialogue from Robert De Nero in [Raging Bull](#).

-Al Pacino/ "Michael Corleone"/ [The Godfather Saga](#)

"Al Pacino: Biography": His real education came at the movies... Pacino exerts desperation, passionate, and brooding urgency to the characters he plays. That is why I adore him. "I am startled by the power of his emotions"... "He was terribly shy. And that was what made him so attractive." Pacino would lose himself in his work, which made relationships difficult. He is very afraid of commitments and settling down. He threw himself into his work.

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Al Pacino": "Coping with shyness"... "My mother never lived to see me achieve my success"... "Actors, who seem really extroverted, are actually very introverted"... An affinity for offbeat characters... "The characters I've played are paintings, they're impressions."

[AFI Lifetime Achievement Awards: Al Pacino](#): "His insane passion and enthusiasm"... "Al transcends acting"... "You're van Gogh"... "I need a character to slip into so I can relax and go with that."

[The Godfather Part II](#): By being around the presence of greatness, I am fueled by inspiration. No *fucking* wonder that I watch so many four star movies. The deepest of emotions and feelings come out of me while I watch an emotionally wired movie. To support my confidence and art, I can rent [The Godfather Part II](#) or any movie in any city I move to. I don't have to stay in one place to work and live. Some artists smoke pot for creative inspiration; I watch movies... "Senator, we're part of the same hypocrisy"... Vito lost his job because of corruption... Now he has guts and nothing to lose... "I knew it was you, Fredo. You broke my heart. *You broke my heart!*"... I've always fascinatingly identified with Al Pacino's Michael Corleone. He is a man of power, determination, focus, emotional coolness, vision, and explosive repressed emotions deep inside. His personal life is completely secondary to business. I become almost possessed by his hypnotic, intense character. Why not? Who do you look up to in this competitive world? Michael is strength over weaker individuals. He represents power. I respected his presence so deeply I became him for as long as I could. Unlike me, Michael doesn't make *jokes*. He's always serious. You never see him making wisecracks. Though people surround him, he is still a loner at heart. Unhappy with my own

persona, I took his as my model.

-Dustin Hoffman

"Dustin Hoffman: Bravo Profiles": "He craved for the recognition that he craved for since he was a child"... "Make your performance personal"... "It was pleasurable to get things out of me that was painful" –Dustin Hoffman on his role as a divorcee in Kramer Vs. Kramer.

"When you're a broke artist, you can't work." -Dustin Hoffman.

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Dustin Hoffman": "Going to the movies was a sanctuary for me so I could get away from my household"... "Sometimes when you're acting you just have to *do it*. You have to break through the artistic impotence"... "You need to allow yourself the freedom to fail when doing a take. There's nothing wrong with that when you're acting in a movie where you get plenty of takes."

-Marlon Brando

Notes from *Brando: The Biography* by Peter Manso: "There are, it is true, those who lie consciously, coldly falsifying reality itself, but more numerous are those who weigh anchor, move off, momentarily or forever, from genuine memories, and fabricate for themselves a convenient reality. The past is a burden to them; they feel repugnance for the things done or suffered, and tend to replace them with others. The substitution may begin in full awareness, with an invented scenario, mendacious, restored, but less painful than the real one, in repeating its description to others but also to themselves, the distinction between true and false progressively loses its contours, the man ends by fully believing the story he has told so many times and still continues to tell, polishing and retouching here and there the details which are least credible or incongruous or incompatible with the acquired picture of historically accepted events: initial bad faith has become good faith. The silent transition from falsehood to self-deception is useful: anyone who lies in good faith is better off, he recites his part better, is more easily believed by the judge, the historian, the reader, his wife and his children." –Primo Levi, *the Drowned and the Saved*... "Now the myth that had long lingered in the American consciousness was shattered, replaced by this saddening persona: Marlon Brando, his weight in excess of three-hundred pounds, a confused and weary man burdened by guilt and self-reproach, confessing his failure as a father. How had this happened? How had this previously powerful, charismatic figure become the embodiment of regret and depression? What had brought America's quintessential rebel in this dark abyss of misery?"... "He was a very sad boy – all alone, really – and early on he started reaming of success as his revenge"... "Clairvoyantly sensitive"... "Beneath his boosterism, she also saw his quiet sadness and mistakenly interpreted it as a sign of depth or sensitivity"... "Bohemians and oddballs in its midst"... "From the start she had little use for her conventional neighbors – 'the tea-drinking Republicans'"... "She was so frustrated and felt trapped. She was creative and didn't have an outlet. She was also starting to neglect the kids, which made her feel guilty"... "She also used to quip, 'I'm the greatest actress *not* on the American stage'"... "The parents' drinking led to arguments, which the kids often witnessed"... "He wanted to win at everything"... "But just as important, each boy found in the other an antidote to his own individual pain"... "I don't remember whether he eventually dumped her or she dumped him, although it might have been mutual. She knew she couldn't have any sort of life with him. He had a terrible reputation, and she realized that he was probably using her. Still, she couldn't let go"... "They were immediately perceived as 'different' outsiders with something of an air of mystery to them"... "There were few social gatherings except for church suppers. Few of the high school students went on to college. They simply found local job, married, and fit in. Conservatism and conformity – values that neither Dodie nor her teenage son Bud were likely to appreciate – were the abiding norms"... "The thick midwestern humidity"... "He was a slow, uncertain reader. To hid his embarrassment when asked to read aloud in class, he adopted an irritating slur that was bound to put a teacher's back up"... "In class, Bud routinely stared into space"... "He was 'always looking, always hunting with his eyes'"... "I remember the only time I ever told him off – which I still feel wonderful about"... "Resolutely, the kids kept their pain to themselves. Bud was even more sensitive than his sisters. He didn't speak at all about the violence when his father occasionally lost his temper"... "Talking about the hard or hurtful things you sometimes have to do"... "He separated the 'good girls' (like Carmelita), who couldn't fulfill his needs, from others whom he considered sexually available. Even then, his libido was boundless, and he seemed to have one thing in mind"... "There was an incredibly high level of sexuality. I connected this highly sexed individual with creativity, with a certain kind of primal energy. There was naturally excess energy and it either went into fucking or into art"... "A prank with a point"... "If he really wanted to become an actor, he would have to work at it"... "Marlon would mention to his friends that there were times when he and his father had nearly come to blows"... "They were very close and then they were estranged"... "He's the most keenly aware, the most empathetical human being alive. He's aware and he *knows*, he just knows"... "Their acting sessions amounted to therapy"... "One endearing aspect of Marlon's sex life was his attraction to less pretty women – the underdogs. One a social level, the attention he paid to these women was part of his persona, but it was also real"... "Elaine was clearly among the more talented students, but she was shy and had trouble participating in social life"... "The weirdest people"... "His feelings of abandonment, resentment, fear – the whole dependency cycle – would snap into place"... "There was concern about his stability, that he might just self-destruct or disappear"... Walking out on stage and acting with an erection... "Most members of the company dismissed the affair with Stella as 'a teacher-student fling'"... "Ellen never hid her infatuation"... "Art was his religion"... "Straight, gay, rich, poor, it didn't matter. It was, 'We're artists, we're somehow removed'"... "Prying him open, whipping him to get out of that introverted shell he was in. Like a psychic geyser, the energy was ready to explode"... "Vulnerability, loneliness, inaccessibility, all were part of his appeal"... "1946 had been a comparatively successful year for Marlon. Yet his personal life had continued in the same chaotic, haphazard way – if anything, growing more conflicted and unfocused"... "Finally, the

father says, 'Well, you can fuck her but you can't marry her'... "His silences were taken as profound"... "His sex life as 'astonishing'. It could be a ballet dancer, a model, an aspiring actress; a girl as young as fifteen, or even, occasionally, an older, wealthy socialite. But they all shared the same passive, superficial type of personality. "They were usually plastic. Of course, Marlon could perceive very quickly whether they had any dominance in them, and if they did you wouldn't see that girl in his company anymore. All he had to do was get a message that they might make some claim or try to control him and that was the end of it"... "He had slept with practically everybody I knew"... "Everything was a matter of control for the young Brando"... "One of his 'fuck friends'"... "It moved him to sleep with lesbians because he wanted to 'explore'"... "Tales of the many abortions that supposedly resulted from his carelessness; if anything, the fact that he was ready to take care of his problems, 'buying people abortions one after the other'"... "There were hundreds of them"... "Eventually everyone had 'sort of a nervous breakdown'"... "His animal magnetism"... "There are no 'good' or 'bad' people. Some are a little better or a little worse but all are activated more by misunderstanding than malice. A blindness to what is going on in each other's hearts. Stanley sees Blanche not as a desperate, driven creature, backed into a last corner to make a last desperate stand – but as a calculating bitch with 'round heels.'... Nobody sees anybody truly but all through the flaws of their own egos. That is the way we all see each other in life"... "Clift had introduced a kind of passion that was on the immature side, primarily adolescent, filled with wonder and longing"... "It took me a long time before I was aware that that's what I was – a big success. I was so absorbed in myself, in my own problems, I never looked around, took account"... "He really hadn't changed, but the world around him was being pretty crazy about him"... "Embarrassment was part of his response to his son's new power, too"... "Dodie was perceptive enough to understand that much of her son's eccentric behavior – including his anger and tension, and the anxiety attacks he was now reporting – had its origin in the Brando's family life"... "Bud himself complained of vague pains in his lower back, feelings of panic, fear of heart trouble, insomnia, and gas in the bowel – all symptoms of the stress and anxiety from which he was suffering during the first year of *Streetcar's* run"... "As much as visits home may have helped relax him, back in New York Marlon still had to deal with stardom, and at times it seemed to torture him"... "By the end of 1948, Brando was nearly cracking under the strain. He wasn't sleeping and was worried about his heart and his frequent panic attacks"... "Brando said she was into a heavy Jesus trip and he was her Christ. She wanted to wash his feet. Brando agreed, and became aroused when she did. 'I started feeling her body, undressing her, playing with her tits. She got all trembly, started shaking. I got excited and tried to fuck her. I don't remember if I did or not, if I got it in or not, because she was just shaking like a leaf'"... "Acting was always very painful for Marlon because of that incredible sense of truth he had"... "His paralyzing anxiety attacks"... "Despite his celebrity, Marlon still dressed and acted as if nothing had changed"... "At the opposite end of Brando's emotional spectrum"... "Stricken with emotion"... "He was simply overpowering – not by design, but because he was so immersed in his part. More and more he attacked his lines. With half-formed interjections, expressive grunts, and a sense of timing that subsumed syntax, he could dive into the middle of a scripted "emotion," emitting an intensity that was little short of what he's projected in the Williams play"... "Emotional coloration"... "Marlon declared that their relationship was 'dead'"... "Perhaps he was simply bored with the Hollywood game"... "The Jewish cowboys"... "Don't be misled by all the shit in the script about how he loves his wife," Kazan said. "He has no need for a special woman. Women are to be used, knocked up, and left... Don't mix it up with love, as we use the word. He loves his *compadres*. They are ready to die for him, and he would do anything for them"... "She didn't complicate his life or so he thought"... "She was like a sexual tuning fork"... "Every actor is competitive"... "Mason, depressed and embarrassed by the brilliance of his compatriot"... "Try to understand his pain. He's got to have pain"... "She was an 'earth mother'"... "IN *Julius Caesar* he had never worked harder or more freely abandoned that "fragile, shy thing" he called self"... "The specific problem was the suggestion that social pressures and dead-end jobs drove adolescents to violence"... "Hey, I'm a Method actor. I have to be out of breath"... "In between reminiscences, fantasies, and philosophical speculations"... "Marvin was threatened by Brando's 'sensitivity'"... "Frustrated and bitter, Marlon publicly agreed that the picture had missed its mark"... "Using the Nietzschean mantra "What doesn't kill you will only make you stronger"... "The film had left him feeling so cold that he talked about "doing a Gauguin" by taking off for the South Pacific or going back to Nebraska"... "His attempt at comedy was embarrassing, his timing conspicuously off as he played emotions too broadly"... "He was "furious, very, very affected" by the critics"... "What happened to Brando during the filming and what he achieved in his performance gave new meaning to the Freudian chestnut 'Art is a correction of neurosis'"... "He made his pitch even more pointedly. "Professional is one thing. Politics is another. Separate them. After twenty minutes he rose and got Kazan on the phone, telling him to come to the deli to make peace"... "The glove scene happened because I actually accidentally dropped the glove. When Marlon picked it up and put it on his hand, that became the catalyst for me to stay in the scene. Before, I'd felt awkward, dishonest, wondering why I was talking to him, thinking I ought to just walk off. Once he had the glove, I wanted it back, so there was a reason for me to stay"... "Maybe we sensed that each of us was very private. It was as if we were safe *for* each other"... "His immersion in Terry's half feminine, half "tough guy" character"... "The moment is Terry's turning point, little less than an epiphany"... "Mirroring a pain"... "You don't understand! I coulda been a contender. I coulda had class and been somebody. Real class. Instead of a bum. Let's face it, which is what I am. It was *you*, Charley"... "Finding an antidote to anger, or at least "permission" to package his rage in a way that he had never tried before. Kazan's patience and Schulberg's script were sure ingredients, but it was mainly Saint – or, more properly, her embodiment of a midwestern decency from which he had been fleeing all his life – that was somehow making it possible"... "Psychologically, he was in worse shape than ever"... "Brando's conflicts with his bisexuality"... "No one knew what was going on, though. Marlon rarely, if ever, talked"... "When he did socialized, his anxiety at parties was already legendary"... "The reasons for these attacks were many, but from his sessions with Mittelmann he knew that the immediate problem was Movita. By Christmastime he's already told Carlo that he was planning a split. Marriage, he pointed out, just wasn't his "bag". Movita had stubbornly followed him east after *The Wild One*, and despite

their friction in California, once in Manhattan she'd set to making a home in the apartment. She cooked, she cleaned, and she even put up with Russell the raccoon. For Marlon the problem was that she was becoming "too intense." He never liked to be held on to. She got too wifey, and it made him very uncomfortable. Marlon can't handle a real woman"... "Who'd want to get involved with somebody who fucked everything in sight?"... "It was the usual collection of secretaries, salesgirls, and acting students"... "Despite all the other women, he still couldn't let go of Movita. Part of it was sex, as she was reputedly, "extremely practical" in bed"... "*On the Waterfront* has the substance of full-blown cinema art"... "Marlon found he could not go on without his therapist"... "He explained his regret that his mother hadn't lived to share his triumph"... "Brando's performance was calculatedly eccentric"... "Mr. Dean appears to be wearing my last year's wardrobe and using my last year's talent"... "In fact Brando and Monroe had resumed their affair"... "His *private* virgin"... "You have my condolences"... "You see, I've become a star." – "Put on some more clothes, Marilyn. And stop moving your ass so much"... "Fairy-tale gangsters"... "Pain makes man think, thought makes man wise, wisdom makes life endurable"... "We were already speculating about the illegitimate children, and by the time Marlon went to Tahiti in 1960, we thought there might be ten or twelve illegitimate kids all over New York, Los Angeles, points west, England, and the islands – particularly the islands, since later there was a Hawaiian girl"... "Thirty-five years old and devoting his life to fucking women"... "Marlon, you'd fuck a snake"... "Writing Anna long, handwritten letters that mirrored his loneliness, his longing for warmth"... "Compulsive phantasies [*sic*]"... "A very passionate person"... "It was touching, it was sad. Brilliant as he was as an actor, there was still this gaping hole"... "The secret to the art of interviewing – and it is an art – is to let the other person think he's interviewing you. You tell him about yourself, and slowly you spin your web so that he tells you everything. That's how I trapped Marlon." Later, Brando would agree. "The little bastard spend half the night telling me all about his problems. I figured it was the least I could do to tell him a few of mine"... "He told too many secrets to Capote"... "I was afraid of it at first. Afraid it might destroy the impulses that made me creative, an artist. A sensitive person receives fifty impressions where somebody else may only get seven. Sensitive people are so vulnerable; they're so easily brutalized and hurt because they *are* sensitive"... "You've got to have love. There's no other reason for living... That has been my main trouble. My inability to love anyone.... I can't. Love anyone. I can't trust anyone enough to give myself to them. But I'm ready. I want it. And I may, I'm almost on the point"... "It was moving, confused, heartfelt, and also nonsensical, adding up to a portrait of the actor as a trouble young man"... "I tried so hard. But my love wasn't enough. She couldn't care enough. She went back. And one day... I didn't care any more"... "He emotionally shattered that night"... "Marlon was too emotional a guy, too much of a loner"... "It was very simple. Marlon related to Jocelyn. Whatever it was, there was a deep emotional connection. He might disappear out of her life and then reappear when there was a need, *his* need"... "She said he wanted to control her and they would fight – when she refused to let him have his way"... "It was Good Samaritan time"... "I was what he considered a 'genuine' person. He was at the height of his stardom, very lonely and neurotic, and it was a nightmare for him"... "All the girls in the train raped him"... "He'd withdrawn"... "Suddenly she wasn't who she thought she was and that caused a breakdown. It was crazy and delusional and very sad"... "The withdrawal continued for days"... "Brando suffering 'intellectual boredom' because his wife 'just can't keep up with him mentally'"... "Reporters are all scum. Hired buffoons. Scribblers. Assassins"... "One of the first things Brando did upon moving in was to post a sign on the gate of his new home: 'UNLESS YOU HAVE AN APPOINTMENT, UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES DISTURB THE OCCUPANT'"... "How could you play a Nazi like Jesus Christ?"... "'Overwhelmed' by his new son"... "He was usually alone and had a book on Zen with him"... "Years later Marlon himself would clumsily explain that he had known the marriage was over a month after their wedding"... "Fuck the time, fuck the money"... "The beauty of nature"... "He also worried that his friends were using him for money, influence, or status"... "The film introduced him to Tahiti, the Edenic paradise that would become his refuge from Hollywood and the symbol of his hopes for the future"... "Nothing more fully embodied the sweet ease of Polynesia than the Tahitian girls' faces, bodies, motions, and perfumes"... "Everyone was gaga"... "Sex to a Tahitian is merely an uncomplicated part of their way of life"... "He was screwing like mad... in a sexual Shangri-la and freedom he'd never know before"... "Marlon the marvelous manipulator"... "One classic measure of intelligence is a person's ability to learn from the mistakes of the past, and Marlon is certainly deficient in this area. At times like this, he had absolutely no sense of responsibility and seemed out of control – this was the usual pattern of a manic depressive"... "Coldwater Canyon"... "Who represented a combination alter ego, soul mate, and surrogate father"... "These gatherings as 'group therapy sessions'"... "Not long after Marilyn's death, another woman in Brando's life attempted suicide"... "Realized that their affair would never lead to marriage, much less any kind of commitment, his women seemed bent either on ending it all or recapturing his attention by any means at their disposal"... "Strangers tell me after a television appearance that I am entirely different than they had imagined"... "Marlon was also busy putting out another fire in his personal life"... "It seemed clear that even at this late date, their differences hadn't been resolved. Probably more important, neither father nor son recognized their similarities, especially the primitive, childhood sense of loneliness and betrayal that each had felt in his own way. Jocelyn sensed that her father was mellowing with age. "When he was over sixty he began to realize that he was getting old," she said. "I think he wanted to get close to us, but by then it was really too late. By that time, we didn't care... [There was] too much water under the bridge, especially with Bud, because Papa had been much sterner with him"... "Women with intellectuals are bad fucks. I can tell you wouldn't be any good because you're much too uptight, too neurotic. You think too much"... "He was tortured and miserable"... "Exactly *why* she called was unclear – compassion, her lingering need for approval, even unacknowledged attraction, all were possible motives"... "Brando had suddenly opened up, confessing his own despair and hopelessness: "Here I am, balding, middle-aged failure.... I feel a fraud when I act.... I've tried everything... fucking, drinking, work. None of them mean anything. Why can't we just be like – like the Tahitians?"... "Taunting her for being an intellectual snob, and having two houses in Massachusetts and living among artists, writers, composers, and psychoanalysts"... "I was hurt, but I kept it to myself"... "His father's death

must have deepened his sense of loss and hopelessness during these mouths"... "He encountered a soul mate, a life force"... "The crowd of Dylan groupies"... "The acting styles of Chaplin and Brando were utterly incompatible"... "He was a mean man, Chaplin," the actor later asserted. "Sadistic. I saw him torture his son. Humiliating him, insulting him, making him feel ridiculous, incompetent"... "But you always have to separate the man from the talent. A remarkable talent but a monster of a man"... "Marlon's women"... "If an emotional fog had shrouded Brando's last ten years, others remembered them all too well. They suspected – as Brando may have himself – that he had so cut himself off from authentic emotions that he would never again be able to reach down and come up with the intense and electrifying performances of his past. His masks and manipulations, it seemed, had replaced any inner core, very much as if he were lost"... "Brando, like many people, seemed to be radicalized by King's assassination (because he had spoken against the Vietnam War)"... "And that was the end of my relationship with Marlon. We didn't talk from that time on. I wanted to, but I never had the chance"... "Brando's therapy at the time was an on-again, off-again proposition, reportedly involving occasional sessions with not one with several psychoanalysts"... "He had told her that through therapy he had found ways of "holding in his anger, his love and hate for his mother, his fury at his father, his sexual confusions – all those forces that could be called neuroses or psychoses"... "He described feeling a surge of power or energy that just obliterated him. I knew exactly what he was talking about, because with that kind of experience it's as if you lose our whole personal identity and your ego totally disappears. You feel as if you're in a fountain of ecstasy, fireworks in the sky, but you *are* the fireworks [caught] inside this totally consuming fire"... "I had always thought he could go crazy, especially because he always had this need to control everyone and everything in his environment"... "They agreed that she was probably incapable of understanding their nonsexual intimacy"... "Depression is often a sign of anger turned inward"... "Marlon's pent-up fury, the inner aggression that so often plagued and frightened him, came spilling out"... "Marlon became a different person when he was there, reveling in the natural beauty, energized by the adventure, and, like a young boy, amusing himself with "roughing it" outdoors"... "He often described his dream of establishing a utopian community"... "He had decided to 'give up Hollywood. My life is going to be this island'"... "It wasn't just that he was overweight. I sensed a real loss of focus and intensity in him. He seemed depressed, and I didn't feel the concentration and energy I'd seen in him before"... "Pain. Pain. Pain. Pain"... "That's my son. He's a brooder"... "Marlon's a creative rememberer"... "It would be another several months before Coppola and Evans, cutting and recutting over 500,000 feet of film, would know what they had"... "He felt shy, overawed"... "Marlon's emotional storm, which had been gathering since the summer. Brando himself had reached some sort of "critical mass", which more than likely underlay the extraordinary isolation and loneliness of the character he was about to play in *Tango*"... "Wanting to explore questions of isolation, despair, and sexual obsession through Brando's character, he asked the actor about his memories of his childhood, his feelings about his parents, his deepest sexual fantasies"... "He was fascinated by the risk, and afraid of the sense of violation of his privacy"... "I make documentaries on actors. All my films are documentaries on my actors. I follow them. I let them do what they want"... "Describing the film as his personal cathartic"... "Why don't you really let it all hang out, explore what your problems are, just as Shakespeare did with *Hamlet*? That's why *Tango* mattered to him"... "We're watching a fine actor exercise his talent for what looks like the great joy of it, because, after all, it's there"... "Prompted the emotion"... "He decided to confront her head-on"... "I suspect that what was at work here was a multilayered murkiness of self-hatred"... "Miss American Vampire of 1970"... "It was private, just the two of us. He told me that if anyone asked about the two of us together – our relationship – I should say that it was just based on mutual interest and that was it"... "She was already feeling 'like a sacrificial lamb'"... "I honestly think he cannot relate to reality"... "Brando gave him an ultimatum: Do better in school or go to work in a gas station. Marlon liked to scare, and in this case he wanted to scare Christian good"... "Owned a private atoll in the South Pacific"... "At Wounded Knee he'd been mesmerizing. 'I'm not going to die in a car wreck on some lonely road... because I've been drinking to escape the oppression of this goddamn society.... I'm going to die fighting for my treaty rights'"... "His development of the atoll represented another attempt to exorcise his personal demons and find something approaching a private peace"... "I use my rage, my entire catalog of human emotions"... "He was grossly overweight and recognizing his depression he returned to therapy"... "Your life smells of tragedy"... "I love Marlon, but he set this in motion a long time ago. The wheel has come full circle"... "He wants to control my perceptions"... "I have always been the "sacrifice" of Marlon Brando, his lamb for sacrifice, for his own personal happiness"... "His dreams of a private, peaceful kingdom had been destroyed, and all that was left was a self-made prison where he could take upon himself "the mystery of things, as if we were God's spies," and ask of his own Cordelia for forgiveness."

Notes from "Brando: Songs My Mother Taught Me": "When Poppa wasn't beset by his inner irrational fears, he could be sweet and loving and considerate, amusing and amused, charming and sensitive, and then all this could be blotted out by black moods, thunderous silences, and anger that could burst out furiously over what seemed to us to be minor infractions. It was a lonely, friendless household. I don't think Poppa wanted to be such an abusive person, but he had no means to escape the consequences of the abuse and abandonment that he had suffered"... "When she left, I felt my dreams die"... "From that day forward, I became estranged from this world"... "I also began to stammer, so noticeably that I was taken to Northwestern University for speech therapy, where I was treated unsuccessfully"... "Like all recollections, my memories of those times are colored by later events and distorted by the blurred prism through which my mind now chooses to examine my life. I have learned that it is easy to convince yourself that an event occurred and a certain way when it did not – to think you know exactly what happened until someone tells you, 'No, that never happened. You weren't even there.' We all invent things in our minds and can be astounded to learn they really didn't happen the way that they are recalled. So as I reflect on my life in these pages, I advise the reader of my limitations and the fallibility of my brain"... "As I look at these letters from Shattuck Military School, I am struck by the innocence, naiveté and dishonesty expressed by their author"... "It's the body of Christ," he said.

My first thought was, 'That sounds cannibalistic'... "She always wore delicious perfume"... "Everybody acts, whether it's a toddler who quickly learns how to behave to get its mother's attention, or a husband and wife in the daily rituals of a marriage, with all the artifices and role-playing that occur in a conjugal relationship. It's hard to imagine anyone surviving in our world without acting. It is a necessary social device: we use it to protect our interests and to gain advantage in every aspect of our lives, and it is instinctive, a skill built into all of us. Whenever we want something from somebody or when we want to hide something or pretend, we're acting. Most people do it all day long. When we don't feel the emotions someone expects of us and want to please them, we act out the emotion we think they expect of us; we're enthusiastic about their project even though it bores us. Someone says something that hurts our feelings but we hide our hurt. The difference is that most people act unconsciously and automatically, while stage and movie actors do it to tell a story. In fact, most actors, give their best performances after the camera stops rolling"... "I am endlessly absorbed by human motivations. How is it that we behave the way we do? What are those compulsions within us that drive us one way or another?"... "The face is an extraordinarily subtle instrument"... "None of us had emotionally secure family backgrounds, but we gravitated to each other and created a family among ourselves. Orphans of the storm clinging together"... "I had a kind of nervous breakdown that came on gradually"... "I've always thought that one benefit of acting is that it gives actors a chance to express feelings that they are normally unable to vent in real life. Intense emotions buried inside you can come smoking out the back of your head, and I suppose in terms of psychodrama this can be helpful"... "Most actors hide behind the characters they play. It's a way of exploring life from a lot of other folks' point of view. It is exciting to get to 'be' all those other people without the responsibility for their actions"... "She thought Freddie in some ways was a victim of his friendship with me"... "I have always been suspicious of success, its pitfalls and how it can undo you"... "Once you are famous, everything and everybody changes. Even my father"... "He had a powerful emotional intensity, and, like me, he was troubled, something I empathized with"... "You've got to get some help. You can't take refuge in chemicals"... "In the grip of her delusion must have thought she was being seduced by Jesus Christ"... "I discovered that Elia Kazan was that rarest of directors, one with the wisdom to know when to leave actors alone. He understood intuitively what they could bring to a performance and he gave them freedom"... "Vanity, fear, desire, competition – all such distortions within our own egos – condition our vision of those in relation to us"... "He had been so disappointed in life that it was difficult for him to express love, but beneath his hostility lay a desperate yearning and desire to feel love because he'd had so little of it. I could have just as easily been describing myself"... "Pig intelligence has been widely overlooked"... "They'll be moved to tears, laughter, empathy, or experience truly deep dear, sometimes becoming frightened for days, perhaps years, by the memory of what they saw"... "Throughout my life I have always had a strong need to feel free. When I watched a movie about a character I heavily identified with, I saw myself and *experienced his feelings*. The emotional reverberation made the picture an extraordinary experience for me"... "Ultimately, I suppose that what makes people willing to part with their hard-earned cash and enter a theater is that it allows them to savor a variety of human experiences without having to pay the normal price for them"... "It's true that I always hated conformity because it breeds mediocrity"... "I have spent almost seven decades examining every aspect of my life trying to understand the forces that made me what I am"... "I thought about becoming a minister, not because I was a religious person, other than having an inexhaustible awe and reverence for nature, but because I thought it might give me more of a purpose in life"... "He was a merry drunk, full of laughter and fun, but underneath an unhappy, lonely man"... Miscasting in a severe surreal league: Marlon Brando cast as a Chinaman?... "Memories and myths were all they had to cling to"... "I was cold, correct and logical. I told him that he was directly responsible for making my sisters alcoholics and that he was cold, unloving, selfish, infantile, terminally despicable and self-absorbed. In three hours I did what in thirty-three years I had never been able to do, yet the whole time I was scared. I had always been overwhelmed and intimidated by him, but the more I talked, the more strength and conviction I gained of my rightness and justification. Afterward, I called everybody in the family and told them what I had done and they congratulated me. But inside I felt tremendous aftershocks from what I had done. I thought the sky was going to fall on me because of what I had said. After that, I always kept my father on a tight leash so that he could never come near me and never get too far away. I had him under control and never let him go"... "*I did the best I could, kid*"... "Like us, he had been left as a child to fend for himself emotionally as best he could. As I've said before, I don't believe any of us is born evil. We are all products of our childhoods and genetic and environmental forces over which we have little control"... "Ultimately I realized that I would have to forgive my father if I was ever going to be able to get on with my life"... "Charlie Chaplin wasn't born evil. Like all people, he was the sum of his genetic inheritance and the experiences of a lifetime. We are all shaped by our own miseries and misfortunes. He knew what was touching, funny, sad, pathetic and heroic; he knew how to tap the emotions of his audiences to arouse them, and he had an intuitive knowledge of the workings of the human personality. But he never learned enough to understand his own character"... "If I met a man who had a certain kind of overt masculinity, he became my enemy. I would find his weakness, then exploit it. I adopted his manner and made a fool of him"... "Most of my life, I weighed about 170 pounds, though when I had my nervous breakdown in New York, I dropped to 157. After forty, my metabolism shifted gears"... "She was the ideal embedded in the emotional concrete of my soul. Once I lost her, I suppose I spent most of the rest of my life trying to find her. Along with my mother, Ermi may also have had a lot to do with my refusal – or was it my inability? – to trust women after I grew up. If you've never had warmth, love or affection, it is hard to give it, or if you've had it and it has been stolen from you, if you think you've been rejected and abandoned, you fear being hurt again"... "After that, I always wanted several women in my life at the same time as an emotional insurance policy to protect myself from being hurt again. Because I didn't want to be hurt again, I found it difficult to love and to trust"... "Like my mother and grandmother, she had a sense of the absurd, thought the outrageous and imposed no limits on her imagination"... "Most of my life, I was a very jealous person, but I tried hard to hide it. I'm different now; I've realized that jealousy is a pointless, wasteful emotion I can't afford, but it wasn't easy for me to give up the emotions of a lifetime"... "A would-be actress with more ambition than

talent"... "We refuse to think of ourselves as a nation that committed genocide"... "*Last Tango in Paris* required a lot of emotional arm wrestling with myself, and when it was finished, I decided that I wasn't ever again going to destroy myself emotionally to make a movie. I felt I had violated my innermost self and didn't want to suffer like that anymore. As noted earlier, when I've played parts that required me to suffer, I had to *experience* the suffering. You can't fake it. You have to find something within yourself that makes you feel pain, and you have to keep yourself in that mood throughout the day, saving the best for the close-up"... "It took the Vatican more than three hundred years to admit that Galileo was right, and some things about the world haven't changed"... "I can draw no conclusions about my life because it is a continually evolving and unfolding process. I don't know what is next"... "I suppose the story of my life is a search for love, but more than that, I have been looking for a way to repair myself from the damages I suffered early on and to define my obligations, if I had any, to myself and my species. Who am I? What should I do with my life? Though I haven't found answers, it's been a painful odyssey, dappled with moments of joy and laughter"... "My sense of empathy remains undiminished, but I apply it in a different manner. Through meditation and self-examination I feel that I am coming closer to discovering what it means to be human, and that the things I feel are the same that everybody else feels. We are all capable of hatred and of love"... "I have not achieved the wisdom of why I am alive, and I take large comfort in the knowledge that I never will"... "If I had been loved and cared for differently, I would have been a different person. I went through most of my life afraid of being rejected and ended up rejecting most of those who offered me love because I was unable to trust them"... "In my twenties I always wanted to be the best, but now I truly don't care. I've quit comparing myself with other people. I don't worry if somebody is more talented than I am or if people invent vicious stories about me; I understand that they're people not unlike myself who are just trying to pay the rent and who close their eyes to the vulgarity of their deeds. I realize they are doing it for their own reasons"... "I also finally realized that I had to forgive my father or I would be entrapped by my hatred and anguish for the rest of my life. If I didn't forgive him for the things he had done to all of us, I would never be able to forgive myself for the things I have done and felt guilty about and responsible for. Now I have forgiven him and myself, though I realize that to forgive with your mind is not always to forgive in your heart"... "There isn't an end to this story."

Listen to Me Marlon: "Throughout his lifetime Marlon Brando made hundreds of hours of private audio recordings"... "Actors aren't going to be real. They're going to be inside a computer"... "Sanity and a sense of reality that is taken away from you by success"... "He's collecting bits of information here, odd bits of film to help explain why you are this way"... Black and white autumn footage... "*You are the memories*"... "I had a strong sense in my life that I had to be free"... "I always had an unquenchable curiosity about people"... "Is there an answer?"... "Something that will give you a sense of fulfillment"... "I felt dumb"... "You don't act with words. You act with your soul"... "Be in a state of honesty up there (on the stage)"... "Allowing yourself to feel things. To feel rage"... "Acting is surviving"... "She taught me a love for nature"... "My mother was an alcoholic"... "Memories filled with shame and anger"... "The world is going to hear from you"... "I was quite nutty when I was young"... "Those drums would just take me to another land!"... "I was destined to spread my seed far and wide"... "I remember my father hitting my mother when I was fourteen." That memory fuels the rage in his acting performances in "A Streetcar Named Desire"... "If I wasn't an actor, I would have been a con man. Telling lies"... "I might as well put as much of my energies into becoming as good of an actor as I can"... "In film when you are in close-up, your face is the stage of the theater. It is the arch"... "Find the truth of that moment"... "Everything is a cliché"... "Knock them out with a look. Be surprising"... "Then you feel whole and you feel good"... "I just happened to be in the right place at the right time with the right state of mind"... "One of the reasons I admire you is that you're not afraid of being yourself"... "You don't always know when you're good"... "The audience is there in that theater with their fantasies. The person is doing all the things you want to do. They are kissing the girl you want to kiss. They will create things that are not there"... The facets of Marlon Brando... "The audience is doing the acting. Everything *feels* like they can be a contender"... "We played an act in front of each other. I played the loving son and he played the adoring parent"... "When I went to a movie, I would escape everything. That sense of good feeling - that got me through the week"... "They look at you as if an animal in the zoo. Celebrity removes you from reality"... "I hate not being just an ordinary person"... Marlon Brando is audio recording his journals, his musings, his inner thoughts and feelings, his reflections, his dreams, his soul... "Everyone thinks that their love will be returned"... Marlon flirting with attractive female reporters... He's a massive womanizer... "I wanted to make pictures that were meaningful to me"... "I had a lot of loneliness. I spent most of my time in the library"... "You can't argue with somebody that's already made up their mind"... "There was a great deal of friction, confusion, desperation, disappointment, and disgust"... "What the fuck is all of this for?! Nobody is listening"... "I never made any great movies. There is no such thing as a great movie. There are no artists. We are businessmen. We are merchants"... "Money, money, money"... "I am really moved and motivated by things that occur that are unjust. I've always hated people trampling on other people"... "Martin Luther King Jr. knew he was going to get killed"... "Brando is a nigger-lovin' creep"... "Have you considered that you might be in danger of bodily harm yourself?" - "...yes..."... "We're talking about human relations and human rights. And that's why I *care*"... Tahiti gave him a sense of peace... "Tahitians didn't care who you were and what you do. They were very warm, loving people. In Tahiti, all these kids' minds are filled with love"... "The nightmare that the white man lives in. The nightmare of the want of things"... "I want to make enough money to say 'fuck you' to money"... "I was giving time as an actor. I only had to work three months of the year"... "Lying for a living. That's what acting is"... "We lie for peace. We lie for tranquility"... "We all act. Some people get *paid* for that"... "I've lost my audience"... "The sensitivity is too high"... "I used to think I'd never grown up"... "By the middle years, you realize that life is going away. I haven't done this. I haven't done that"... "It was demeaning for me to have to do a screen test"... "A protection against insignificance"... "I mumbled my way through it"... "Playing a gangster not as a bad guy, but as he was very gentle, a hero"... "Put a mirror up to nature"...

"Everything we do should reflect the atmosphere of our lives"... "The very private Marlon Brando"... "Bertolucci wants me to do a perfect, autobiographical sketch of myself in this film"... "Go deeper and deeper"... "You're (emotionally) naked, Marlon"... "We were taught that Indians are savage and vicious. Everything we have been taught about the American Indian is wrong"... "I don't think that Americans want to face the truth"... "We live by myths. We die by myths"... "I should be lit half shadow and half light. He could be mysterious"... "Why are you so frightened? Let the fear take you"... "Let the tension flow out of you"... Self Hypnosis #2"... "I've taken too many fucking punches. I don't want to be stressed anymore"... "Food was always a friend"... "If you hit her (my mother) again, I am going to kill you"... His son had been traumatized by a bitter divorce... "Another personal tragedy for actor Marlon Brando. His 25-year old daughter Cheyanne has committed suicide in her home in Tahiti"... "What a life"... "Everyone reaches a breaking point sooner or later"... "You've got to be your own analyst. If you cannot clearly look inwards, you will never be able to see outwards"... "I never tried to be like my father. Yet one inadvertently takes on the characteristics of one's parents"... "Everybody is capable of hatred. Everybody is capable of love"... "I've had moments of tranquility"... "Acting is just making stuff up"... "Life is a rehearsal. Life is an improvisation"... "Try to think of the most intimate moment you've had in your life"... A whole documentary that is about looking inward with introverted feelings and insights. Brando on Brando and life... "Marlon, listen to my voice. Just let go. Drift. Drift like a cloud in the sky"... "Now... until the next time. Sleep."

"Marlon Brando: Biography": "Animal magnetism... She was a disappointed woman because she didn't get to do what she wanted to do... They noticed how intense and sexual he was... He was in touch with all sorts of things: childhood upbringings, childhood resentments... He identified fiercely with the Jewish culture... Playing a serious role means feeding on one's emotional self... He started suffering fits of panic attacks... He worked because he had to prove something... He showed vulnerability and masculinity – he was woman and man... It was as if there was no one to prove himself to."

[On the Waterfront](#), the 1954 Best Picture starring the great Marlon Brando, was my video to watch. Eva Marie Saint was so frail and beautiful at the same moment, which was startlingly effective. Between the brutality and romance, a great movie immersed with a powerful story of brutal honesty.

[A Streetcar Named Desire](#) was an acting masterpiece. The intense emotions and reckless actions expressed by Vivien Leigh, Marlon Brando, and the rest tasted like brilliant flavors in my head. I've never heard people scream out dialogue as raw and dynamically real than in this movie. After such a masterpiece, I didn't feel that another movie would compare.

[A Streetcar Named Desire](#): "He's not like the others.... He has a sensitive look"... Human beings enraged with sensitivity and brutal desires -- "What else can I be?"... "I'm ashamed of how I perspire"... "You need someone -- and I need someone"... "I don't like realism. I like magic."

Burn!: "Anything the white man says is right"... "They may know how to sell sugar. But we are the ones who *cut* the cane!"... "The guerilla fights for an idea"... "He's a fine specimen"... Brando's intense eyes... "A myth is more dangerous because you can't kill a myth"... "It just seems madness"... "Your bags, sir?"

"I beat the army by being declared psycho-neurotic. They thought I was crazy. When I filled in their forms, under 'Race' I wrote: "Human." Under 'Colour': "It varies." –Marlon Brando.

[Brando](#): "I had seen something I had never seen before. I had related to a movie like I never had before"... "You were watching someone feel"... "He had a reputation of breaking hearts"... "He would pull out all the hurts from his childhood, which he had plenty"... "He wanted to possess women"... "He was the most sensual and tactile man"... "His father had produced a Frankenstein monster of Marlon"... "He had an obsession with expressing human suffering"... "He fell in love with Tahiti and the women of that area"... "He loved the innocence, the purity, the laughter of the Tahitian women. Nothing was depressing there"... "As I get older, I feel that a simpler way of life is a more wholesome way to go"... "It's devastating for me to be so much"... "He had nothing else left to say"... "He took pleasure of throwing people off balance"... "He loved to play with people. That was his nature"... "I want your anarchy"... Brando, the nonconformist... "He was constantly playful"... "He was more than a person. He should have been an element or something like that."

-Robert Duvall/ [The Apostle](#)

"Robert Duvall: Bravo Profiles": An Indie-spirit to take his money into his own films... He is the most passionate guy I've ever known... He's a deeply religious man. He has a deep, personal belief... He was just passionate about that type of project... He watched people's behavior... He is a very sensitive guy with a tough exterior look... He's full of contradictions... Try not to act... He's drawn to unconventional, not normal people... She fell in love with his intense blue eyes. He's been married three times. He knows how it feels to lose things and be by yourself. Everyone gets burned.

[The Apostle](#): "You're too much, Sonny"... he works four jobs a day, has three wives, 49 children, and 10 lives... "Some people talk to God; some scream at God"... I Love the Good People!

[The Apostle](#): "I am mad... I am confused" ... "Sometimes he talks to the Lord. Sometimes he yells at the Lord"... "You're too much."

[The Apostle](#): "If you can't give me back my wife, give me peace! I'm confused! I'm mad!!"

[Lonesome Dove](#): "There's nothing else to do around here anyway (but play cards and make love)"... "We all loved her, you know that"... "You're as pretty as the morning"... What a concept: bring back the 1880's whores dressed in their antique skirts and dresses in modern day times in the West... "I like the man because he's a philosopher"... "She never did like to stay

in one place for too long"... "None of those other cowboys had enough guts to go after a girl like her"... Robert Duvall – the feistiest gentleman in the West. My God, this man is a role model for me to get up, stand up for myself, be a man with the ladies (instead of a gentleman), and start *living*... "It ain't dyin' I'm talkin' about. It's livin'!"... "Jake liked to joke, but didn't like to work"... "Do you even *know* who we are?"... You're not afraid of whores, are you?... "It felt so good to think that you loved only me"... "I'd like a kiss"... Just what the world needs is a Robert Duvall nude scene... "You seem to have a feeling for music"... "They say you're a man of vision."

"I have to work. I need to work." –from a "People" magazine interview.

-George C. Scott/ Patton

It was from watching George C. Scott in *Patton* that convinced me to be a "leader" instead of a "follower" in life. His charismatic bravado hypnotized me. It was just too great of a high to not go out and take charge of life as much as Patton did. *Patton*: Deeply religious and violently profane, *fire and ice*... "My God, those boys will never lose their fear of me"... A man, a legend, born for war... "Rommel, you magnificent bastard! I read your book!"... I admire and empathize with this man. He is an obsessive like me... "Four Stars! A film monument of cinema!"... "We're not holding our position. We're not *holding anything!* We are always advancing"... "All right, you sons of bitches, you know how I feel"... Organ church music for a war movie... Believes himself to be a descendent of Alexander the Great! And he thinks himself a poet... "What about the Americans? Can't they have a hero, *too?*"... "All my life I've wanted to lead a lot of men in a desperate battle. Now I'm going to do it"... "Patton is a romantic warrior lost in contemporary times." He just wasn't made for these times... It's amazing how much I admire war anti-heroes like Patton and Laurence of Arabia. Where else can I go to meet such extraordinary, charismatic figures that I need in order to elevate my personality? I can't get *bravado* out of nothing! I need emotional beasts... men of legend and stature! Rebels – great individualists - with a flair for breaking the rules and triumphing even as outcasts. And perhaps even more importantly, I want to see the pain, the lows, the vulnerability, the humor, and the grace my role models also have so I can understand their range of emotions so I don't feel like I'm alone... "God, sometimes I feel alone"... "I feel that I am destined to achieve some great thing – what... I don't know"... "Monuments to the Stupidity of Man"... "The absence of war will kill him"... "All glory is fleeting"... Serenade your dates to the soundtrack to *Patton*.

Patton: "There will be no more battle fatigue in my command - that's an order."

Patton: "All my life I've been wanting to lead a body of men in a desperate battle. And now I'm going to do it"... "God, I... feel alone"... "I'm sick of sitting around this royal doghouse. I'm ready for a new assignment!"... "I have a lot of faults. But ingratitude isn't one of them. I owe you a lot"... "God help me I do love it so"... "You know, general, they can't tell when you're acting and when you're not." –"It's not important for them to know. It's only important for me to know"... "He too will be destroyed. The absence of war will kill him."

Patton: George C. Scott: "I must have watched thousands of feet of film per day on Patton. In a process of osmosis, I took it all in and absorbed it"... Patton's unorthodox beliefs in reincarnation... Competed in the 1912 Olympic games... "He was frustrated by the slow pace of his military career"... "It was war that put his career on the fast track"... "He came in to shake everything up"... The Poems of General George S. Patton. "He wrote these poems to bolster himself"... A character bigger than life. A rebel. The fanaticism of the character. The vulnerability. A guy out of place in his time except for the two years in World War Two.

I watched *Patton* from 8 to 11 o' clock, which featured an Oscar-winning performance of vulgar vigor by George C. Scott. His charismatic character rubbed off on me when my dad told me that the post office was raising the stamp prices, again. I reacted with, "Those jerks at the post office. They're so greedy...." That wasn't my attitude – *it was George C. Scott's "Patton"*. It was yet another powerful performance from a great movie psychologically influenced me. I wish I could use that character on my world forever before I fall asleep and lose it in a mess of dreams.

Patton: "Men, all this stuff you've heard about America not wanting to fight, wanting to stay out of the war, is a lot of horse dung. Americans traditionally love to fight. All real Americans love the sting of battle. When you were kids, you all admired the champion marble shooter, the fastest runner, big league ball players, the toughest boxers. Americans love a winner and will not tolerate a loser. Americans play to win all the time. I wouldn't give a hoot in hell for a man who lost and laughed. That's why Americans have never lost, and will never lose a war... because the very thought of losing is hateful to Americans." - George Patton.

All the great ones suffered from depression: Patton among others.

The Last Days of Patton: "It's not going to be easy. Keeping the peace is a battle, too"... "In times of peace, prepare for war"... Patton as administrator rather than warrior... "MacArthur just doesn't want the competition"... "With the German troops I'm holding and my own men, I could push the Russian troops all the way back to Moscow"... "You're my oldest friend"... "You're my oldest friend"... "Our friendship is one thing. Our professional relationship is another"... General Patton – semi-retired and obsolete?... "You'd like nothing more than to provoke a confrontation with the Russians"... "Those Russians are our allies!"... "It's your mouth, George. You never control it and you never could!"... "People think there is something wrong with you"... "I just have to face the facts. You're just no military governor"... "You're relieving me?!" – "I'm transferring you"... "That's something you've got to understand. The war is over!"... Ike relieving him of command was like an early death to Patton... "A paper army"... "It's one hell of a way for Ike to treat me"... "Their job is to write a lot of stuff that no one will ever read"... "If a man's done his best, what more is there?"... "I know I'm right in what I did and the rest can go to hell"... "Happy birthday and long life"... Patton and his wartime mistress... "I will be so lonely without you"... "Where were you? Somewhere else"... "Thank you, my dearest"... "I was never very good at political bootlicking"... "The bomb made people like me obsolete"... "I feel myself driven towards an end I cannot see"... "We sure left them a mess to

clean up"... "Of all the stupid idiotic things to happen! Damn it all to hell!"... "I think I'm paralyzed"... "Can you move your arms or legs at all, general?"... "If I am going to be paralyzed for the rest of my life, let me die!"... "Your father has been in an automobile accident"... "Mother, he's going to be all right"... He received last rites... "Falling out of a car seat and breaking your neck"... "All sensation below the neck: absent"... "Georgie, it's not over for me. It'll never be over"... "They say he likes pretty women. He's going to love you"... Telling the paralyzed Patton that his index finger is moving just to give him hope... "It feels like my body was shedding this body, shedding this mortal coil. Dying has always intrigued me... I'm not afraid. Only curious." He was excited about confronting death. It was a new chapter for him after fighting his last war... "If a man is lucky, he can choose the circumstances of his death"... "Hope for the best, prepare for the worst"... "Do whatever it takes to keep him alive"... "I don't know if you'll be able to repair this human wreckage"... "I am convinced that we will be at war with Russia within five years"... "I need to live to fight". So tell me what chance do I have?... Create cyborg Patton... "Thank you cornel for your honesty"... "Which of his nurses is his favorite?"... "I read to him his favorite books through the years. It helps to take his mind off the present situation"... "You put up with a lot from me, Bea. Any other woman would have left me a long time ago"... "You've always been the most important person to me"... "This man is his own star. He commands all light, all influence, all fate"... "I am so tired for just hanging on"... "How are his spirits?"... "It is good for my reputation"... "I don't suffer. But I do feel a certain difficulty in existing"... "You are never out of my thoughts, my hopes and prayers"... "That Georgie's slipping away. A little more every day... beyond the bravado"... "We're all fated to part"... The light is going out... "Papa."

-Peter O' Toole/ Lawrence of Arabia

Lawrence of Arabia: A complex homosexual hero: Such a role model to outcasts and underdogs everywhere. I identified with him because he was a misfit and didn't exactly fit in. After the movie, I even adopted his speech, mannerisms, even his mentality gracing my mind with a distinct persona... "I'm different"... "He is a young man, and young men are passionate. They must say their say"... "My mother mated with a scorpion"... "Undisciplined, untidy, knowledgeable of music, knowledgeable of literature... you're an interesting man"... "Do you think I'm just anybody!?"... "The desert is *clean*" Nature is cleaner than man's dirty cities... It's amazing that people wanted to see this movie. There were no girls, no love story... Mountain pyramids.

Lawrence of Arabia: A man who no longer willing to be part of a "fat" world of "fat" people... When he spoke and no one responded, his words remained empty in the air... The mind drifting off from immense boredom...

-Buster Keaton

Buster Keaton: A Hard Act To Follow: His comic genius inspired part of me to want to become a comedian. He didn't need dialogue to be funny. Yet after sound entered the movies, he was forced to film the same movie in five different languages - each with different actors. For a candid camera-like show, he "performed" practical jokes in a restaurant (reality, not in a film).

The General: Buster Keaton inventively took on super-human comedic feats of endurance and stamina to save his two loves: his woman and his engine, "The General".

The High Time and One Week: Buster Keaton - comedian surrealist extraordinaire!!!!

College: Featuring the great Buster Keaton... and a mother that was younger than her son.

-Emily Watson

Punch-Drunk Love: Emily Watson has the ability to emote a sexy quirkiness to her pixie self that is so attractive to me... A fairy tale for eccentric, psychologically disturbed losers in psychotic L. A... "You can't skip this party. You can't just stay in your house. Don't puss out!"... "I don't like myself sometimes"... He needs a lover so he can have a psychiatrist... "Gay boy! Retard!"... "I sometimes cry a lot for no reason"... Would you like to go on a date to Hawaii?... "I'm going out to have dinner tomorrow. Would you like to go with me?"... A grocery store where the food and the pudding is not for sale... "That's insane!"... "I want to bite your cheek and chew on it. It's so fucking cute"... Cathartic rage... Violence vs. Violence. Profanity vs. Profanity. Fuck vs. Fuck. They cancel each other out... Thank you for this movie, Paul Thomas Anderson. It's the best of 2002.

Trixie: "You're a quiet person, aren't you?"... "What's wrong? Don't you *like* guys?" -What a provocation to one's sexual repression for not taking chances in a relationship!!!!!!... I relate to Trixie. I'm also an outsider in a new community with a new job searching for a social life and lover... I've been divorced 52 times.

-Cate Blanchett

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Cate Blanchett": "You sometimes slip into a character when you talk."

Bandits: Cate Blanchett can express such a range of emotions that I helplessly fall for her. She's gets me every time. She can make vulnerability look sexy. I'm staying single so I can marry Cate Blanchett, or Jodie Foster, or Emily Watson, or Rachel Griffiths, or Sinead O' Connor, or Björk, or Tori Amos, or...

The Talented Mr. Ripley: How does Cate Blanchett achieve such remarkable beauty?! She can give a sweet, vulnerable look that makes me fall deeply for her - willingly to adore her.

An Ideal Husband: I fell in love again with Cate Blanchett while watching this movie. What is with this woman that I

like? She exerts a particular vulnerability, sophistication, and sensuality that I adore.

-Yvonne Craig/ "Batgirl"

"The 60's TV show "Batman" was a fantasy in more ways than one: Many a prepubescent boy's dirty dreams were inspired by the formfitting costumes of the crime-busting Batgirl (Yvonne Craig) and the evil temptress Catwoman – who'll always be remembered as Julie Newmar." –excerpt from "Entertainment Weekly's list of the greatest TV shows of 1950-2000.

The Batwomen of the 1960's Batman TV show (and beyond): I did a digital interactive art piece called "Goddesses In Tights" that was a valentine examination of their role as muses for imagination and sexuality. Concerning the old 60's Batman TV series, there was nothing more satisfying than watching Julie Newmar play Catwoman and Yvonne Craig play Batgirl. Julie Newmar's Catwoman has been a fascination on mine since my adolescent days. Of course, she was one of those first women who I noticed on TV who aroused me sexually. Yet, her escapist character - a super hero in a disguise/ costume - attracted me emotionally. She was eccentric, sexy, a little awkward, and, most importantly of all, kind of innocent. She was the great TV tease fantasy - a brunette super "villain" in skintight black leather. The fact that she was bad made her even more appealing. Most importantly, she didn't make me feel dirty when I looked at her. I used my imagination when I saw her in a skintight costume that stimulates the fantasy. She's a PG-rated sight - not an X-rated one. In fact, it's PG-rated S & M! It all adds up to that comic books are innocent pornography for the imagination. Their physical allure awakened the sexuality of millions of teenage boys. It was like watching a PG-rated porno. They managed to project a sweetness and innocence to their roles that attracted so many. Their costumes were completely form fitting which projected the female nude figure for, perhaps, the first time to adolescent males who were just beginning to discover changes in their bodies and thoughts. They had an extraordinary gift for projecting innocence and sexuality at the same time - a pairing that was all too perfect for young boys turning into men. They were ground-breaking in every way: they were some of the first women to be sex objects uncensored on network TV for generations to discover through the 60's, 70's, 80's, 90's, and the new millennium. Their allure was as mysterious as it was magical. They built up fantasies and hormones. They turned into comic book mythology: goddesses in tights. For that revelation, I pay my tribute and gratitude.

"Batman" TV series: I'm watching the show again for the first time in many years and it's such a pure guilty pleasure to see Catwoman and Batgirl in those skin-tight costumes! It's like being an adolescent male again in the heat of puberty all over again. Yeah! Batgirl! All that innocence, legs, breasts, and smiles! Wow! It's such a fun show. It's all playful and goofy. The show even exists in their own world, like a time capsule, of camp dialogue, wildly wholesome morals, over saturated pastel colors, tilted camera angles, and flower child hippies.

Batman (1966): Adam West/ Burt Ward commentary track: The Theater of the Absurd... "You give me curious stirrings in my utility belt, Catwoman"... "He loves to let it all out"... "Rescuing that young pussy."

-Julie Newmar/ "Catwoman"

It was upon seeing Julie Newmar's version of Catwoman on the old 1960s "Batman" TV show that first got my attention in the female form in skintight outfits. There was something incredibly alluring, mysterious, and teasing about her. I fell for her almost immediately. There was something about seeing a woman in such a costume that greatly turned me on. "Batman": Episode #38 "The Cat and the Fiddle": Featuring Julie Newmar as Catwoman: I believe what makes the chemistry work between Batman and Catwoman is that Julie Newmar projects the ultimate statuesque beauty villainess in a black skintight costume to ever have a "school-girl crush" on a noble, duty-driven, blue and gray tights wearing bat crime fighter. She's attracted to him as much as she wants to kill him! What a dynamic relationship! She just wants Batman so badly!! She's crazy and crazy for him.... *It's always been a secret dream of mine to be a superhero and fight crime. Only one night, I'll be up against a beautiful female opponent. I'll tackle her down to the ground, we'd pause to study each other's eyes, and finally kiss. She'd give herself up and we'd run off together. Now that's crime-fighting! The Batman/ Catwoman scenario has always fulfilled that fantasy for me.

"Batman" 60's TV series: "If I were to kiss you, Batman, would you think I was a... *bad girl*" –Catwoman with a crush to a vulnerable Batman... "Can't you see how I feel for you, Batman?...How I *want* you?"... "Batman... when I get out of jail, will you take me out on a date?" The "flirting" in between Batman and Catwoman is almost like two awkward teenage virgins feeling strong, strange feelings for one another. It is that very innocent, yet highly sensual allure that is so attractive about watching them together. The chemistry is hilarious – and utterly captivating. Here are two adults in skin-tight costumes wandering around the city arm in arm as if a super hero costume was their natural wardrobe.

"Batman: 1960's TV show: The other fascinating thing about Julie Newmar's Catwoman is that the viewer can never quite tell if she wants to fall in love with Batman or kill him! But her heart belongs to Batman. It's that duality that makes their "relationship" kick. She's a criminal, a "loser", on the wrong side of the law. She's the embodiment of every man's dreams of breaking free of conformity, rules, regulations, and laws. She's the good, sexy "bad girl"... "Nobody loves me!"... "Don't run away, Batman. I won't bite."

"The runaway star in Batman Returns is Pfeiffer, whose performance is a sexy, comic triumph. Neither crime fighter nor villain but something in between, her Catwoman is a post-Madonna feminist: She finds emotional liberation in acting salacious. Pfeiffer has perfected a slinky-predatory walk, and she speaks in the honeyed tones of a phone-sex vixen but with an undertow of dark knowledge, as if she had secrets that scared her. What makes the performance a

sly turn- - on is that Pfeiffer isn't just playing trashy. She's playing a nice girl acting trashy (and so the act has to be that much more extreme). Bruce and Selina have the hots for each other - or is it Batman and Catwoman? The notion of two people who have to put on rubber animal suits to deal with their hormones has satirical (and kinky) possibilities, yet, like so much else in this movie, it just sort of floats by." Owen Gleiberman's review from Entertainment Weekly

She and Batman have some of the most interesting chemistry I've ever seen on screen, not because they're essentially made for each other, but also because they are on opposite sides.

"I feel so much yummier," she purrs, flexing her muscles in her rubber cat suit for the first time, and every male member in the audience is compelled to agree with her. She is the ultimate Kitten with a Whip, making the previous incarnation - Ann Margaret - look like a charlady. Pfeiffer plays the role with a subtle mixture of ham and allure, and **it is difficult to imagine a better actress in the part.**

Pfeiffer alone **brings human vulnerabilities to her role.** It's no wonder she is catnip to Batman. He and Catwoman share a Mapplethorpe moment when she whips the rubber-suited one into submission and his bat toes curl.

CATWOMAN on CATWOMAN from the book "Sweethearts of 60's TV" (St. Martin's Press, 1986): "I have yet to have the perfect explanation of why that show was so successful for me," Julie says today. She still gets tons of fan mail from people trying to express their delight with her performance as Catwoman on Batman. She reads from one recent letter: "You've always been my favorite villainess and you'll never know how much I long to be one of your goons. You were always so nice for someone who was supposed to be evil..."

Julie doesn't have tapes of her Batman episodes. She has no Catwoman paraphernalia around the house. "No need to. I'm reminded of it every day when I go out! Sometimes it's just the gleam in the eye of a boy or now a man who says 'You brought me through puberty!'"

Amateur psychologists might note that Batman himself was in awe of her. There was no question that Catwoman was his complete equal, and that every smirk and purr unnerved him. Perhaps young fans, with good reason both to want and fear a larger-than-life symbol of female perfection, identified with Batman's delightful plight.

Catwoman's teasing of Batman was much more exciting than the occasional quasi-love scenes. "I wasn't so fond of that mushy stuff," she says, laughing. "I felt that as the villain you made yourself too vulnerable...so I would look down on sipping sodas with Batman!"

Another important part of Catwoman was the voice. At last, Julie's unique and expressive voice was used as a key to her character. It can register gently lilting calm one minute, passionate intensity the next. She could be as gleeful as a child when taunting Batman; cool and intellectual when plotting a crime; and dryly humorous in both triumph and defeat.

As Catwoman, the sheer fun Julie was having with the role made her a very special villain. She was the kind people didn't love to hate - they just loved her. Probably the only other villain on Batman with whom fans had as much fun was Vincent Price, one of the few masters of the same kind of magical "naughty good time" that Julie purveyed. Julie's career jump-started all over again after her success on Batman. She turned up as Mother Nature on a Dutch Masters cigar commercial, first aired January 22, 1967. She played a bizarre beauty who could turn into a kind of werewolf-Afghan in the forgettable film *The Maltese Bippy*. She was a psychotic Indian with a gorgeous body and scarred face in Mackenna's *Gold*....

Since Julie was busy with Mackenna's *Gold*, Eartha Kitt played Catwoman in the last episodes. But, as Alan Napier (Alfred on the show) says, "Julie Newmar was the best Catwoman" - and for so many, the one and only Catwoman."

9-22-00: I found hundreds of Julie Newmar Catwoman JPEG photos online today. Julie Newmar's Catwoman has been a fascination with me since my adolescent days. Of course, she was one of those first women who I noticed on TV who aroused me sexually. Yet, her escapist character - a super hero in a disguise/ costume - attracted me personally. She was eccentric, sexy, a little awkward, and, most importantly of all, kind of innocent. She's the great TV tease fantasy - a brunette super "villain" in skintight black leather. Most importantly, she doesn't make me *feel* dirty when I look at her. I use my imagination with I see her in a skintight costume that stimulates the fantasy. And it's a PG-rated fantasy at that - not an X-rated one. She's PG-rated S & M! It all adds up to that comic books are innocent pornography for the imagination.

-Lynda Carter/ "Wonder Woman"

8-18-03: My crush/ fetish for Lynda Carter sure is hot tonight after seeing her in a revealingly tight one-piece bathing suit in a 1977 clip from a "Battle of the Network Stars" program. It's true: "Wonder Woman" was a show about S & M where you get your butt kicked by a dominatrix-type American-flag costumed super chick.

"Biography: Lynda Carter": "When she walk in the room, I knew she was Wonder Woman. And she had something else that was very special. She had an extraordinary sense of innocence with a very sophisticated figure. And it was a magical combination."

-Jeri Ryan/ "Seven of Nine"

"Star Trek: Voyager": I have recently been watched this series and discovered to my amazement the sexual wonderment that is Seven of Nine, played by Jeri Ryan. My God, it's like she's a comic book super heroine in that super skintight sparkly gray cat suit she's wearing! What amazes me is that she just walks around in that outfit amongst her crew members like it's completely ordinary! I don't mean to sound like a hormonally howling teenage boy, but "yowl-za"!

-Dawn Wells/ "Mary Ann"

11-27-02: I was watching a rerun of "Gilligan's Island" and realized how much affection and adoration I had for Dawn Wells' "Mary Ann" character. She was approachable, kind, innocent, and beautiful. She was always wearing short, tight shorts that showed off her long legs. I always had the fantasy of *wanting* to be stranded on their island away from the bullies of the world and in the company of Mary Ann. She was the girl-next-door you always had a crush on.

I also had a prepubescent sexual thing for Dawn Wells from "Gilligan's Island" when I was in the 5th grade. I'd watch the show every weekday afternoon at 4:30 p.m. on FOX Channel 45. She was an easily approachable girl next door who exerted a powerful, innocent sensual beauty to her. You could easily fall in love with her because she was so approachable and sweet. She was a perfect girl for a young awkwardly shy teenage boy in budding puberty.

-Clint Eastwood/ "Dirty Harry"/ "The Man With No Name"

Eastwood Directs: The Untold Story: "Life excites him. He's always learning something new"... "He has the willingness to always learn more"... "I like seeing someone come out of the shadows and show how good they are"... "I think he was born with that kind of creativity"... "They shouldn't have to pay me anything. I should have to prove myself"... "He was a skilled storyteller who was good at telling other people's stories"... "He takes the business seriously, but not himself"... "He's got his lifestyle, his kids, his art, and his music"... "I interpreted the story as a director. Now I'm going to interpret the story as a musician"... "The more I rewrote it, the worse it got. I was doing what Siegel called 'killing it with improvements'"... "He just goes from experience to experience"... "He has very highly evolved both sides to his character"... "I think he's a harsh judge of himself"... "Ego kills all of us artistically. But you have to learn to let some things go"... "I'll do that next. I'm preparing one while starting another. That way I'm always busy"... "It's a girl-boxing movie where she wants to kill herself in the end. Who wants to see that?! Yet it's a Clint Eastwood directed movie and now people are curious about it"... "Sometimes you're out of synch with what the audience wants"... "I think I still haven't done my best work"... "To be and stay relevant."

Clint Eastwood: The Man From Malpasso: "Because I was alone a great deal of the time, I kinda lived within my imagination"... "I'm attracted to dreamers, especially in this cynical age that we live in"... "His stillness is beautiful and painful to watch."

Inside the Actor's Studio: Clint Eastwood: "Were you a solitary child?" - "Is this a psychiatric college course?"... "When you're an actor, you've got to be crazy and not be afraid to try anything"... "Once you're really in a character, you can do anything. You can do that"... "The Art of Listening"... "There were a lot of oddities to "Unforgiven". I didn't know if anyone else would like it, but I liked it"... "I'm not a terribly talkative person, unless I've had a couple of beers"... "Take your work seriously, but don't take yourself seriously. Do that and you'll do fine"... "You're a constant student. I learn something new with every film I'm on. That's why I'm still acting and directing at age 80. You're so lucky to be in a profession that's *fun*."

The Directors: Clint Eastwood: "He loves music so much. I've never seen him so animated"... "I believe staying active in life is vital."

The Enforcer: A city of liars... Dirty Harry's methods: Fight crazy with CRAZY.

Sudden Impact: "Go ahead... *make my day*" never sounded so brutally funny!... One of my favorite scenarios is an outcast male "hero" and an angry, desperate, and beautiful female "villain", each on opposite sides of the law, who are attracted to each other, but know that they will have to fight and be separated by the law some day. There's a primal conflict involved that I just adore. A deeply emotional connection between them that can't be. When they are together, their scenes are magical.

-Jack Lemmon

"Tribute to Jack Lemmon": "He knew great humility. He knew that the other stage actors were just as good as him – and what got him to be where he was came from *luck*. And he's been humble of his success because of this knowledge"... "He valued his passion for his work and his family"... "This guy has an appetite for life and for work"... "Magic time."

-Jessica Lange/ Frances Farmer/ Frances

If not for Frances, I wouldn't have recognized the feel of living. Frances Farmer may have "died just as she had lived... alone", yet she still dared to express herself. I more than exclaim my pride for her outspoken honesty – I believe in her. People like Frances (even I) won't be able to survive with dull, boring people who confine us as mentally unstable just because we learned about an honestly personal way to live. I felt proud to sense that I still had anti-social beliefs and opinions. Without them, I'd feel quite less human. Frances affected me like a drug. My personality soared to where funny clouds talked to me in blue breezes.

-Jim Carrey

"Bravo Profiles: Jim Carrey": His father gave up on his dream of being a jazz musician to provide for his family... He worked as a custodian for eight hours at night while in high school... "He became depressed and confused, he began to lose faith in himself and his act"... I used to always watch "In Living Color" on FOX in the early 90's. Since it was the raciest show I'd

ever seen, I would go down into the basement and watch it down there away from the critical eye of my parents. It was my first samplings of “adult” humor – meaning more “perverse” and “sex-related”... “I have the face of John-Boy Walton and the brain of Salvador Dali”... “He has defined himself throughout his life creatively”.

Inside the Actor's Studio: Jim Carrey: “When I was in my teens, my family lived in a van and worked as janitors”... “I based Ace Ventura off of a tropical bird, from the way he dresses to the way he walks”... “When I was young, I was very solitary. I liked having my own space. When I was grounded, I'd always say, 'Okay!'”... “Andy is Andy Kaufman. And he's coming back to do this movie”... “I want to explode into a ball of light.”

-Sean Connery/ “James Bond”

Goldfinger: Movies are such marvelous time capsules. Here's a quintessential Bond movie before it got polluted with product placements. And a James Bond of irresistible charm... Best Movie Pun Ever: “Who are you?” -“I am a Pussy Galore.” -“*I must be dreaming...*”

Diamonds Are Forever: The “lost” James Bond film that I had never seen before... “You're a terrific guy! A little weird... but a terrific guy!”

-Bill Murray

Ghostbusters: One of the movies from my youth that I watched religiously and ended up influencing my personality and imagination. Bill Murray, an early role model for my personality, whose an irresistible charm and wit appealed to me to the point where I imitating him with a touch of irony when around girls... “Are you the men from the university?”... “Back off man, I'm a scientist!”... “I come home from my work and have nothing else in my life but my work”... “He slimed me”... A rain of fire... Corpses driving cars... The Ghostbusters were actually a bunch of guys with huge phallic mechanical dicks urinating electric power streams... So they're like “ghost janitors”.

Scrooged: Another favorite movie of mine when I was a teenager... Bill Murray's hysterical, maniac spirit is hilarious... “I'll have some air for lunch, please”... His memories are old TV shows he used to watch when he was young... “I am crazy – crazy like a fox!”... “If you want to save somebody, save yourself.”

-Laurence Fishburne

Inside the Actor's Studio: Laurence Fishburne: “My mother really pushed me to *enunciate* when I talk”... “To be an artist, you have to risk something. We are crisis-orientated people because we arrived here in crisis. So we have a lot of baggage, a lot of fear, a lot of anger. But as an artist, you have to find a way to channel this stuff and make something positive out of it”... “He knew he wouldn't be around for long”... “I realized that I was just a poor black kid from Brooklyn just as Kenneth Branagh was a poor Irish kid from Belfast - and we 'weren't supposed to do this'. That was when all my fear left me. I could do Shakespeare.” And I'm just a kid from a small town from Midwest Ohio. To realize that I'm “not supposed to do what I've done because of my upbringing” is an extremely empowering sentiment... “I was doing a lot of journal writing at the time.”

You're Always Outnumbered, Always Outgunned. Laurence Fishburne is one of the great actors and this movie is further proof.

-Johnny Depp

Bravo Profiles: Inside the Creative Mind: Johnny Depp: “He's got Empathy for the Outcasts”... “He's not definable”... “He can't help but be honest – and that can be a dangerous thing”... “He doesn't have a taste for the ordinary”... “None of the girls wanted to hang out with me... I was just kind of a weird kid”... “Johnny was a shy kid who never really fit into his surroundings. Instead, he found refuge in his imagination”... “You have to keep challenging yourself so you don't get bored”... “He doesn't think commercially”... Snorting powdered milk as fake cinematic cocaine in “Fear and Loathing”... “It's okay if people call you a freak or different. In fact, it's good to be different.”

Benny and Joon: A romantic story with eccentric characters - one a mentally troubled painter, the other a Buster Keaton-inspired physical comedy performer - was the type of film for me. Johnny Depp's acting was pleasantly contagious afterwards. Wish I could have rubbed this inspiration on someone else.

-Harrison Ford/ “Indiana Jones”/ “Han Solo”

Inside the Actor's Studio: Harrison Ford: “It took me a long time to deal with the fame emotionally – the loss of privacy”... There's a vulnerability to all the characters he plays for people to feel for them... “I am a very private person in my private life. But being actor allows people an all-access pass to me: to show the audience the weak, the strong, the flawed, the terrible. Being an actor gives one emotional exercise.”

Indiana Jones and The Raiders of the Lost Ark: “You've a man of many talents”... “Everybody's sorry for something”... “The Ark is a transmitter. A radio for speaking with God”... “It's beautiful!”

Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom: Harrison Ford as Indiana Jones epitomized what a young boy like me growing up in the 80's looked for in a role model. And I loved his contradictions. He was an adventurer and an educator. He was fearless, but he *hated* snakes. He was the loner who got the beautiful women.

Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade: This is such a great adventure movie with great bits of comedy mixed in with the suspense and action. Plus, it's got a fantastic father/ son relationship chemistry running through this tale for the Grail... An American Nazi... “It was a lonely way to grow up”... “Is that the limit of your vision?”

-Monty Python

I love Monty Python's absurdist wit and humor.

Monty Python's Flying Circus and my art share a common lunacy for reality.

Monty Python's Life of Brian: The revolutionaries are called Monty Python... Train of consciousness... Pointing out the absurdities of life that they took from their own life experiences.

"Monty Python's Flying Circus": A Tax on thinking, a tax on sex... A nude painting of Mona Lisa smiling.

"Monty Python's Flying Circus": "A urban El Dorado"... A goat as a city house pet... "ETH NED"... "Mt. Everest, the mountain with the biggest tits on earth."

Wanting to be kissed by pretty young things.

"Monty Python's Flying Circus": One-eyed sheep with guns.

"Monty Python's Flying Circus": Old ladies going to an art museum to eat some of the edible 19th century paintings... Petting a Thanksgiving turkey like a kitty.

The Life of Python: Aged, grayed, and sane Monty Python members... Terry Gilliam: "I couldn't accurately describe what I was doing until it was done and they saw it".

Monty Python and the Holy Grail: War involving catapulting cattle at the stunned and confused enemy... Comedy surrealism: + "You must cut down the most mindless tree in the forest with this herring!"

Monty Python's The Meaning of Life: Corporate swashbucklers!... Skyscrapers are suicide platforms... "I've got no option but to sell you all for scientific experiments"... Vaginal juices.

Monty Python and the Holy Grail: Avant guard "comedy" that made a question of our sense of humor.

Monty Python's Life of Brian: The sheer spontaneous audacity of inserting aliens in ancient Judea made some sort of fantastic sense since UFO's have been in early recorded history... A dirty name ("Bigus Dickus") that only a mind aware of vulgarity could laugh at... This film is similar to Fellini: Satyricon for both invent their own personalized vision/ version of ancient history.

The funniest aspect of watching Monty Python's The Meaning of Life was that it didn't offend my tastes like most reviews have forewarned. I relished the movie's courageous outrageousness for going to the extreme for humor's sake. Originality has always been offending in some "naive" manner until we accept it.

-John Cleese

"Fawlty Towers": Entertained by the chain reaction of madness and frustration. I've laughed - yet I'm severely lonely when I know that my peers are out together.

"Fawlty Towers": What great, inspired control freak insanity... "All good things must come to an end"... This nervous sort of comedy made me anxious throughout the afternoon. I wasn't sure what I'd do after I watched these episodes. Is my life episodic?

Monty Python's The Meaning of Life: "I usually have bursts of energy. But I can't sustain that energy for a long period of time, like for two weeks. I get tired very easily, while others can work continuously without ware. But I can't. I'm great for those sporadic moments." -John Cleese.

-Sylvester Stallone/ "Rocky"/ "Rambo"

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Sylvester Stallone": He wrote "Rocky" out of total frustration of his career. The movie's autobiographical. It's about a nobody trying to be a somebody.

I used to watch the Rocky series during my junior high years. Being teased and unpopular made it easy for me to relate to the underdog theme and its trumpeting, rousing theme music.

Thinking about the Rocky movies with the "Rocky" theme music and songs like "Eye of the Tiger" when training for track season. It truly inspired me.

Rocky IV: A favorite film from my early adolescence.

First Blood: Welcome to the small town of "Hope"... Small town cops who want to "protect" their boring, small town because "that's how they like it". They're used to hunting animals. They found the wrong "animal" to miss with. This town of friendly, unfriendly civilians didn't want any strangers "upsetting" their small town world... Americans vs. Americans... "You made this private war happen!"

Rambo: First Blood Part II: I watched this movie religiously when I was in junior high (the edited for television version, that is). I was attracted to the quiet loner Rambo because he could beat his enemies in spectacularly violent fashion. He was an anti-hero for someone who wanted to see bullies blown up. It's the action-adventure underdog scenario played out to the alpha macho male tilt... "Sir? Do we get to win this time?"... Insanely unrealistic, flamboyantly ridiculously, surrealistically cathartic, Pro-America war-fantasy film featuring a living action figure. This movie really is an overblown visualized daydream. Rambo expresses his overcharged emotions through super weapons of mass destruction.

Rambo III: Rambo as wrestler warrior.

-Steve Martin

“Biography: Steve Martin”: “His father’s failure to encourage Steve did however encourage Steve to self-motivate himself. His powerful drive, coupled with his innate shyness, made him seem cold and aloof, which prompted his friends to wonder, “Who is the real Steve Martin?”... “Underneath, he may have a dark side to him”... “He’s a wild and crazy guy, but that’s not really him”... “He’s been with a lot of women, and he’s learned a lot from being with them.”

L.A. Story: He considered his roller-skating through the art museum to be performance art. “History will decide.”

Novocaine: “One small lie”... Sex in the electric chair... A Steve Martin sex scene? Did I really want to see that?

Shopgirl: Steve Martin’s personal life therapy movie: “A woman needs to be held”... A lonely shopgirl from Vermont trying to find herself finds herself out to dinner with a wealthy, more cultured older man. “We’ll have some of that fancy maroon wine that you have”... “She sizes him up and no alarm bells go off”... “And give fellacio. Lots of it. And then cut him off. That’s when you know you got him”... “Was I boring?”... “I’m not looking for a permanent relationship”... “I know it’s hard for you to be close”... “Why don’t you love me?”... “I get hurt now, or I get hurt later. ...Now I guess”... “The lower intensity to a relationship is nice”... “I’m always a bit edgy... restless”... And so they date other people who are more in each other’s league.

-Juliette Binoche

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Juliette Binoche”: “As a child, I lived in my imagination - a private, intimate secret world”... “It’s the power of the thought that makes it alive”... “You have remarkably *assessable* emotions.”

Damage: The ultimate Juliette Binoche role! She’s the great seductress, all done with those piercing dark cool brown eyes, short black hair, and that sensuous accent... “Is she all right? She hasn’t said anything?”... Anna’s dark past... “What did he kill himself over?” –“Love”... Making love in a public place – a church... This is one of movies’ most intense obsession relationships. Obsession = Passion... “I’ve never had feelings like this before”... Acting is the art of being able to watch great facades... “I’m attracted to her sadness. I can help her.” She’s a beautiful siren of sadness... “Martin does look so much like Anna’s brother”... “The pain was unbearable, so I beat myself”... “Why didn’t you kill yourself?”

-Julie Andrews

The Sound of Music: Julie Andrews: a rare beauty beaming with sweetness, innocence, and purity... “What do you do when someone stops loving you?”... One critic called this movie ‘cheap emotion’. I would describe it as pretty feelings with a melody.

-Sean Penn

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Sean Penn”: “He was a victim of loneliness.”

-Samuel L. Jackson

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Samuel L. Jackson”: Growing up on Lookout St... Christian Athlete of the Year... A rainbow of people.

-Martin Sheen

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Martin Sheen”: A deeply spiritual and *happy* man who came from Dayton, OH and was a Catholic alter boy... “I knew I was an actor from a very young age, so it was just a matter of waiting. High school was just a stall.”

-Kevin Spacey

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Kevin Spacey”: “Being an actor means asking questions we’d rather not have answered. In a way, we actors are a lot healthier people than a lot of people. At least we have an outlet for our problems and have an opportunity to examine.” In a way, my artwork is an outlet not just for myself, but for other people to share and use my artwork’s emotional content as an outlet for their own internal issues... “That’s one way to get rid of any initial shyness”... “If you think that talent is worth developing and you dedicate your every breath to it, there is nothing you cannot achieve.”

-Jena Malone

Cheaters: I am constantly amazed at what great movies Jena Malone keeps making! She’s *charismatic intelligent pretty!* “I am continually amazed at what things that spring out of your mouth” says one teacher. She usually plays a girl who is a type of outcast, someone who is a bit more intelligent than everyone else, or has a secret pain within... The students talk about their teacher behind his back: I heard he still lives with his mom... He’s not gay.” But they see him outside as one of them... “I don’t know what type of world you’re living in!”... “I love the dream that you gave us. But there’s a point where you have to realize that you have to wake up and realize that it’s just a fuckin’ dream.”

Donnie Darko: Featuring an alternate Tobey Maguire actor and Drew Barrymore playing Julianne Moore... “School is cancelled today because the school is flooded!!”... “I want to be a writer... or a painter... or both”... “You’re weird.” – “Sorry.” –“I meant that as a *compliment*”... “I think about girls a lot in school. I think about fucking a lot in school”... “Donnie Darko? What kind of name is that? It sounds like a super hero name.” –“What makes you think I’m *not*?”... HOBIE t-shirts... A High School “Talent” Show... “We are losing these kids to *apathy*”... Also featuring super cute “teen girl next

door” Jena Malone!!!... Raw, vintage, doomy Gogh music (Joy Division’s “Love Will Tear Us Apart”) being played at a Halloween party. And the whole movie has a terrific 80s soundtrack, like Echo and the Bunnymen’s “The Killing Moon” and Tears For Fears’ “Head Over Heals”.

Life As A House: “Make him smile!”... Being told by your boss that you’re being “let go” is one of the most insane professional moments in one’s life. Everything is so mannered and “mature”, but deep inside a heart is being ripped out of one’s body. It’s a violent, horrific act. And the meeting ends with a handshake and a “Goodbye”. *How nice*... “I have not been touched in years”... “I like the feeling of not feeling.” – “I know the feeling”... “I put a gun to my father’s head once. He had been yelling at my mom over nothing... over-cooked meat”... Featuring super cutie, teen hottie Jena Malone!!!... “Love is not enough... not even close.”

The Dangerous Lives of Alter Boys: When I was an alter boy, I used to watch for the prettiest girl in school to come up to the front of church to accept Communion. I thought about how it would be like to marry her one day. Jena Malone embodies that girl for me. And she’s got razor cuts on her wrists from a suicide attempt. She’s so perfect for me Physically, she reminds me of an old girlfriend. Even the way the main boy character and Jena Malone make out is identical to the way she and I used to – “light petting”... Coming home to see your parents yelling at each other... “Don’t hurt yourself.”

-Kevin Costner

Field of Dreams: “*If you build it, they will come*”... “I have just created something totally illogical”... Driven by obsession... “*Ease his pain*”... “I wish I had your passion, Ray” (Could it be my personal obsessions that drive me to work on my art? Is longing for love, recognition, and meaning in life what provokes me so much?)... “I was born here, raised here... I’ll die here” - yet I moved away... Sentimental brainwashing... “Lonely for the past”... People will come to watch ghost superstars play baseball in a cornfield in Iowa.

Dances With Wolves: “Looks like a suicide”... Surrounded by the never-ending sea of prairie... Amazing landscape cinema... A house with grass and wheat growing on its roof... “There can be no place like this on earth”... Rumbling colored cumulus clouds... Only the loner could empathize with the Indians... Indians drinking cups of coffee... There is something extraordinarily uplifting about the dignity of the Indians in this movie. Something so pure with their culture that I cannot help but feel for them as the greatest of human beings... Such beauty in the vast solitude of the untamed frontier country... “Stands with a Fist” - her name is symbolic, not literal... Then “Dances with Wolves” is considered an outcast and traitor among his fellow white men.

Dances With Wolves: Special Edition: “With God on my side”... “I’ve always wanted to see the frontier”... In a wild American territory of suicidal soldier souls... This is a dreamer’s movie, a tale about a man who yearns to leave a Civil War behind him. He would rather be alone in the “never-ending sea of prairie” than with his corrupt fellow American men. He’d rather gaze up at a falling star. He keeps a journal and sketchbook of his journey to keep himself company since he is alone, “happily” marooned in a dangerous paradise of open territory... I have rarely experienced a grander merging of visual and music than the wide-screen Old West open spaces with John Barry’s glorious score. It makes for a truly magical travel... “It is the loneliest of times for me, but I can honestly say that I am not unhappy”... “It’s good to finally have some company”... “He seems to have a good heart”... “Will she make the white words?”... “Nothing about what I’ve been told about these people has been true. They are not beggars and thieves”... “Time seems irrelevant. There is nothing to report except that I am bored and that these hours I am alone are endless”... “Fire lives on the prairie”... “I have hurt him, and I should go talk to him”... “As I heard my Sioux name being called over and over, I knew who I was for the first time in my life”... “He smiled and talked of simple pleasures”... “Can you see that you will always be my friend?”... Documentary: “We were nobodies trying to be somebodies. We were going for the art and not the money”... “This was the power of movies, the power of music, the power of bringing people together”... “He was a man so lonely that he had to communicate with his fellow man.”

-Jeff Bridges

Fearless: An existential, yet inspiring film about being alive... Being totally calm at the site of an air disaster... “*You’re not dead*”... Play the music loud. Feel the wind in your face while you drive... “Have a strawberry. It’s the forbidden fruit. It always tasted good”... “He’s completely comfortable with life. He has no stress, no fear, no pain, and no allergies... “Do you mind if I speak bluntly?” – “I’d prefer it”... “*Ahhhhhhhh!!!* I’d don’t want to tell any *lies!*”... “He loved you. He loved you. You made him happy. He loved you”... “You saved a lot of people. They’re calling you the Good Samaritan”... Holding onto a stranger’s hand moments before they are about to die in a plane crash. “I love you!” are exchanged to each... “This is it. This is the moment of your death. I’m not afraid. I have no fear”... “He’s more remote and distant than ever.” See why I empathize with the characters so much... Follow me to the light”... “Let it go. I can let it go”... “Talk to me!”... “You’re right. I don’t make sense – and I don’t want to”... A tale about people who have been put under extraordinary circumstances and find themselves unable to relate to normal life or normal people again... “We’re ghosts. They can’t do anything to us in there”... “Let’s buy presents for the dead!”... “I want you to save me”... He’s become human again... “Everything’s wonderful”... “I’m alive. I’m alive!” “Inside the Actor’s Studio: Jeff Bridges”: “It is extremely important to *play*”... He grew up introverted... He observed the innocence of his own children for the alien character’s innocence in the movie “Starman”.

-Harvey Keitel

Bad Lieutenant: Manipulating dumb girls out on a Friday night... “Show me how you suck a guy’s cock”...

"You fucking nigger! You cock sucker! You fucking piece of shit!"... It distorted all of my views of being a Catholic. Here was one of the darkest hearts in conflict with what was good and bad... Listening in on a raped nun's confessional... Snorting cocaine on his daughter's First Communion photos... "The tension builds"... "I'm blessed. I'm a fuckin' Catholic"... A female David Bowie/ Thing White Duke... And unlike so many damn bad Hollywood movies that cop out at the end with a retarded and fake happy ending, this movie actually delivers an ending that feels real *and* right... When I was young, I really identified with the character's raw rage and anger. I felt just as confused, abused, lost, and desperate when I was sixteen. That movie opened up a lot of my suppressed emotions and vulnerable nerves. I was hammered by the overwhelmingly downbeat mood and descent of the lead character - especially since I empathized with him. Days after seeing the movie, I subconsciously started acting like Harvey Keitel's character. Especially when I'm emotionally and physically exhausted, I'd emulate the way he talked, how he handled people, how he stared down weaker people, how he cried. I was the bad lieutenant teenager.

Bad Lieutenant: aka *Demon Cop*... For someone who grew up in a wholesome small town like myself, being exposed to the world's immorality was deeply disturbing, especially when I was only 16 when I first experienced this movie. (Kids would take a similar unsettling route several years later.) The degree of apathy of the main character (playing a "good guy", a cop) ruined the light that I thought was out there inside. To witness a nun raped followed by wildly reckless gambling, drugged out bi-sexual orgies, children being neglected by their father, raging radio DJs, the emotional blackmail of two dim-witted party teenage girls who have to perform pseudo sexual acts for a horny lieutenant, a vandalized Catholic alter with obscenity written over an image of The Last Supper (FUCK) and a statue of the Virgin Mary, a police siren wailing, snorting cocaine on family photographs, a graphic heroin injection scene, blaspheming at Jesus Christ himself, the corruption of the impressionable and directionless youth. It was too much too soon. It was immorality shock... "No one can kill me. I'm blessed. I'm a fuckin' Catholic"... "Vampires are lucky. They get to feed off of other people; we have to feed off of ourselves"... "Say something, you **fuck!** Where the fuck were you!" This was the portrait of a demon exorcising from the inside. "I've done so many bad things! I tried to do the right things, but I'm weak! Help me, help me. I need you to help me. Forgive me."

Bad Lieutenant: "I'm a Catholic"... Sniffing photograph image cocaine - art as a drug... Primal despair enraged.

An empathy of doom from Bad Lieutenant was felt as I confronted it's vulgar assault: the anger and impatience of the Lt.'s voice, the unbearable pain in his eyes, his immorality (snorting crack in front of a school yard of kids), the city's immorality (the graphic rape of a nun, the polluting noise of a vulgar rapist and DJ's on the free air waves of radio), our immorality (allowing this NC-17 tale into our minds). The ultimate figure of immorality drinks Diet Coke just like the rest of us.

If ever in doubt about what sort of extreme influence a movie can have upon my state of being, all I need to say is experience Bad Lieutenant. It's the sort of morality apocalypse that only a narrative film could show. The lieutenant, who in our world is supposed to be the "good guy", is more of a human devil than a community saint. He's in a respected job with the ability to manipulate the offenders he catches. For two stupid beautiful girls out on the town for some "fun", he blackmailed them with granting him a sexual favor. He listened in on a confession which is supposed to always be secret... cursed during his daughter's First Communion. This movie even contained a graphic rape scene of a Catholic nun.

10-15-94: At 1:45 p.m. I put in Bad Lieutenant, starring the dynamic Harvey Keitel. For the first time ever, I was about to watch an "NC-17" rated movie. It took a lot of courage and risk for a Catholic like me to rent it; yet my curiosity and obsession for provocative movies forced me to get it. I've read so much about this film, too. Keitel's penis, realistic drug use, and a nun's rape were all shown. Even a vulgar cursing at Jesus Christ (actually a hallucination) was included. By the end of the film, I was deep, mean, and vulgar - its influence captured me. Some girl scouts stopped by and asked if I wanted to buy some cookies. I looked at the list and noticed my favorite kind, Mint Crème, was listed. So I invited them inside while I filled out a form for one package. I should've "chatted" a little with those little girls, but I couldn't. As they left, I could have thought that I heard one say, "Shit" and "Do you know who that was?" (I just thought I could've told them I was a vegetarian!) I noticed strands of toilet paper near our lawn, so I went outside and picked them up. I then finished my movie and screamed out loud while causing a racket downstairs by slapping the floor. I looked at my face in the mirror. It was red. My eyes were furious. *Eric was enraged*. I immediately went upstairs and wrote down my furies.

It's 5:57 p.m. and I just got home from the 5 o' clock mass. I feel "cooled" down now, too. I decided to go to church because (one) it would be ironic since I could skip because my parents are gone for the weekend, (two) I needed some form of spiritual redemption and close friendship with God, (three) I desperately needed to get out of my/ this secluded house, (four) going to mass is almost a regular activity for me after all these years, and (five) I didn't care what

I should do. I did feel very confident at some moments at mass as I spoke as proudly and clearly as ever. But I also could hear the pounding “noise” rap from *Bad Lieutenant* in my head, and I saw a few young couples. When I first knelt down to pray, I felt this stinging sensation on my neck. Then I felt other parts of my body “inch” as if bugs were walking all over my body.

-Billy Bob Thornton

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Billy Bob Thornton”: “The second time I went insane”... “What is the anecdote for sadness?” –“I don’t think there is one”... “There’s a darkness in him that was also in me”... “I was in a character I didn’t want to stop playing”... “Believe this whole thing is your imagination. You’re in charge. You dreamed all this up. I live every day that way.”

-Tim Robbins

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Tim Robbins”: “I love eccentricities. I love weirdness”... Theater students playing baseball... “How do you keep artists from starving to death?”

-Bruce Willis

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Bruce Willis”: He had a bad speech impediment that only went away when he was on stage... “This whole international film star thing is just an illusion.”

-Ben Kingsley

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Ben Kingsley”: “You have to be remarkable and extraordinary. Otherwise, the people could just look over their neighbor’s fence to be amused”... “I have great empathy. You have to if you’re an actor”... “We only have our voice, body, and imagination”... Use silence as dialogue... “The actor has to make the writer’s words *work* – no matter how bad they are.”

-Naomi Watts

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Naomi Watts”: “Everybody has a dark side. A lot of positive things can come out of one’s dark side, creativity being one of them.”

-Russell Crowe

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Russell Crowe”: The Ironies of Life.

Gladiator: A battle for hell... “But you have not been corrupted by the politics”... Men sold as muscle meat...

“*Violentia*”... “ARE YOU NOT ENTERTAINED?!”... Snowing paper flakes... Music is subconscious dialogue.

Gladiator: There’s a ferocious primal intensity to the gladiatorial battle matches because you know they’re fighting *to the death*. Their lives are on the line.

-Sissy Spacek

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Sissy Spacek”: “I thought the little town I grew up in was the center of the universe”... “Good luck!”

-Charlize Theron

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Charlize Theron”: “When growing up alone on a farm, my imagination sometimes got the best of me.”

-Tom Cruise

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Tom Cruise”: “Who am I? What is my voice?”... “I eat life. I watch people. I participate with people. I engage with people. It feeds my work”... “The power of imagination. The power of creativity”... “I applaud you all. Artists are the most important people in the world.”

-Arnold Schwarzenegger

Pumping Iron: Rated PG for HUGE FREAKIN’ MUSCLES!!... “With all these pumping muscles, I feel like I’m cumming day and night!”... “I dreamed of being different from everybody else”... “I was teased while I grew up by people calling me names like ‘Jew boy’. So I worked harder and harder to show them what I’m made of”... “Losing just gives me the motivation to train harder”... Insanely Ambitious Dreams.

-Jay Leno

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Jay Leno”: This show works very well because its an autobiographical life confessional... “It’s good to marry someone smarter than you. Otherwise, it’s like we have sex, and then *what do we do now?*”... “How has your dyslexia helped or hindered you in your creativity?” -“Anything that makes you odd, different, or unusual will work in your favor”... “I’m not better or funnier than the other comedians, but I do work harder.”

-Bruce Lee

Enter the Dragon: "We need emotional content... try again"... "To express oneself honestly... that is very hard to do."

Enter the Dragon: "We need emotional content. Try again"... SMACK!! "Don't think! Feeeel."

Return of the Dragon: The exaggerated and surreal sound effects during the fight sequences make Bruce Lee movies so special and wonderful. They're out of this world different. The expressions on Bruce Lee's face after he punches or kicks is hilarious and profound at the same time... Also, the movie borrows Ennio Morricone's score to Once Upon a Time in the West!

-John Goodman

"Inside the Actor's Studio: John Goodman": "Once you graduate, make sure you have a backup job and *don't ever give up*. If you stick around long enough, it'll happen. You gotta believe in yourself."

-Julianne Moore

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Julianne Moore": "I'm not always interested in strong female characters to play. We're not always in control. We cause our own personal tragedies. We are our own worst enemies. That is the kind of stuff that I find really compelling"... "I was living in L.A. at the time and I wasn't meeting anybody. And I didn't like going to the parties"... "I had to find a way for emotion to happen to me. It was about being relaxed"... "She's at a crisis point in her life because of a realization she's had about herself"... "Ridley Scott and I both had red hair, which I found comforting"... "Does having red hair make you feel different from other people?" -"Having red hair is like being a member of a very small club"... "*Far From Heaven* was a feminist movie because all these characters were affecting this lead female character. You saw the movie through her experiences and emotions"... "The color was there in every scene for meaning and for emotion."

-Andre Gregory

My Dinner With Andre: The most special dinner conversation you will ever experience of two intellectual men who are trying to have something important and meaningful to say to each other: "I'd heard that he'd been talking to trees"... "People always knew he had some money somewhere. How the hell else could he be able to fly off to Asia and still support his family?"... "We threw the teddy bear back and forth"... "I consider myself something of a surrealist"... "It's been a day of coincidence"... "I was living on impulse back then"... "This creature had violets growing out of its eyes, poppies growing out of its toenails. I didn't talk about it because people would think I was weird"... "So that I really had the feeling of being buried alive. A few hours later, I was resurrected"... "He was an artist. He thought that the ordinary rules of life didn't apply to him either"... "Whatever it is, you do it alone"... "I'm feeling very raw right now. I can't sleep, my nerves are shot, I'm affected by everything"... "I may be in a very emotional state"... "He's existed in a dream"... "It's like we're in a fog, a trance. We're all walking around like conscious machines"... "It was just hostility left behind from previous unresolved experiences"... "They're just floating around in a fog of symbols and unconscious feelings. People don't speak what they're thinking"... "Some people can only express themselves through completely insane jokes"... "Very rarely does anything go haywire. If you're operating through habit, then you're not really living"... "If you're eating out of habit, you're not really tasting the food"... "We're living under a fantasy world of our own making"... "Comfort can lull you into a dangerous tranquility"... "We all want our electric blanket"... "I do believe that the theater can do something very important. I think the theater can bring people back in contact with reality"... "Being bored could be a form of brainwashing caused by a totalitarian government based upon money. Someone who is bored is asleep. And someone who is asleep won't say 'No'"... "We're building our own prisons where we're both inmates and the guards. We're existing in a state of schizophrenia where we can't leave or even recognize our condition"... "Invisible planets"... "What we need is a new language - a language of the heart, a new kind of poetry"... "I enjoy staying indoors with Debbie. If I can get my talent together and write a play, that's okay"... "Fortune Cookie Says that 'Conversation with a dark-haired man will be very important'"... "If you're living mechanically, you have to change your life"... "I haven't been living at all. I've been acting, performing the role of a husband and father, writer or director"... "I had always managed to live in my work. That's why I was such a work junkie. But in my real life, I was a robot. I was dead"... "I can imagine a day when each day was a monumental creative task"... "We're ghosts. We're phantoms"... "When you accept that you're alone, you accept death"... "In that sexual act, there's that moment of complete forgetting, which is so incredible."

My Dinner With Andre: "You look terrific!"... "Well, I feel awful"... what else besides little birds could fly out of your mouth?... Because of my short attention span, I was in the easiest position to daydream through their long dinner conversation. Yet, I was alert to their directness toward their emotions revealed a disturbing truth about ourselves. Such a movie with so much to say about ourselves and society, I wasn't able to quote the entire movie... just before the credits began, Erik Satie's "First Gymnopedie" started playing - the very piece of music I had rediscovered just days ago and had planned to use in a video art/ expression project. I even mentioned to Phyllis that it was one of the saddest pieces of music I have ever felt.

My Dinner With Andre: Thought-revealing ideas and concepts about the theater and the audience's emotions - make them feel passive and impotent by exposing them to how awful life is and that they can't do anything about it... How much would you pay to

be affected by something?... Artistic demons and Nazi demons.

-Gregory Peck

To Kill a Mockingbird: There is perhaps no other performance as touching to me as Gregory Peck's noble performance as Atticus Finch in this movie. When the black audience in rises to their feet as Atticus walks past after standing up for a wrongly accused black man accused of rape and has just been sentenced to death by a prejudiced jury, I always start to cry. Some tells Atticus' daughter, Scout, to stand up with them because "your father is passing". It's one of the greatest moments in cinema history... "...There's a lot of ugly things in this world, son. I wish I could keep them all away from ya."

-Ed Harris

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Ed Harris": He craved attention... "You have to have your emotions accessible to other people. You're got to follow your heart."

-Sam Kinison

Sam Kinison: Why Did We Laugh?: "Night of the Living Dead" featuring Jesus Christ... Comedy Church featuring preacher/ comedian Sam Kinison... Exorcism comedy... "Use your sexual creativity when eating pussy! Just lick the alphabet! Big Capital Letters! A... B... C...!"... "My ex-wife kept calling me, using me as an emotional tampon."

Sam Kinison: Breaking All the Rules: "He was always rebellious to religion and the confined rules that we had"... "I'll give you head while you read erotic literature"... "Fuck telling the truth! Lie!"... "They were doctoring the Bible"... "The Lord likes to get a good laugh every once in a while"... "Jesus is the only guy who didn't scare the shit out of people by crawling out of his grave!!!! The Dead live!!! Put a stake in his heart!!!!"... "Jesus didn't have a life. He didn't have a wife"... "You've been married twice so you could be a tour guide in *hell*!"... "She puts on five or ten pounds per year. Then after nine or ten years, you realize you're living with their mom!!!"... "Lick the alphabet. She'll think you're from Europe"... "I know what it's like to fuck a corpse. After all, I was married for two fucking years!!!!"

Sam Kinison: Family Entertainment Hour: "There's been three things that have gotten me through my life: comedy, rock and roll, and a good fuck"... "Be the rapper killer!"... "You pay for the truth. You want the Sam Kinison experience!"... "I hope you rot in hell, bitch!!!" Exorcism comedy performance art theater for the middle class masses!... "I never believed that Jesus was ever going to come back"... Raging pain and despair stand-up while high on coke... "I'm not *that* evil!"... "Dr. Ruth, you fucking Nazi bitch!"... "It was like touching a mummy's pussy."

-Kate Winslet

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Kate Winslet": "I wanted her heart to truly be broken *and* to be strong"... "She's totally in love with him (the Marquis de Sade) in an intellectual sort of way. He taught her things and words didn't knew."

-Ethan Hawke

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Ethan Hawke": "I had a real Salieri complex with River Phoenix. I was painfully jealous of him"... "If you're bored, you're the only one responsible for that"... "A smaller crew in making a movie on DV (digital video) inspires a more personal way of filmmaking"... "What sound or noise don't you like to hear?" -"*Bears crawling outside my tent! I don't know!*"... "What job or profession wouldn't you like to have?" -"*Fascist dictator!?!?*"... "You have to find something to live for besides your own pleasure. Something that's gives you fulfillment besides meeting your own needs"... "Everybody wants to be someplace else. Everybody wants to be doing more or better."

-Hugh Jackman

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Hugh Jackman": "When playing "Wolverine", I was looking through your eyebrows to look more menacing like a wolf"... "Perform a lot. Relaxation is the key. The more relaxed you get the more easier it is to just *be*." "Inside the Actor's Studio: Hugh Jackman" (2nd time): "We constantly want to better ourselves. That's our drive"... "How do you get better and better? You have to go deeper and deeper"... "When you take a role, take a risk. Go for something that makes you feel uncomfortable"... "The greatest roadblock to a relationship is how we take things for granted."

-John Travolta

"Inside the Actor's Studio: John Travolta": "When I was a boy, I ran away every Sunday"... "I think you learn by your failures and your mistakes, but you don't take them to heart. Once you do, it takes the spirit out of you. You die a little bit"... Speaking to himself: "Shame on you for believing that you're crap because a few people told you so"... "It's the euphoria of the moment when you're acting that I live for"... "There are people who are larger than life, but they're real. They're theatrical. They know it and believe it"... "Living life as art"... "I could go and watch an American film or a French film. I chose the French film because I wanted to fill myself up more"... "We are dream merchants. We're in the dream business."

-Michael Caine

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Michael Caine": "It was the night that my father died that I determined to make something of myself. And for ten years, I had a very hard time in becoming a successful actor. And it was only the memory of that night that kept me going through that"... "I wasn't a 'group actor'. I was an 'individual actor'"... "I never go the girls, but my friend

always did"... "I always look for humor in the characters that I play. If you're playing a human being properly, some of it much be funny"... "You have to get past that point of being embarrassed about revealing oneself during a performance. You just have to say, 'Fuck it!'"

"Sir Michael, 75, used to be famous for always working, whether the script was good or wanting. Along with such films as "Hannah and Her Sisters" -- which won him one of his two Oscars -- "Sleuth" and "Educating Rita," there was "The Island," "Blame It on Rio" and "Jaws: The Revenge." Not that he minded. Regarding "Jaws: The Revenge," he once wrote, "*I have never seen it, but by all accounts it is terrible. However, I have seen the house that it built, and it is terrific.*"

-Jack Nicholson

Five Easy Pieces: They addressed his sister as *Mr. Dupea*... "Rest home asylum."

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest: "Medication time"... An asylum is a Vulnerability School... "I *tried*, God damnit. At least I did that"... "Wasn't that the first time you tried to commit suicide?"... Staring in defiance at a blank TV set and acting *entertained*... "Time spent in the company of others is very therapeutic. While time spent brooding alone only increases a feeling of separation"... "He isn't crazy, but he is dangerous"... "I can take it no more."

"*Wait 'til they get a load of me...*" --Jack Nicholson as the Joker in "Batman" (1989).

-Gene Wilder

"Gene Wilder: Celebrity Profile": Gilda Radner: "I may be not be perfect, but I'm the best you're going to find! I love you."
Stir Crazy: I love Gene Wilder's hysterical happiness. He's simply ready to burst with wild glee!! He's like an adult kid.

-Kim Basinger

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Kim Basinger": "I loved my mother's creative way of life. She wasn't going to be tied down"... "I'm a shy human being. And I'm a bit of a loner. Introverted. I would lock my bedroom door"... Agoraphobic: a person with the fear of going out... "Half of acting is *reacting*"... "I choose projects on the basis that they will be *fun* for the audience"... "Don't be afraid to fail. Because you will. You will fall. And you'll get so embarrassed you'll go out of your mind. But you'll get right back up again."

-Kurt Russell

Big Trouble In Little China: "His flesh and bone are atomized. He becomes a dream"... "**Green explosions!**"... I picked up a lot of the swagger and pompous of Kurt Russell's character of Jack Burton in this movie when I was eleven years old. Lines like "If I'm not back by dawn, call the president" and "I was born ready" say it all! Essentially, he's just a kid in a grown-ups body. I also loved how I was transported to an underworld that I'd never seen before. That fascinated and stirred my imagination. "A world so unreal, at once so frightening." And so many characters in this movie have super cool super hero powers, like throwing blue electricity!!... "This is like some radical *Alice In Wonderland*"... "Like an evil dream" ... "You seem to know the difficulties between men and women, how seldom it works out. And yet, we keep trying, like fools"... "Oil: the black blood of the earth"... "Only a dream can kill a dream"... "*It's all in the reflexes.*"

-Geena Davis

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Geena Davis": "I had an active imagination"... "It was my private dream to go into the movies."

-Eddie Murphy

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Eddie Murphy": "I loved putting on the makeup and lose myself in a character"... "I was spiritually grounded."

Beverly Hills Cop: One of my favorite early teens movies. I used to emulate Eddie Murphy's laugh all the time... "I was disturbing the *peace*!?"... The Beverly Hills cops and the security guards look like beautiful soap opera actors.

-Bette Midler

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Bette Midler": "I was constantly fighting for some self-esteem. And you may notice that I got some!"... "I was a bookworm... and I'll remain a bookworm when I die"... "I had no social skills. A lot of actors hide behind the characters they play because they don't have very good social skills"... "I did my research on my orgasm scene."

-Debra Winger

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Debra Winger": "I was a student of life"... "I was sad and lost in America in those years"... "When you have a trauma in this world, it's pretty scary. You either come back to the world or you move on"... She wouldn't go out of her apartment for over a month... "My two muses in life: fear and desperation."

I saw A Dangerous Woman, a good film with a few interesting, questionable situations. The Debra Winger character was a little bit like me -- at times, scared and confused with love and people.

-Paul Hogan/ "Crocodile" Dundee

"Crocodile" Dundee: When I was a young teenager, I used to watch "Crocodile" Dundee and idolize how outlandish his character was. He was a wild outsider in a big city. And he got the beautiful girl! In a way he was sort of like a modern day Australian super hero -- the wild crocodile man from the Outback! I was so obsessed with the character

that I even used to emulate the Australian accent when talking to girls just to “impress” them.

-Peter Weller/ Robocop

Robocop: In 1988, I considered this one of my favorite movies of all time. More significantly, it was one of the first R-rated movies I’d ever seen (since I saw it on HBO in Kyle Gansert’s basement). This movie was a real eye-opener for me - a whole side of life I’d never witnessed before. It was vulgar, violent, subversively funny, gory, dysfunctional, corrupt, imaginative, and exhilarating. It was an unseen, forbidden world for a hyper-imaginative, curious Catholic like me. My dad actually bought the VHS tape of the movie at a garage sale for a dollar. I’d watch it on the days I was sick since no one was home to get upset over its violence and language. It still remains a favorite as a tale of a cyborg super hero of the future. “Role models can be very important to a boy.” Robocop spoke to the super-powered enforcer I wanted to take vengeance upon those who teased me in school. I reveled in watching him take out the “bad guys”. It was the perfect movie for a ten-year-old outcast to see. He was the superhero cop of New Detroit.

-Michael Douglas

Wonder Boys: “No, thank you. I don’t care to lose control of my emotions”... When I write that this film was sensitively directed, I mean that there are shots where the characters have real *reactions* showing real *emotions* - unlike so many other movies out these days... “Maybe I’m just a little bit sad tonight”... “I’ve got tenure”... “I don’t think he needs sexual confusion mixed in with the stew”... “James is odd”... I also grew up in a small town no one has ever heard of... “She’s a junkie for the written word. Lucky for me, I manufactured her drug of choice”. God, it excites me to believe that women will actually love the artist because of their artwork. That’s so exciting and inspiring for me... “You are a freak. Welcome to the club”... “Excuse me, am I interrupting a teacher-student conference?”... “I came to my senses”... “I lost everything that I thought was important: my wife, my book, my job.”
Wonder Boys: “This was turning out to be one fucked up day”... Students and teachers mingling socially... “You’re not like my other teachers, Professor Tripp”... Featuring Katie Holmes as the cutest Creative Writing student ever... “Maybe I’m a little too sad tonight”... This movie teems with electricity and excitement. You never know what’s going to happen to these colorful creative characters that I’d love to hang out with... “He finishes a book every eighteen months. And for that, I hate him”... “Whenever I wondered what Sara saw in me, I thought back to the fact that she loved to read”... “They hate you because you’re ten times better than they’ll ever be”... “Books don’t mean anything to anyone... at least, not anymore”... “You are a freak, James. Welcome to the club”... “Sometimes people just need to be rescued”... “I came to my senses”... “TAKE A BOW, JAMES!!”... “I lost everything that I thought was important. But I finally found out where I wanted to go.”
Wonder Boys: What an addictive flick. “Things Have Changed”, indeed.

-David Caruso

Back in 1994 when “NYPD Blue” came on the air on ABC, I started emulating the intensity of one David Caruso. He was a fellow redhead with a low voice that burned with an urgency that I could identify with. I thought the world of him and started to use his “bad-ass” persona as my own at the time whenever I started to feel insecure at school. It was a great way to feel better about myself.

I watched the dynamic thriller, *Kiss of Death*. Though I kept convincing myself that I could have made certain scenes more urgent and powerful, I enjoyed David Caruso and the moody atmosphere.

-Melanie Griffith

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Melanie Griffith”: “I never felt normal”... “I’m a sensitive. I feel too much inside. It makes me want to cry. I used alcohol and cocaine to fill the pain and the emptiness I felt inside. I knew how to fill in a character I would play, but I didn’t know how to fill in *myself*”... “Depression is a battle that never ends. But you have to fight it one day at a time”... She knows people think she’s a ditz, and she’s also sensitive and depressive... “God has a God.”

-Barbra Streisand

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Barbra Streisand”: “Parental loss is the most common spark that has fired up the talent in many of our guests”... “People with painful childhoods usually grow up to be more interesting people. There’s always a positive to a negative”... “The living process of art”... “With a deep sense of self there is also a deep sense of insecurity”... “I became an icon to the gay community because I was *different*... and I made it”... “If I didn’t feel passionate about something, how would I put in 18 hour days?”... “I think honesty is the key. What comes from the heart goes to the heart”... I never really liked or understood Ms. Streisand until I got this chance to hear about her life. Then it made sense. Then I saw the self-portrait.

-Danny Glover

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: The 10th Year Celebration”: “On the day I got the role, my... mom died in an automobile accident. So some of my work is a tribute to her.” –Danny Glover.

-Will Smith

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Will Smith”: “There is no place for a lack of confidence in rap music. You have to be strong, confident, and assertive”... “I can get through fourteen birthdays without him. I can get through college without him and marry me a beautiful woman, too. I don’t need him!... How come he doesn’t want me, man?”... “I wanted to be a somebody in order

to impress my mother and grandmother.”

-James Woods

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: James Woods”: (Upon his father’s death) “You feel an obligation to lead a good life to honor a good man”... “I think acting is very noble. The only two professions that people remember are warriors and artists”... “You’re the hero of your own story... even if you’ve only got three lines.”

-Molly Ringwald

John Hughes standout teenage school drama, [The Breakfast Club](#): After watching the Hughes brilliance of this movie, I wondered why I avoided the movie for so long. I mean, it is a really damn great movie! A stuffy athlete, an intelligent geek, a popular virgin redhead girl, a pot-smoking juvenile, and an abused outcast all become closest friends even with their differences. It took mean and intimately personal questions and disclosures to bring them together. They believed that they would have a problem remaining friends because their other friends wouldn’t accept it. Phony peer-pressure at its pinnacle, “The Breakfast Club” all had their problems with their parents and school, yet they understood and realized how similar their lives and emotions really were.

-Nicholas Cage

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Nicholas Cage”: “My imagination was my savior in many ways”... “To a certain degree, there was a sense of relief to see my parents separated. But every child also wants to see their parents back together”... “And then I saw James Dean in “East of Eden” when I was fifteen and an emotional wreck and realized that acting was what I really wanted to do”... “Edvard Munch was one of the favorite painters at the time. “Scream”... “Even if it’s surreal, but truthful in some way”... “I am attracted to playing outlaw characters”... “The film “Leaving Las Vegas” is a suicide note”... “Our strongest tool as an actor is our imagination.”

-Ann-Margret

[Viva Las Vegas](#): *This evening a cop pulled me over because my heart was racing for Ann-Margret!!!*

[Bye Bye Birdie](#): Good God, that Ann-Margaret is like *candy fire* as a red-haired teenage woman!... A rock star whose songs make hundreds of women spontaneously faint... Crazy ballet in Columbus, Ohio!

[Bus Riley’s Back in Town](#): Ann-Margret – one of the 60’s coolest sex kittens! –Quentin Tarantino.

-Richard Dreyfuss

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Richard Dreyfuss”: “Don’t just *talk* about becoming an actor”... “I was a very good student in the classes that I *liked*”... “He is a character filled with self-awareness”... “I’m neurotic, but not to the point where I need to be institutionalized”... “Sometimes getting what you want is not always a wonderful thing”... “All you need is talent and perseverance.”

-Ned Beatty

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Ned Beatty”: “I went through puberty extremely early in life”... He majored in “Nothing” in college... “Don’t be afraid to steal, especially from yourself”... “There’s no such thing as unrealistic behavior.”

-Dennis Quaid

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Dennis Quaid”: “I’ve always been a loner. I like being alone for long periods of time. I think it’s very helpful. It gave me time to search inside and think. It brings me a lot of peace”... “It’s a lucky thing to know what you’re doing when you’re 18 or 19.”

[The Big Easy](#) has literally the best accent for a film noir. The suave manner Dennis Quaid pronounced “*chere*”, “*oh la la*”, and “*in da flesh*” with such a seductive twist and a grin intoxicated me just by listening to the guy. For a while, everyone’s New Orleans accent appealed to me so greatly that I picked up on the richness of the dialect. And the exotic city at night was highlighted with the most sensuous shades of cool blue and hot red I’ve ever witnessed.

[The Big Easy](#): “Ummm... *nice neck*”... “Do you like spicy food? How about dinner tonight?”... It’s a love masquerade.

-Drew Barrymore

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Drew Barrymore”: “That was something I became very aware of: parents getting divorced. You get close and they go away... you get close and they go away”... “I think in order to become interesting and great, you have to be a bit crazy and screwed up. One doesn’t come without the other. If you are too methodical and organized, you won’t be able to get to that insane, passionate place”... She divorced herself from her parents... She had been in a mental institution... “Working makes me the happiest I can be in life”... “I put on headphones to block everything and everyone out.”

-Ian McKellen

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Ian McKellen”: “I think what I realized that I needed was to escape. To escape from the grief of my

mother's death, the bullying I received while I was at school. It was my emotional need"... "I think it's important to be naked before an audience by taking off one's emotional clothing and display some truth to the character that you are playing"... "X-Men is Marvel Comics' most popular title because it is about outcasts and it appeals to the underdog kids."

-Liam Nelson

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Liam Neeson": "The Irish spirit is attracted to drama"... "I was at a crossroads in my life"... "They described you as a 'Sequoia of sex'"... "You've got to have balls of steel to be in the acting business. But also keep your sensitivity at the same time."

Schindler's List: For my money, Liam Nelson owns this movie. His portrayal of the heavily flawed, but charismatic Oskar Schindler remains one of my favorite characters in movie history. He is so cool, confident, manipulative, seductive, and powerful by making his fortune from profiteering from the war. He went from nothing to great wealth and had plenty of mistresses to bed. He had powerful friends as well in high-ranking places that allowed him to control lower-level Nazis by calmly informing them that if they didn't do as he says, he'd make sure they would be on the Russian front by the end of the month. Priceless... He also has a loud, commanding voice that I admire and respect greatly.

-Brandon Lee

I ended up watching the unsettling, yet dazzling The Crow – starring the late, utterly charismatic Brandon Lee. What a mesmerizing performance. It's like he was possessed with a holy spirit while playing this character just before he died. The Crow: "You heard me *rapping*"... "I am glow"... Supernatural rock musician ghost clown super hero avenger killer of killers.

During his final interview, Brandon Lee expressed his enthusiasm of how less trivial life is when you consider how tragically mortal you are. "How many times will you see the full moon rise? Maybe 20? Maybe less." A personal explanation about death by the deceased star made me reconsider the poignant tragedy of The Crow.

-James Gandolfini

"Inside the Actor's Studio: James Gandolfini": "Be able to get up in front of people and make a fool out of yourself"... "That's probably the reason you're all here in acting school. You want to express something, but you don't know what it is."
"The Sopranos: Season Four": "*Everything comes to an end*"... "She's nineteen and she's regressing. She's traumatized"... "She thinks I should be on Prosaic." The whole world should be on Prosaic after the trauma we've been through... A woman psychiatrist who believes firmly that God is a woman... His wife's looks and youth are fading... "You've got to say goodbye"... "Some people thrive on solitude"... The fascinating and unnerving thing about watching "The Sopranos" is that it reveals what people think behind peoples' backs. The real bad hurtful stuff. The stuff that makes us vulnerable inside. We even listen in during psychiatric sessions to learn about their rape experiences... "I want you to be proud of me"... A therapist seeing a therapist... "I don't care if I live or die"... "I'm worried about him. I think he's lonely"... "She committed suicide." – "Why?!" – "Let's just say she didn't have much luck with men"... "The heart wants what the heart wants, I guess." – "The dick wants what the dick wants, too"... "*You knew you were damaged goods and you never fucking told me!?!?*" The boyfriend's response upon his girlfriend informing him that she had an "medical procedure" (an abortion) and she couldn't have children... "He's treating me like the ugly girl at the dance"... "I'm going to get *married!*"... This show is so brutally raw about the corruption in this world. "You cut corners, but you help out"... "The 60's revolution got sold, Johnny"... "Of all the girls in New Jersey, you had to fuck this one?!"... Tony wants the women he cannot have. Yet he neglects his wife who he does "have"... "*Have a nice life*"... "She cries a lot"... "She's going to have to make more of an effort to make friends"... "I always say 'I love you' to guys too soon, but I really like you"... "I want to know about Ralph's sex life. What gets him off?"... "Get yourself right with God"... "It's all downhill from here"... "Struggling to suppress his buried passion for her"... "Your response to sadness is usually rage, not humor"... "I don't want you to take 80 mg of Prozac!"... "You've caused a lot of suffering yourself, haven't you?"... "What kind of God does this kind of *shit!*"... "I don't belong there anymore in my hometown. Something's changed. There is nothing for me now"... "You don't fuck?! This relationship isn't 'real'?" – "It's real. We communicate. He looks at me as if I was beautiful. He thinks that I'm interesting when I talk. Just those minutes that we see each other... I live for those"... "I was thinking about you. That you have this smile on your face, like you have your own private joke"... "You Americans. All you do sit around on couches with your psychiatrists and complain. You spend too much time to thinking about only yourselves"... "You're big and strong and full of life"... Burying a wedding anniversary cake next to the grave of your dead wife... "It's never-ending. You never want to let it go"... "You pay me for my honest opinion. You should be in therapy"... "Why are you not happy for me?"... "She hates my guts, Tony"... "Your stress is off the charts lately"... "*You have made a fool of me for years with these whores!*"... "Divorce is very hard for kids. After a divorce, they do not *trust*. I am a child of divorce"... "He said he isn't sure anymore if he'd be a good father"... "I used to feel so superior because so many of my friends had so many fucked-up divorced parents." – "I used to, too"... "*I don't love you anymore. I don't want you!*"... "Don't worry. I'm going to hell when I die"... "HE MADE ME FEEL LIKE I MATTERED!!!"... "**YOU FUCKING HYPOCRITE!!!**"... "Well, you don't have to put up with her shit anymore. I heard you tell her off by the pool"... "Invading" your neighbors by noise assaulting them with a live Dean Martin album played at full volume on a yacht... "You should go back to counseling, dad."

-William H. Macy

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: William H. Macy”: A school of no grades, no rules, and the students sleep with the professors. It was literally an experiment in education... Learning the discipline of being an actor... “David Mamet taught me that acting is an honorable profession. We tell the truth under imaginary circumstances”... “Create a theater of your imagination”... “I have spent much of my life under imaginary circumstances. It brings me to life. And I’m a lucky guy.”

-George Carlin

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: George Carlin”: “Dream your dreams and massage them. Believe me, it works”... “I feel betrayed by religion, the nation, and the species”... “Religion has convinced us that there’s an invisible man living in the sky watching everything you do!”

George Carlin: 40 Years of Comedy: "George Carlin was a rite of passage in the 70s"... "This used to be me. I liked him, but there was nothing *behind* him. He was just the superficial, all surface"... "Shit, Piss, Fuck, Cunt, Cocksucker, Motherfucker, and Tits. Those are the heavy seven. Those are the ones that'll infect your soul, curve your spine and keep the country from winning the war"... "We're good at bombing brown people!"... "Bullshit is rampant in this country"... "Religion has the biggest bullshit story of all time. Religion has convinced all of us that there's an invisible man living in the sky who watches everything you do every minute of every day!" If you don't follow the Ten Commandments, he'll send you to eternal screaming agony in hell forever and ever. "*But he loves you*. But he needs money"... "Toasted snail penises"... "My dog committed suicide. He ran right onto the road and got hit by a car"... "My father was out of the picture"... "You have to have something to live for. You have to have something to look forward to"... "Why do you care so much?"... "Artist is obligated to be on route. There's a journey involved. You don't know where you're going"... "It drives you"... "Isn't he cute?"... "You want their attention, approval, and their applause."

-Sigourney Weaver

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Sigourney Weaver”: “I had a few discouraging teachers who told me that I didn’t have any talent and should leave school. No one has the right to say that to a person”... “I am attracted to acting roles of women who don’t fit in.”

-Jennifer Connelly

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Jennifer Connelly”: “I’m a bit of an overachiever.”

-Hugh Grant

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Hugh Grant”: The ultimate *charmer*... “We look for influences that shaped. Who influenced you to become the actor you are today?”... “Blue stocking virgins”... “You have to ask yourself *why* are you saying the lines in a movie?”

Notting Hill: “It was surreal, but nice.”

After the movie, a female friend called me back. I found myself acting like Hugh Grant’s character in Notting Hill. I had a serious, caring tone to me that was distinctly Hugh’s. My goofy surreal antic humor was barely present.

-Mark Wahlberg

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Mark Wahlberg”: “I knew that being in the position I was in and the harm that I’d done that I’d need to change drastically. I felt really bad about what had happened”... “It wasn’t cool to want to be an artist where I was growing up.”

-Natalie Portman

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Natalie Portman”: “I don’t think I’m better than anyone else”... “Our job as actors is empathy”... “I had been living in a bubble. I had never been to an ATM. I had never done my laundry.”

-Jamie Foxx

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Jamie Foxx”: A country boy makes good... “I went through culture shock when I went to the International Academy of Art in San Diego since there were students there from 82 different countries. There was all these people from all over the world getting together on this thing called *art*”... “Oliver Stone took a chance on me – and that’s what it takes”... “It’s that rhythm. Music will help you and change your moods about things.”

-Selma Hyack

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Selma Hyack”: “Religion does not celebrate individuality or curiosity. But art does”... “She showed the courage to be unique”... “They will be proved wrong as soon as somebody takes a chance.”

-Cameron Diaz

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Cameron Diaz”: “I feel that if you can’t laugh at yourself you have no business laughing at others”... “Our imaginations are our best friends.”

-Kiefer Sutherland

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Kiefer Sutherland": "Dennis Hooper didn't get into movies for the girls. He was genuinely driven. He was a real artist"... "Fear and the fear of failing are huge motivators for me."

-Robert Redford

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Robert Redford": "I wasn't inspired by school. I was inspired by books that I read outside of class"... "My mother died during my first year in college and this had a very big effect on me. She was very supportive and she believed in me"... "I wanted to be an artist because I wanted control over what I did"... "I like guerilla film/ independent film because it allows your creative spirit to do a lot with a little"... "The character has to grow from the pressures that are put upon him"... He portrayed a series of doomed loners... "Ordinary People: an observation of behavior and feelings"... "Morgan Freeman's got *real soul*."

-Morgan Freeman

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Morgan Freeman": "Acting for me was a chance to show off and prove to people what I am can do"... "Somebody said I had a 'switchblade smile'"... "*Acting is reacting* in my book."

Glory: "That's right, son. It ain't no dream. We ran away slaves and came back fightin' men!"

-David Duchovny

"Inside the Actor's Studio: David Duchovny": "I worked my ass off I was afraid of not getting straight A's"... "I was attracted to the academic life because it gave you 3 to 4 months to do whatever projects you want. That element of play was very attractive to me."

-John Belushi

"John Belushi: Biography": He was "romantically challenged" when he was a teenager... Then he went out with Sarah Pain... He was jealous and frustrated that he was losing the spotlight... I am rather fortunate to be able to be creative without drugs. Belushi thought he had an edge on creativity by in-taking massive amounts of drugs. He lost.

-Jane Fonda

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Jane Fonda": Her mother killed herself when Jane was 12... "I had that disease to please that most girls had when growing up that they weren't good enough, or 'perfect' enough"... "I was pregnant with myself. I was pregnant with the world"... "There's a universality to my story. So that was when I decided to write my book"... "I was afraid of being alone"... "Gods are immortals. We are mortals. We shouldn't be striving for perfection, but completion"... She didn't want to die with regrets. So instead of hiding within herself and not feeling whole in herself, she took action and found the courage to make a very painful decision. She decided to break up her marriage to someone she truly loved. But it had to be done in order for her to find herself. And she was alone in the end. But she also saved herself as hurtful as it was in the end.

-Bruce Campbell

Notes from *If Chins Could Kill: Confessions of a B-Movie Actor*. "The forces of mediocrity are against him"... "Watching people fly and ride down the side of a mountain on a block of ice jolted a part of my imagination that hadn't been touched before - the images were larger than life and so powerful that it seemed more real than real"... "So, we decided to root ourselves in the Great Lakes State. We would conquer Hollywood by having nothing to do with it"... "We dragged a print to larger distributors on both coasts and in Canada, But the reaction was the same: unanimous disinterest"... "I must admit, what attracted me most to Cris was her attraction to me. Simplistic, yes, but this was the first time a woman had openly expressed an interest, and responded in kind. Until Cris appeared on the scene, the film business was my only mistress, demanding full attention. Now, I had to divide my time more equally"... "The dark side of ambition: I put the kids to bed and killed time by unpacking and watching television for a couple of hours, but with each passing minute, my sense of dread intensified. It wasn't women's intuition, but I knew something was up - Cris was never one to stay our late"... "I've been thinking a lot about things and I'm not sure we want you back"... "Initially, this seemed out of the blue, but a year or so later I flashed upon an incident that should have sent up warning flares. I was taking a walk with Cris during a Fourth of July vacation - she was weary of my excessive traveling and the inconsistency of our lives. I had no solution and could only offer, "I don't have what to tell you, kiddo. This is my life - I'm not sure if it's ever gonna change. You may have to trade me in for a better model." I said it with a smile on my face, but Cris wasn't laughing"... "There wasn't anything else I could say to change Cris's mind, but in the course of the next week, I certainly tried. With all sincerity, I offered to get out of the business entirely if it would keep things together, but it was too late - Cris had truly lost all interest. In our six years of marriage, I was away from home for two of them and she saw no end in sight"... "For days that are as bad as that one, the only thing that you can really do is pop in the trust copy of Evil Dead 2 and see another regular Joe have a really bad day too. Which is why I wanted to say thanks. After a really crappy day, something that can make you forget it for a while and make you smile is worth a million thanks"... "ABC 'didn't have a slot for it.' This was a heartbreaker, and I'd be a liar if I said this experience didn't take a bit of the wind out of my sails"... "If you wear classes, just run down to the optometrist and get those contacts, or better still, get laser surgery to

'permanently' solve the defect. While you're on the laser kick, maybe it's time to clear up some of those scars, warts and blemishes that have been haunting you for years - God forbid that movie stars should look like the rest of us. Personally, I've always been amused by the fact that some of Hollywood's most renowned tough guys such as Bogart, John Wayne, and Burt Reynolds all wore toupees. I'll tell you, all actors should be grateful for the day when Sean Connery, one of the manliest men of the silver screen, removed his toupee for all the world to see"... "Waiting for that big call is where you second-guess yourself to death and play all of the 'would have/ should have/ could have' games over and over. The big verdict came down about thirty-six hours later. Paramount had found their man and it was... Billy Zane. Do not pass God. Do not collect \$100"... "Sometimes Hollywood is like a game show - if you don't win the brand-new car, you get a toaster"... "One scene called for Autolykus to kiss Renee O' Connor, Xena's sidekick Gabrielle, on the lips. As a perfectionist, I insisted that the scene be shot over and over - until we got it *just right*"... "Frankly, I can never be far enough from Hollywood"... "Actors face rejection weekly and are willing to tolerate years of subhuman living conditions, all in the hopes of being 'somebody.' Still ninety-seven percent of them will fair -on average, Daddy's sperm has a better cane of fertilizing Mommy's egg than an actor has of succeeding. As actors age, the pressures to remain eternally young are almost unbearable. A plumber will never hear the phrase: 'I'll hire you, but you need to lose twenty pounds'"... "Once you look past the hypes, actors are nothing more than fugitives from reality who specialize in contradiction: we are both children and hardened adults - wide-eyed pupils and jaded working stiffs."

Evil Dead II: Bruce Campbell, the greatest B-movie over-acting actor alive! He's at his best doing campy, corny, bug-eyed bravado!... An enormous sun four times its normal size in the sky above... Diamond-shaped car headlights... For a cartoonish, surreal feel, they used multicolored blood (yellow, black, green, dark red)... The furniture is laughing at you, Ash!!

Evil Dead II: The doorway into another world... "Hello lover!"... Bitten by your dead lover's decapitated head... "You're going down!"... So much over-the-top tension that you have to laugh... "Evil Dead II" - the Broadway play!... "Who's laughing now?!?"... Eating blonde hair for nutrition... Rear-projection background, sped-up footage.

Army of Darkness: Death by book!!!

Bruce Campbell vs. the **Army of Darkness:** The Pit-bitch... Bruce Campbell's idiot psychotic method acting only gets that much better with a good beer in hand... Splatstick: horror mixed with comedy... Loaded with brilliant, quotable dialogue like!: "Shop *Smart* - shop S-Mart!"... "Well, hello *Mr. Fancy Pants!*"... Red blood geysers... "This... is my **BOOM**-stick!"... "Hail to the king, baby!"... Bitten by a book!... Baby, you need to get yourself exorcised!

Bubba Ho-Tep: "Truth is, I haven't had a hard-on in years"... Elvis playing an Elvis impersonator... "The music wasn't mine anymore"... "They **dyed** me this color!"... "*Never fuck with the King!*"

-Roseanne

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Roseanne": "Everyone was happy in Happy Valley except me"... Checked herself into a psychiatric hospital when she was a teenager... She has obsessive-compulsive disorder. "My disorders have disorders"... "I used to suffer from multiple personality disorder. Now I *love* it"... "I knew I was gifted"... "They made you laugh at the world so you could really see the world for what it was"... "Acting is pretending with details"... "It's important to know what your passions are."

-Angelina Jolie

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Angelina Jolie": "I was very aware of my emotions while I was growing up"... "I was very sexual in kindergarten"... "Sex just didn't feel enough. Emotions weren't enough. I wanted to feel more"... "I went to therapy for extra credit in high school"... "She was too hungry, too alive, too restless, too full of life."

"I'm angry. I'm sad. It's a very difficult and sad time," Jolie was quoted as telling *Us Weekly*. "It was a real deep connection, a deep marriage, so it's not that simple to say this or that one thing caused the problems. It's clear to me that our priorities shifted overnight."

-Phil Hartman

Based on Phil Hartman: Yet Hartman, a master mimic, may have just been playing another role. His relationship with Brynn, his third wife, was far more troubled than their public appearances allowed. Phil, an outwardly genial man, was often sullen and withdrawn in private. When she got amped up, he would simply go to sleep. *He would withdraw*. But that same low-key demeanor served him less successfully in his personal life. "He would disappear emotionally," says Strain. "Phil's body would be there, but he'd be in his own world. That passivity made you crazy. And when I'd protest, he'd say, 'You're getting in the way of my career, and this is who I am and what it's going to be like.'" Hartman's reclusiveness would again become an issue in his third marriage. "She was always looking to find herself," says a friend. Brynn was plagued by a powerful insecurity. Brynn soon "felt intimidated by Phil. He was this confident guy on the way up. "Brynn didn't have her own identity," says an L.A. friend. She was a little confused and lost in the Phil Hartman game." Low self-esteem led Brynn to undergo several cosmetic surgeries. "I understood her need to spruce up her exterior because she didn't think she had an interior."

I recorded these lines out of personal empathy for this late, great comedian. I understand how an artistic/creative career can be devastating upon one's personal life.

-Edward Norton

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Edward Norton": He got rejected by many colleges and programs when applying himself around... "There is no personal experience that is as rich as the human imagination"... "Trust your humanity when you're acting."

-Matthew Broderick

Ferris Buller's Day Off: This movie charismatically showed an entire generation in the 80's how to go out and have reckless fun without really caring about the consequences - because Ferris got away with it. That's scary because it's real. If Ferris expressed that he didn't believe in God or go to church, neither would the generation who consider him a role model riding in a red Ferrari to 80's pop music ("Oh Yeah!"). Sample dialogue: "What do you want to do in college? What are you interested in?" -"Nothing... *ha ha ha ha!*"... Entering high school from junior high, it turns into a kindergarten bordello. Boys turn into superficial men... "guys"; girls turn into superficial women... "babes" - and start flirting, dating, and mating. It doesn't seem real. And it wasn't.

-Jodie Foster

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Jodie Foster": "Travis Bickle was on a mission to become a significant person"... "Books have always been my great escape"... "I was a protégée and I was set apart"... "She is a very private person"... "There is a loneliness in Jodie and in Nell that she connects to"... "Be the uncool you that you are inside."

-Rosie O'Donnell

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Rosie O'Donnell": "TV was like a surrogate parent to me"... "I wanted to talk about depression because it was so relatable to so many people. The more we can talk about it, the less stigma it has."

-The Three Stooges

"The Three Stooges": Slapstick idiot brilliance with ridiculous, exaggerated high-pitched sound effects ("Ngch, ngch, ngch, ngch!" "Hey Moe!" "Donk!" "Slap! Slap!"). In the era of the Great Depression, these comedy masters of surrealism reigned supreme along with the Marx Bros. and Charlie Chaplin.

-Ralph Fiennes

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Ralph Fiennes": "We all have dark sides, don't we?"... "Take risks"... "Getting that role gave me confidence to pursue acting"... "You want to be in something that has enough merit that people will want to see it and be engaged"... "He's awkward in his own skin. But he comes alive when he's acting."

-Dave Chappelle

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Dave Chappelle": "I watched so much TV. I was an escapist because I was the odd kid out"... He really talked the truth about Hollywood being a pretty "sick" place. It will make you crazy. They will want you to make a TV show with "universal appeal", which in turn loses all personality and character to the show... "He moved into a farm in Yellow Springs, OH, to get the hell away from the cruelty and insanity of Hollywood... "The thing is, the higher I go and the more famous I become, the less happier I got"... "You can learn just as much from watching a bad comedian as a good comedian because with the bad comedian you can ask yourself, 'Now *why* aren't they funny?'"... "Bugs Bunny was a major influence on me."

"Chappelle's Show: Season One Uncensored!": Creative, honest, controversial, daring, aggressive, hysterical, fun, slaphappy skits and comedy from a black guy from Yellow Springs, OH!!!

"Chappelle's Show Uncensored: Season Two": "What if the Internet was a place you could go to? It would be the most vile place on earth!"... Drinking 100% Cambodian breast milk.

Dave Chappelle's Block Party: Handing out golden tickets in Dayton, OH... "This place is called "Ha Ha Pizza". It was started by some hippies back in the sixties. And back then, if you ordered a mushroom pizza, chances were you were going to hallucinate"... "There ain't shit to do out here but play music. And that's what kept us out of trouble."

For What it's Worth: Dave Chappelle: Live at the Fillmore: "I study white people"... "I want to make sense of all this!"... "This is fucking crazy. You used to live in my balls, son!"

-Audrey Hepburn

When I was a young teenager, I found myself falling madly in love with Ms. Hepburn in most any movie she was in. She gave off a fragile, vulnerable beauty that just made me want to hold her and give my love to her. There was an innocent quality to her that struck a chord with me: her thin body type, her big beautiful eyes, the lushness of her voice. She moved me deeply.

Roman Holiday: "So happy...!"... Audrey Hepburn... those eyes, those cheek bones, those adorable mousy ears, that incredible grace and effortless charm! You instantly fall in love with her.

My Fair Lady: Audrey Hepburn - the ultimate female beauty. Her smile melts my heart for her. I adore her. The kind

of *lady* you would want to kiss endearingly. I'm not attracted to her in a sexual way, but in an intensely romantic way. She's a flower in the form of a woman. She can show so much charm, glee, sadness, meekness, hope, gloom, beauty, and most importantly vulnerability as in the same scene. "Aooooowwwh!!!"

-Don Cheadle

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Don Cheadle": "Acting is like jazz improv. You've got to listen for the beats."

-Tim Allen

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Tim Allen": "I'm Tim Dick"... "After the death of my father in a car accident when I was eleven, everything in my life changed. My cell DNA, color, everything. It's made me into everything that I am, which I hate to admit"... "I'm like the weather. I won't always be like this, whether I'm anxious or depressed or whatever"... "What is your favorite word?" –"Power." What is your least favorite word?" –"Jealousy"... "I've always made a list: what am I going to do today? What am I going to do this year? What am I going to do period."

-Robert Downey Jr.

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Robert Downey Jr.": "I was raised in a family of taking drugs were okay and we were encouraged to be creative"... "He's seen a lot of life."

-Adam West/ "Batman"

Starring Adam West: "Kid, we can sell you in Hollywood!"... "Every gal on the Batman set fell in love with him"... "He's a very creative person"... "There were moments of extreme concern"... "My dad is always pursuing some kind of creative outlet"... "You get terribly jumpy if you can't do your work"... "Art is your release for your impulses to create something"... "The drawings and paintings of 'Batman'"... "That transition was tough both money-wise and emotionally"... "I did Batman at car shows"... "I did dinner theater to keep the income going"... "I drank too much and I womanized because I felt like I was a failure"... "He wanted a better life for his family and less stress"... "I have no regrets about moving into the mountains"... "He got a new perspective of his life"... "I made that transition."

Like a good wine, I have found that the surrealistic 1960's Batman TV show gets better with age. Like the obsessive-compulsive note-taker I am, I wrote down my thoughts and amusing quotes from the show while I watched them. And sadly or amusingly, the show is indeed loaded with unintentional suggestions that Batman and Robin are having more than just a secret life fighting crime together. "Batman's in the dressing room with the Boy Wonder!"... "How about some milk and cookies, Master Dick?"... "To the Bat-poles"?! These were things I never picked up when I was twelve, that's for sure! The other thing that is really funny about the Batman show is how many "sweet, innocent, and naïve" teenage girls go gleefully "bad" on the wrong side of the law only to get caught and say how wrong they were for what they did. It's practically cute! I also love how the police consider Batman and Robin to be completely normal law-abiding citizens who just happens to dress in funny costumes. The pop surrealism is priceless! Everyone, including the police force, the newspaper salesmen, and the superheroes, act like up-most citizens and total adult Boy Scouts. Batman is trustworthy and honest, a real model human being. He doesn't even drink! All this goodness and helping out your neighbor in a busy city is totally bizarre by today's standards. It's an almost like a child-like version of reality with Ed Wood-like camp. And everyone exclaims their sentences with exclamation points!! "You rogue!" "Oh, you *pixie*!" It seems like everyone on this show doesn't act their actual age. It's like they're living in a fantasy world. Dick Grayson/ Robin clearly looks like he's 19 or 20 years old, but talks like he's 13! Batman acts like a superhero Boy Scout. And the villains are all living out their wildest crime-wave dreams.

Notes from "Back to the Batcave" by Adam West: "Julie Newmar brought everything to bear on her interpretation, including her sensual dancer's movements, inventive hissing and purring, scratch-my-belly poses, and pouting, provocative mouth. She also came up with a very clever way of wearing her belt, draping it around her hips instead of around her waist to empathize her curves. Sheathed in a spangled, skin-tight black costume, her neon-red, curved sharp nails clawing slowly at some unseen prey, she established the character for every actress who followed – including, I'm told, Michelle Pfeiffer in *Batman Returns*. She also caused curious stirrings in my utility belt"... "From the start, the flirting was as thick and ticklish as angora: a partly averted glance here, a little smile there. All very enticing, but all for the benefit of the part. She wanted the sexual tension right there on the surface when the camera rolled. It was a fascinating rite to be a part of. I understood why male and more than a few female viewers fantasized about her"... "Men are rather simple creatures and Julie was the sexiest woman on television. As long as Julie kept at claw's length, I was able to maintain my professional cool. But she was on the set a lot and her flirting became intoxicating. She was tormenting me"... "It was really tough for me to remain aloof. Julie knew that. She was extremely playful"... "I wasn't exactly hurting for companionship in those days. I was like a kid in a comic book store, and I couldn't avoid taking a peek under the cover that looked interesting, especially

when they were constantly being thrust in my face... It's funny, though. At some point late in the first season, I got bored with the comic books and yearned for a novel. One faceless relationship is like another, none of them especially satisfying, and one weekend, while I was with Jonelle and Hunter, I got it in my head that I should try to repair my broken marriage. I realized what a fool I'd been to let Nga go, to allow my family to be broken up, and I tried to win her back with flowers, phone calls, and even a candlelit family dinner... But it wasn't to be."

-Rachel Griffiths

Among Giants: "I'm a king up here"... You just know a movie is magic when you fall in love with the actress; and in this case, it's the marvelous Rachel Griffiths.

-Christian Bale

American Psycho: A beautifully vicious attack/ mass exposure of 80's yuppie materialism. It unwraps all these "superficial" people. Money, cocaine, make-up, slickness, affairs, hookers, expensive food.... "I'm sorry. I don't have anything in common with you"... Rich, powerful white males with one or two emotions - no more... "Lady in red"... "She'll keep you sexually satisfied"... One man to another: "I've been waiting so long for you. I've seen you look at me"... A serial killer who is a music fan... "DIE YUPPIE SCUM!"... "I am simply not there"... "I just love Phil Collins!"... "I don't think I'll be able to control myself"... "I know I should go. I have a tendency to get involved with unavailable men."

After the movie, I biked through Victoria Park at the twilight of the evening's magic hour with the confident persona of American Psycho's Patrick Bateman. I saw part of myself in him. Not in an extreme sense, but in his twisted perspective of life.

American Psycho: Featuring a killer 80's soundtrack: New Order, Huey Lewis and the News, Phil Collins, Genesis... I think the reason this movie works so well is because the main character of Patrick Bateman is so unrepressed with his murderous contempt for those around them. Those yuppie scum!!!!... "I'm Patrick Bateman. I'm 27 years old. I believe in a healthy diet and rigorous exercise routine. In the shower, I use a honey-almond body wash"... "There is an idea of a Patrick Bateman... some kind of abstraction"... "I am simply not there"... Ordering his secretary on what to wear to her preference: "Do not wear that outfit again. Wear a dress or a skirt or something. You're prettier than what you're wearing. And high heels. I like high heels"... These characters are all so over-the-top full of themselves. Their expensive, flashy lifestyles that add up to nothing. They're all engaged and cheating on each other with their closest friends... The hyper-thrill of this movie is that Patrick's always on the verge of snapping!!! There's just so much tension he's building up inside for his co-workers that you just know he's going to go off any time now. And sometimes it's over the most trivial and silly of things, like business card envy... "I think my mask of sanity is about to slip"... He'll say the craziest things and no one will believe him: "I like to dissect girls. Did you know that I am utterly insane?" They'll think it's hilarious... He's an obsessive commercial 80's music fanatic... Doing manic exercising stomach-crunches while playing "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre" on TV... "I've noticed your hard body"... And he loves blondes. They must all be blondes. Dirty blondes just won't quite do... Patrick's an obsessive-compulsive neat freak. He demands cleanliness... "I don't want to get bruised"... "I think it would be a *turn-on*"... "We can always empathize with ourselves"... Sporting an erect chainsaw penis... "I have no other way of fulfilling my needs"... The guy is high on his own power. His "prestigious" vice-president job position is nothing but him in his office listening to music and doing crossword puzzles. His secretary does all his lunch and dinner reservation scheduling... "You're inhuman!" -"No! I'm in touch with humanity"... "I know my behavior can be erratic sometimes"... "FEED ME A STRAY KITTY"... "There is no catharsis."

"He's been known to keep a low profile -- "You will never see me at a party," he told the Times of London - and delights in concocting stories about his life... He changes his natural English accent for each role, to the extent of doing publicity in his character's voice... "I have no desire for people to get their facts right about me," he said." -From an article on Christian Bale.

-James Stewart

It's A Wonderful Life: High ideals... "I don't want to spend my life counting nickels and dimes in a tiny little office. I'd go crazy. I want to do something big, something important!" Idealistic and young = me in undergraduate school - the dreamer.

Mr. Smith Goes To Washington: The idealistic youth knew better than the corrupted adults... A grown man, with the ideals of Abe Lincoln, was dreadfully shy and clumsy around beautiful women - a grown man... you're alive! - You can bring **goodness** into the world with the life you have - "I don't feel like **sitting down**." Jefferson Smith's **spirit** has become part of **me**... Opposite versions of the news exposed to the public... You can't get through life without "compromising" with corruption?! They tell us: "That's how things are"... They try to degrade and ruin us with lies, noise, and apathy... "NO SIR, I WILL NOT YIELD!!!"

If I dare to remember one memorable sensation about living this day, I would recall and enthrall about experiencing Frank Capra's Mr. Smith Goes To Washington.

Jimmy Stewart was the innocent, naive idealist of America who personified many of us well-natured dreamers - like me. I smirked anxiously through the brilliantly confrontational finale where love, corruption, honesty, and lies collided in an explosion of emotions. Mr. Smith Goes To Washington got me excited about what movies can do to their intended viewers. This movie has the awesome potential of inspiring me to realize that I am not just a man - but also a powerful individual who can make a difference if I believe in what I and others find to be right.

Harvey: Made me wonder who's really crazy.

-Billy Crystal

Mr. Saturday Night was special and enlightening with its comedic soul in the right places. Comedy was studied as a laughter and breakdown of a human being. Billy Crystal's character would do anything for a laugh - even "jokingly" insult his own family during a stage performance. Overall, the movie was true movie entertainment and catharsis - insightful, funny, and thoughtful.

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Billy Crystal": "The best actors had big heads. They knew how to fill up the frame of the shot"... "Comedic improvisation is like jazz"... "I was the dope that turned down Toy Story for the part of Buzz Lightyear"... "Make a sound in your body that is joyful"... "700 Sundays."

-Matt Damon

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Matt Damon": "I take things from my life and put them into my characters"... "One of the things that Brando taught Nicholson was that just because someone said "action", it doesn't mean you have to do anything"... "I like people who are intellectually and creatively curious"... "Be the hardest-working, disciplined professional actor you can be. Be polite to other people. Be on time."

-Forest Whitaker

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Forest Whitaker": "I worked so hard in my acting classes because I wasn't sure if I'd be able to make it." That sounds a lot like me when I went to art school. I didn't have the experience, so I threw myself completely into my work. There was a fear there as much as a desire to learn and succeed.

-Mark Ruffalo

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Mark Ruffalo": "The biggest demon at the end of the day is ego"... "You should pay to go to church and the theater should be free." -George Bernard Shaw... "The idea took me out of myself. You have to LIVE!"

-Gilda Radner

Love, Gilda: Talking privately into a cassette recorder: "I could be prettier than I really was. I could be people that I really wasn't"... "I loved to pretend"... "Back when Detroit was one of the great cities in America"... "Gilda was not as thin as she would have liked"... "At Ann Arbor, I discovered that you could get a major for putting on costumes and makeup (in the theater)"... "We spent a year just jumping around"... "She would have depression. She would have emotional uncertainties"... "John Belushi was kamikaze comedy"... "I had learned to be more forceful and get my ideas out"... "I can do almost anything if people are laughing"... "How can I relax until I get to the point where I'm having so much fun performing"... "Keep us the underdogs of television"... "It was difficult for her to see the movie Ghostbusters because every other guy in the movie had been her boyfriend at one time or another"... "Everyone knew that this funny Camelot was going to disband in some way"... "There are days when I am very dissatisfied. I keep asking myself what's next"... "She felt the need to eat to fill that emotional void"... "Eating disorder and anorexic"... "I weight one hundred and four pounds and I think I'm fat"... "SNL was an extension of adolescence"... "Goodnight and goodbye"... "My contract was up at NBC and I was not going to go back"... "It felt like my life had gone from black and white to technicolor"... "I had lost touch with a lot of people"... She got pregnant... and then had a miscarriage... "You find work that you like to do. And then you find that the public isn't interested in it"... "There was something not right, but 'there was nothing wrong'"... "We've discovered that there is a malignancy. I had been diagnosed with ovarian cancer"... "Why me? Why me?"... "My humor had come back to me"... "She was in remission"... "My jokes are my only weapon against this fucker (cancer)"... "She was back to making people laugh again"...

Gilda Live: "Let's talk dirty to the animals. Fuck you, Mr. Bunny"... Gilda backstage changing out of one costume and rushing to get into her next costume/ character... It is pretty astonishing to watch her switch characters every few minutes from Brownie Girl to crazed Punk-Rock singer to Insane and Inept Newscaster. She created characters like Emily Litella, loudmouthed Roseanne Roseannadanna, nerd Lisa Loopner, and Baba Wawa, a talk show host with a speech impediment. She's a female Andy Kaufman... "Aren't I cute?"

-Mary Stewart Masterson

12-31-95: Mary Stewart Masterson's Benny and Loon character with mental problems seemed to become part of me more than the Johnny Depp character. I used many of her extraordinary, sensitive actions and gestures for my own - a result of intensely recognized empathy. I was insecure during conversations that scared me with their banality and confusion that

invaded my personal security.

-Kyra Sedgwick

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Kyra Sedgwick”: “For children, all they know is mommy and daddy, and mommy and daddy together. So when that changes with divorce, everything is affected”... “Acting is your moment to play and be spontaneous.”

-William Shatner/ “Captain Kirk”

Notes from *Star Trek Memories* by William Shatner with Chris Kreski: of Gene Roddenberry: “His legs are weak, spindly, uncoordinated and unsteady. As a result, and as you might expect, he is *extremely* self-conscious, embarrassed about his physical stature and withdrawn”... “The box serves an incredibly important purpose, in that it provides, on a regular basis, an outlet wherein this one sick child can completely forget about his physical shortcomings, his illnesses and the frightening impositions and realities of the real world. Inside the box, he’s healthy, he’s happy, he’s safe”... “Despite the sweeping physical changes, he’s retained his intrinsic shyness, his introspective nature and his raging fascination with literature. As a result, he exists now as a rather burly, gentle bear of a man, whose formidable exterior masks a quiet, rather delicate and extremely creative soul”... “Without an agent, Gene’s scripts stand almost no chance of *ever* being read by *anyone* with the authority to hire him”... “They remain married, lovelessly, basically for the sake of their children. It is a difficult situation that becomes even more problematic when Gene meets and begins a relationship with the woman who will ultimately become his second wife”... “Gene was not happy at home, but in his mind he had made a commitment, and this was a man who took commitment very seriously. When he made a promise, he kept it. It was very frustration, though, in that up until Gene actually left his wife, I really couldn’t anticipate spending the rest of my life with him. I felt I would spend the rest of my life loving him, but not necessarily *with* him”... “Roddenberry realizes that if he were to write a thinly veiled and substantive societal commentary within a less obvious and somewhat more acceptable framework like fantasy or science fiction, he might be able to actually speak out on some fairly important, even controversial topics”... “If his characters were believable, if the action built to an exciting climax and if the story line held up throughout, Gene felt that the audience was certain to empathize and identify with his familiar, recognizable characters, even if they were seventy-two million miles from home”... “In a town wherein producers *routinely* cast mistresses in their series”... “In time her blatant sex appeal would be watered way down, and by the time *Star Trek* had gone to series, she’d be transformed into the slightly less busty and much more wholesome Yeoman Rand”... “Immediately it became clear that CBS had read Gene’s *Star Trek* proposal and decided to call him into this pitch meeting for the sole purpose of picking his brain and digging out whatever secrets might help the network make *their* series (*Lost in Space*) a bigger and more cost-effective hit”... “NBC felt that ‘The Cage’ lacked sufficient action and was far too sophisticated for the run-of-the-mill American television viewer. While the network was extremely impressed with the creative and technical qualities of the pilot, the simply felt that no normal TV viewer wanted to watch the idiot box and think at the same time. NBC labeled ‘The Cage’ ‘too cerebral’. NBC was looking for car chases, shootouts, fistfights and gratuitous sex, with the idea that these were the things that accounted for surefire ratings success. ‘The Cage’ had *none* of these things. Instead, it was smart, beautiful, intellectual and thoroughly engaging. In other words, a flop”... “The new script had to be action-packed, clearly defined, easily understood and loaded with fast-paced adventure”... “Grace Lee Whitney, who would become Yeoman Rand”... NBC executives didn’t want Spock in the show at all... “Gene informed his crew of *Star Trek*’s thirteen-week commitment and then offered each member a full half-season of sixteen-hour days and hundred-hour workweeks”... “Gene began personally attending to each creative detail of every *Star Trek* episode, refusing to let his vision be compromised so that he could partake of such luxuries as sleep, food or a personal life”... “There was no mistaking Bill’s fondness for flashing female flesh, as he almost immediately pulled the pants off our female crew members, and replaced them with short (and I mean *short*) miniskirts”... “As cinematographer, Finnerman worked closely with a guy named George Merhoff, the chief gaffer, who was in command of our lighting technicians, making sure that their work was done efficiently, safely and above all else quickly”... “Gene’s creative ambitions almost always ended up being hampered by his own human fatigue”... “Kirk was, for the most part, me. An idealized *version* of me”... “We had all worked so intensely and under so much pressure for such a long period of time that the situation proved to be truly unhealthy. Something had to give”... Bob Justman: “I stood up to take my place to the sink, and I set it down, and then it hit me: utter despair and exhaustion, coupled with the feeling that I just couldn’t face another day. All of a sudden I found myself without the strength to carry on. Everything hit me at once, and I grabbed hold of the counter”... “In time, Coon developed a real fondness for one of the girls. Her name was Jackie, and she seemed to return his feelings”... “I had never stopped loving Gene. You don’t get over a first love, you move forward, but it remains a treasure in your heart”... “Gene felt so guilty about leaving Joy that he just left her with everything, absolutely everything”... “Still, even when you’re supremely talented and lucky in love, you won’t *always* encounter smooth sailing”... “Milakis explains: ‘What I really loved about he editing was being able to approach the job from a storytelling standpoint. I think editors who work this way can do wonders. I really loved taking the pieces of any given scene and making something good out of them. I mean even when your ideas didn’t work very well, you could simply take the whole scene apart again, shot by shot, then reconstruct it in a whole new way. If you were lucky, you then go to say, “oh my God! That works! What a difference!” It’s a very creative and satisfying process”... “For the *Star Trek* sound effects, we would take a sound and add some high end, or some low end echo chamber to it, maybe some reverb or a wind effect, and finally it would sound right”... “My emotion was getting in the way”... “Toward that end, I was joking around on overdrive. It was a nervous reaction to my own tension, grief and anxiety”... “It’s always been said that Yeoman Rand was written out of the show because her character’s crush on Captain Kirk prevented him from becoming engaged in any episode romances”... “Adopted as a child, Grace had grown up troubled by a nagging and cruel self-image of worthlessness, of inadequacy and of

being an outside. In time, these insecurities and internal doubts grew larger and pushed Grace toward a lifestyle of prolonged and heavy substance abuse. She was also, by her own admission, a sex addict"... "Asked by Bill Theiss to lose about twenty pounds so that her mini-skirted uniforms would look more appropriate, Grace immediately began taking large amounts of diet pills, hoping to lose her extra weight quickly"... "Grace was constantly battling to stay thin, she continued abusing the diet pills and her dependence on the drugs grew to the point where she was taking them almost constantly. At the same time, to mask the nervousness that came along with the amphetamine-based drugs, she began drinking rather heavily"... "Grace's final episode, 'The Conscience of the King,' her performance consisted solely of walking onto the bridge in the background of the scene, taking a quick look at a particular piece of equipment, then exiting. She was let go the following day"... "Grace also states that her tenure on *Star Trek* was made especially painful due to two sexual assaults, both of them triggered during intoxicated meetings with co-workers"... "At any rate, Grace's firing once again triggered her own deeply ingrained feelings of abandonment and worthlessness, and it marked the beginning of a personal slide that would become so deep and so horrendous as to ultimately include a harsh, skid-row existence and prostitution"... Koenig: "I really was appealing to the eight-to-fourteen-year-olds"... "Suppose the aliens have a weapon. And suppose they can point this weapon at anyone and reduce that person down to the very essence of their being"... "Our ratings, which had always been rather soft, were now approaching a downright mushy consistency"... Justman: "The studio didn't know I could write, and they didn't know I could be creative"... Nimoy: "You know, to make me laugh would have been to suggest that I'm just like everybody else. I'm not like everybody else. I did not believe it was possible to be 'Person A' offstage and 'Person B' as soon as you got within the sightlines of a camera"... "That story becomes even more interesting, and your eyebrows will probably rise a notch, when you take into account Nichelle Nichols' surprising admission that she actually had an affair with Roddenberry, even going so far as to describe his 'appetite' as 'voracious'. I have to admit that I was a bit jealous"... "I must admit that Nichelle's criticism is probably valid. Further, while I've never set out to hurt *anybody*, I may have, at times, been ignorant of my fellow actors' need for screen time, not to mention their feelings. She opened my eyes"... "Actors are nothing more than a bunch of kids. Only with age do they ever mellow out"... "Gene lost final artistic control of his own creation"... "Causing further problems were the after-effects of a brief misguided sexual relationship Gene had stumbled through with one of his secretaries. Majel had found out about the situation, and of course this caused a great deal of trouble between them."

Notes from *Star Trek Movie Memories* by William Shatner with Chris Kreski: Nimoy: "For the first time I'd seen tangible and irrefutable proof that despite *Star Trek's* mediocre Nielsen numbers, the series was truly appreciated"... "Roddenberry offers NBC an ultimatum. 'Return *Star Trek* to Monday nights or I walk.'" --"Nice working with ya,' they reply"... "With weakened creative abilities and a disemboweled budget, the show suffered noticeably. We could no longer afford to shoot on location. We couldn't afford to create many new sets. We couldn't afford many special effects. We couldn't even afford scripts that required any number of guest stars. Additionally, our third-season budgetary restrictions forced us to shorten our shooting schedule from six days per episode to five. That demanded less rehearsal, fewer takes of each scene, less time to perfect the lighting or design of any given set, less complicated camera movies, and less ability to experiment. In short, it straitjacketed our creativity while allowing the tension level on our set to soar"... "Throughout this same period, and far more important, my marriage was in deep trouble, ultimately deteriorating to the point where it, too, could be officially categorized a failure. It was a confusing, heartbreaking situation for my wife and me, one that seemed to defy all efforts toward healing. Somehow the love, caring and closeness that had once made up the foundation of what I believed would be a lifelong relationship had gradually and inescapably been replaced by disillusion and distance"... "I learned that there's nothing more disheartening than the luxury of forced free time"... "Further, the words 'divorced' and 'unemployed' almost immediately conspired to leave me in a tough spot financially"... "Somehow the image of a green velour-clad Captain James Tiberius Kirk still lingered indelibly in most producers' minds, effectively preventing them from considering me for other roles"... "I am also well aware of the irony. Less than a year ago I was on top of the world, playing the lead in a network television series, making good money, hobnobbing with real astro-celebs, and thoroughly enjoying my good fortune, my work and my family. A year later, they're all gone. I live in a tin box, broke and alone except for a large maloDoreauus Doberman. Somehow I can't help but feel like the victim of some grand cosmic plan whose sole purpose is to kick the shit out of me"... "I wonder what I can do to help rebuild the friendships and business relationships that have undoubtedly been damaged by my abrupt disappearance from the face of the earth. After this long, lonely summer, I even wonder if I can still converse face-to-face with another human being"... "NBC actually did *Star Trek* a favor by canceling it. With declining rating and freefalling creative content, the show was mercifully yanked from the airwaves before it had the chance to alienate its legions of fans... Subsequently, *Star Trek* would be remembered fondly, as a great show that got screwed by the network, rather than as a good show that got worse and worse over time"... "Over the next sixty minutes, I fielded whatever questions the audience wanted to throw at me, and as I expected, nearly all of them were *Star Trek*-related. However, what I didn't expect was that the questions were smart, thoughtful and extremely insightful. I was amazed at the depth of feeling these people held in their hearts for the show, and touched by their appreciative insights"... "The God Thing: There's this massive... entity, this abstract, unknown life force that actually possesses its own highly advanced consciousness"... "Here was a terrific story that basically pondered whether God could actually be an alien life form, a mechanical intergalactic bully! For the first time in history, God was gonna be the bad guy"... "Reeling from sticker shock and seeking to loosen the Paramount purse strings"... "My sleep became tortured, haunted by highly sensual dreams: pouty-lipped grilled cheese sandwiches beckoning me to dive into their rich, creamy goodness, voluptuous mounds of angel-hair pasta steaming for me and me alone, seaweed rolls busting out of their seams and driving me mad with their exotic Oriental beauty"... Legendary movie director Robert Wise: "You really never know what you have until you get your film in front of a live audience. As an editor, and later as a director, I've seen that dozens upon dozens of times. I've been in so many damn sneak previews that I can tell you with a great deal of assurance that

they'll ALWAYS tell you something about your movie that you had never guessed previously. There might be a laugh where it's not warranted, or a scene might just play too slowly, or a plot point get lost instead of high-lighted. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred, the audience will tell you that, and when they do, you almost always just smack your forehead and say, 'Why didn't I see that? I should have caught that a long time ago'... Harve Bennett: "I watched every episode of *Star Trek* en masse and felt that one-third was brilliant, about one-third was okay and about one-third was very bad"... "Another thing that made a lasting impression on me was the character relationships, especially the triangle of Kirk, Bones and Spock. I saw it as a very classic struggle between decision, passion and wisdom"... "I was stuck with the following problem: 'Why was I so bored by *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*, which was skillfully manufactured and a beautiful tale?'"... "*Star Trek: The Motion Picture* was muted, bland, shot in pastels, with crewmen in pale gray uniforms, and actors photographed through a lot of Vaseline and youth-aiding camera tricks. All of that combined to make the film seem almost totally unrelated to the larger-than-life, flesh-and-blood stories that Harve had seen in the projection room"... "In my mind, *Star Trek's* vision was very different and very specific. Things will change, parameters will change, technology will change, but human nature will most definitely remain the same. Why do I say that? Because recorded history tells us so"... Nick Meyer: "I, being very young and very stupid, then said, 'Oh, I can write this in twelve days'"... "Kirk meets his son, the Genesis planet gets introduced, Khan shows up, Spock dies, and at the same time, some of the film's thematic content, friendship, old age, death, started seeping through the narrative, coating it with some meaning"... Montalban: "I was beginning to thirst for something that I could be really passionate about"... "The audience were laughing at jokes that had long since become stale in the cutting room to me"... "Spock has said repeatedly, 'There are always possibilities.' That's a coda for him. The audience will not walk out of the theater feeling it's over. If nothing else, it's a spiritual ending"... "You know, he's really not dead, as long as we remember him.' Those few simple lines gave the end of the picture an entirely different feeling, one that allowed audiences to begin pondering what might happen in the future"... "Finally I just said, 'Michael, we need to make a decision about this, because I have to get on with my life and you need to get on with your business'"... "Who's got the bigger reputation, the louder voice, the more dynamic personality? Who's got the most experience? Who's coming off a hit? All of these political elements enter into ultimately deciding who emerges as top dog on a set"... "I settled back into *T.J. Hooker*, smiling, grateful for its stability, grateful for the paycheck, and content to let James Tiberius Kirk fade out of my life once and for all"... *Star Trek IV* was originally written with Eddie Murphy... "I could see that evil gleam in your eyes. I ended up getting soaked, but the spontaneity of that scene and the freedom worked beautifully. The audience really loved it"... Harve: "I wanted to make it very clear that if I found myself having a bad time, I'd quit. And as we talked, you ultimately seduced me with your honesty, your need, your enthusiasm and of course the good feeling that I had always had about you"... "No one will ever find God. You just can't, because if you did, no matter how you depicted him, or her, you would ultimately just offend people"... "Gene Roddenberry was adamantly opposed to almost every bit of the idea. In Gene's mind, there would most likely be hundreds, even thousands of God images throughout the galaxy"... "It was like you were all thinking, 'I must reinvent the art of directing in this movie'"... "In the end, once again trying to accentuate the positive, I came away feeling like we'd pulled a rabbit out of a hat, and that our last-minute improvising had successfully allowed us to dance around the inferiority of our effects while supplying the film with an acceptable, if not entirely satisfying, ending... Only much later, well after the film had come and gone from theaters, was I clearheaded enough to realize that they were horrendous. It was the ruination of that film"... "Harve went into the editing room, and with a more objective eye (i.e., a less personal commitment to each and every shot in my film), he began chopping. Throughout the week he'd call me in my office, proudly proclaiming, 'I've got it down to 1:53,' or 'It's down to 1:51:25'"... "Harve called me up and invited me into a screening room to see his new, leaner, meaner *Star Trek V*"... "From the standpoint of blockbuster movies, 1989 was the summer in which more blockbuster movies were squeezed into theaters than ever before – *Batman*, *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*, *Lethal Weapon 2*, *Rain Man*, *Back to the Future Part II*, *Look Who's Talking*, *Honey, I Shrunk the Kids* – all of these things came out one week after another"... "Drowning our bipolar sorrows with donuts"... "I spent the night sleeplessly mourning the death of Captain James T. Kirk"... "What laughs and sorrows had gone into the totality of this fictional character! I thought about a marriage that broke down under the long hours of making a television series, the days that I missed my children's growing up, the pain of personal tragedy and the single-mindedness – the absolute focus – it took to keep my private life from showing up on Captain Kirk's face"... "*Star Trek* was a playground in which we spent our days telling fanciful tales while pretending to be a troop of futuristic space heroes"... "Live long and prosper"... "There are always possibilities."

-Leonard Nimoy/ "Mr. Spock"

Notes from *I Am Spock* by Leonard Nimoy: "The face made him an outsider, an alien in his own world"... "Are you aware that you are the source of erotic dream material for thousands and thousands of ladies around the world?"... "Perhaps Asimov was right that Spock's unconquerability only served to make his female fans that much more determined"... "He echoed NBC's original reaction to 'The Cage', in that he felt *Star Trek* was too cerebral for most viewers. Fewer ideas, more physical action, more fight scenes"... "And I went back to work on *Mission*. But midway through my second season, I finally realized I had one it all: I had played all the different parts that I had wanted to play, and the fun had begun to wear thin for me. There was no challenge, no excitement left"... "Why did the *Star Trek* phenomenon occur? Why did the series attract such a large and devoted audience?... In the midst of this paranoia and fear came a bright message of hope in the form of *Star Trek*, which said, 'Yes, we will survive the atomic age. We will contact other intelligent life on other planets, and they'll be our friends, not our enemies. Together, we'll work for the common good'"... "My family understood the necessity of travel in an actor's nomadic life. They knew I had to go where the work was, and they were very supportive of me"... "Then it was over. I stripped off the ears, the makeup, the uniform, until Spock gradually disappeared, leaving behind only Leonard Nimoy"... "In

some ways, it was just another day's work on a Hollywood soundstage, just another one of thousands of death scenes recorded on film"... "Work had been solace for me, a means of escaping the deep sense of personal loss."

-Maureen McCormick/ "Marcia Brady"

Notes from "Growing Up Brady" by Barry Williams with Chris Kreski: "After our Hawaiian interlude, I got *really* nuts about Maureen McCormick (Marcia Brady). Of course that's not unique (millions of pubescent American boys shared my same burning yearning), but I had an advantage: I knew her; I liked her; and I was at all times win groping distance. Best of all, for a while, *she* was nuts about *me* too!"

-Catherine Bach/ "Daisy Duke" of "The Dukes of Hazzard"

I believe it was watching Daisy Duke on "The Dukes of Hazard" that first sparked me into liking girls when I was a young boy. I give her that much credit. That show was one of my favorite shows when I was four to seven years old.

At one time, (Daily Duke of "The Dukes of Hazzard") Catherine Bach's legs were insured for \$1,000,000.

-Bob Denver/ "Gilligan" from *Gilligan's Island*

"Gilligan's Island: Season Three": It's no wonder I fell too deep in love with this show when I was in the fifth grade and only 12 years old. I could empathize with Gilligan to a certain degree. He's a simpleton who acted like a little boy, not to mention a dim-wit outcast stranded on a desert island. I myself was "stranded" in a small town. It also didn't hurt that there were two very hot young women also stuck on the island with him – Ginger and Mary Ann. The later was always my favorite since she combined wholesome, approachable girl-next-door qualities with incredible sex appeal. Ginger, the movie star, was always so unattainable since she's so "high and mighty"... "I just felt like wearing the door!"... "The professor let me borrow his rubber gloves!"... "I often wish I was alone, especially when I'm by myself"... "Gilligan, that's a great idea about you killing yourself, and I'm going to help you do it!!!"... I never fully realized it before but Ginger (The Movie Star) is just a recycled Marilyn Monroe clone... The other weird appeal of this show when I was a youngster was that the adults act like adult-children. They have very few complex emotions. They're all basically simpletons *at heart*. In a way, this show ran parallel with the 1960's "Batman" TV show where the adult actors also acted more-or-less like children... "That's the silliest story you've ever made up"... If Mary Ann was wearing a night shirt inside her hut, television censors forced her to wear pantyhose underneath so she was more "clothed". Ginger shows up in a bathing suit, but she's also wearing pantyhose with it because the TV censors at the time won't allow her to wear anything that revealing without more of her body being "covered up". So pantyhose is the answer and saves the day!... Radioactive corn rings... "You're painting a butterfly!"... "It must be *terrible* to be bald!"... What if you bumped your head and the world looked permanently upside down from your vision's point of view?... "For a girl, she runs pretty good on her head"... Secret Agent Gilligan featuring Evil Agent Mary Ann!... "What are you going to use as bait?"... "Eva has feelings of rejection and undesirability, therefore she insists on isolation"... "I want you to like me *a lot*"... "I guess I went a little crazy"... "She's too *plain*"... "Save your pucker, Ginger"... Mary Ann and Ginger to be boiled in a giant black pot for some comical headhunters... A Mary Ann Ginger... "He's steered himself into a cumulus cloud"... A giant six-foot spider in the cave!... "Good 'ol Professor's Spider Cider"... "We came very near to golfing ourselves to death!"... "You can't go through life with a mouthful of explosives"... "Gilligan blew up!" – "Poor Gilligan!" – "Oh!"

"Gilligan's Island: Season Two": "The chap has gone *island happy*"... "Mary Ann is the sweetest!"... This show is all about its characters being in bright primary colors. Gilligan in red. The Skipper in blue... A fishing poll connected to Mary Ann in a black one-piece swimsuit! How's that for bait?!... Gilligan picks a hairy ape for Miss Castaway!... Mary Ann in short shorts and hose – predating Daisy Duke from "The Dukes of Hazzard"!... "Gilligan the Great"... "There's life on Mars! And what *life!* *Chicken-People!*"... Gilligan is practically used as slave labor for the millionaire Howell's! So much for an island utopia where everyone is classless and free... "All this money and nothing and nobody to do with it"... A cannibal "menacing" innocent Mary Ann! "Oh, do not harm me, cannibal!"... "I'm walking on my head!"... "If you can learn a trade, you can make a living"... "Gilligan has moments of brilliance!"... Where did Mary Ann and Ginger get their aerobics outfits from if they're shipwrecked on a tropical island? Not that I mind... "I'll get the girls!"... Mary Ann *wiggling out* to the crazy 60's bubblegum pop music of The Mosquitoes!... Gilligan the Innocent... "It was a bear-lion!"... "A chocolate-covered hamburger"... "Mary Ann's boyfriend"... "I've always acted like a big brother to Mary Ann. I can't act like her boyfriend now"... "They've all gone *island happy*"... "I don't really have a boyfriend. I invented a romance"... "I told you I wanted something different"... "Please don't tell anyone that I'm a fake"... "Think of something and see if I can read your mind." "36-24-36! Skipper! *Tst-tst-tst!*"... "The lion likes girls." – "Yeah, *for dessert!*"... "You wouldn't look bad in tights yourself, Ginger, under the big top!"... Gilligan thinks that his pet lion has eaten the Skipper whole since he's talking back to him... "The lion swallowed my buddy!"... "I don't know if he's kissing you or tasting you"... "I wonder if we're on the Christmas island"... Ginger wishes to throw herself, a beautiful girl, into the erupting volcano in order to sacrifice herself to keep it from destroying the island. "The volcano's appetite was appeased by the sacrifice and it never exploded!"... "Gilligan! You just drank the *nitroglycerin!*"... If Gilligan existed in the real world, he would have been killed very early on due to his clumsiness... "This island – it's crazy!"... "You're allergic to Gilligan!"... A dog that meows like a cat... Ginger bound to a torture device. Mary Ann in the stocks... The Skipper and the Millionaire's wife swap bodies. Does this mean that the Skipper and Thurston Howell III are now married, or is he still married to his wife in the Skipper's body?!? What a crazy situation of mixed up sexual and physical identities. And Mary Ann is now in the Professor's body! Are you attracted to her now?... "Birds don't grow from birdseeds"... Mary Ann and Ginger room together and don't have boyfriends on the island. Are they harboring a sexual secret?

Is it possible that they're island lesbians?... Gilligan and the beanstalk... Mary Ann as a maid in a cute miniskirt in a giant's castle. When I first saw her in that outfit when I was twelve years old, I fantasized about it for years!... "That's the goose that lays the golden oranges"... "I'm never going to get married"... "Laugh, *be gay!*"... "I will buy you diamonds, nylons, and chocolate bars!"... "Look! A falling moon!"... The lead men: "Lead makeup sure feels funny"... "We're too young to die of old age!"

"Gilligan's Island: Season One": Featuring Jonas "The Skipper" Grumby, "Professor" Roy Hinkley, and "Mary Ann" Summers... And three of the original co-stars on Gilligan's Island were never seen of again. They were deemed "not interesting enough". Imagine if someone said that about your *life*... "...The movie star! ... *and the rest* here on Gilligan's Island!" What? They don't have names?!?!... "Look at my dress! It's the only dress I have. It's ruined!" (She will later magically materialize other dresses to wear as the season progresses)... It's a chronicle of what's happened to us on the island. I think it's a book that people will buy"... "I'm not dreaming or anything!"... "Created from his vivid imagination"... "President Gilligan!"... Watermelons the size of raisins... Mary Ann and Gilligan sucking on a tree to taste what syrup it has. "They appear to be kissing tree." – "It must be a new fad! Oh, the younger generation!"... Mary Ann: "Oh, it's *sweet* – just like *you*, Gilligan!"... Mary Ann was always the "attainable" one of the female group on the island. She was a bit of a simple creature just like Gilligan, which made them a nice pair... "Gilligan, you do a lot of things wrong, but at least you try your best. And that's what's important"... "The History of Tree Surgery"... "Ginger's getting real desperate"... "There's every possibility that we won't be eaten by cannibals"... "It's so dry, it's raining dirt!"... "When we find Gilligan, we'll hold him and squeeze him and kiss him!"... "I was trying to explain to Mrs. Howell that her husband was eaten by a sea serpent." – "That's silly! Thurston wasn't even dressed for dinner!"... "Ginger was eaten by a sea serpent! She became an appetizer"... "It's no use! Mary Ann has become a salad!"... "Everyone's out to lunch – the hard way!"... "Look at that! Big, giant black pearls!"... Stitching \$100 bills together to make a larger \$10,000 bill!... "When fishing for boys, the proper *bait* is girls"... The Skipper and Gilligan create a large dragon creature to scare the women of the island!... "If only women would act the way we wanted them to"... "Gilligan's been eaten!"... "I like 'em little, and I like 'em big. Man, this is smogas-broad time!"... "Ginger, can you be a little sexier?" – "With the gorilla!?"... "Gilligan needs recognition - something for his ego"... "Blue bananas?"... Mary Ann and Ginger bound and gagged to a poll by a headhunter!... "I have finally found the paradise I was looking for"... "Nuptials for Gilligan and Mary Ann"... "A man doesn't start living until after he's married"... "Mary Ann doesn't have a crush on me. Ginger does"... "You're twice as sweet as me, Mary Ann"... "Asking you to help me is like putting out a fire with gasoline!"... "That's a great idea! If we starve to death, we'll save our lives!"... "I know how we can keep ourselves warm. We'll give ourselves up to the cannibals and they'll put us in a nice hot pot!"... "At least let me think of myself as the dessert!"... "The poor Professor! Those natives look fatter!"... "The comers are ganging!"... "People thank me for giving them a break from life." – Bob Denver (Gilligan) referring to his Gilligan character... Ginger the island tease... The Skipper thinks the rest of the castaways are stereotypical Japanese soldiers?!?... "Gilligan has been writing a diary about our times on the island"... "It's private"... "He doesn't like you because you write about things honestly"... "I'm Agent 37-25-36!"... "How is 'Operation Gluttony' coming?"... Vincent van Gogh on Gilligan's Island to escape society... In the real world, Gilligan would have killed himself by accident early on... "Gilligan, you better look out for the pelicans during mating season."

-Michelle Pfeiffer/ "Catwoman"

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Michelle Pfeiffer": "I kinda came in to audition for the role feeling like I had nothing to lose"... "One of your most indelible roles has been as Catwoman in 'Batman Returns'"... "It's pretty cool what you can do with a whip"... It was like an assembly line getting into the Catwoman costume. First, they would powder me down, then we would put on the suit"... "I was vacuum-packed in that costume. It just starts to *squeeze* you."

-Anthony Hopkins

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Anthony Hopkins": "An inborn melancholy and introspection that is part of the Celtic tradition, from a land of mist, rain, and legend"... "His tragedy is his tragic loneliness, his tragic pride"... "It is fascinating the beast in man"... "By not knowing too much, you're free"... "Paint as you like and die happy"... "People who were damaged by their own genius"... "I'm a little manic, a little over-charged sometimes"... "What turns you on?" – "Everything! Life. The trees in my garden. My wife. She gets top billing"... "Today is the tomorrow that I was so worried about yesterday"... "Just surrender and let go. We are all totally powerless. That is the great comfort."

-Bill Maher

Religulous: "Man can now destroy the earth – not just God"... "Religion is selling an invisible product"... "There are people who believe they're drinking the blood of a 2000 year-old-guy"... Bill Maher takes on all religions!... "I don't know what we believe in anymore"... "JESUS LOVES YOU"... "I'd like to thank God"... "Are you disputing my God!?"... "I preach the gospel of 'I Don't Know!'"... "Jesus probably had an awkward adolescence"... "How can smart people believe in the talking snake?"... "He was ordained a minister at age ten"... "Both ministers of the Lord and rock stars both dress elaborately"... "Jesus constantly preaches against being rich"... "Is this your only \$2,000 suit?"... "A place to rape angels"... "God hates fags!"... "I don't hate homosexuals. *God* hates them"... "Jesus never said a word about homosexuality"... "Ex-Jew for Jesus"... "Of course *Santa Claus* is ridiculous!"... "When I found out there was no Jesus, I was *really* pissed!"... "My favorite nonsense tale was about Jonah living inside a whale/ big fish *for three days*"... "Thomas Jefferson wrote his own Bible"... "The 10 Commandments doesn't include child abuse and torture"... "Constellations were celestial beings"... "I have a

problem that most of the people running our country believe in a talking snake"... "You don't have to pass an IQ test to work in the Senate"... "There are some people that believe that the world is only 5000 years old"... "God is an infinite God"... "I've been on the Catholic shit list for a long time"... "Jesus might have been born on July 3rd"... "We have mini-Gods"... "Are you saying the Bible is a fairy tale?"... "Why doesn't Jesus just obliterate the devil?"... "Why was he okay with the Holocaust?"... "God/ Jesus sent himself on a suicide mission to die on the cross"... "Stop, blasphemers!"... "Jesus Christ was not original." The story of Horus... "What if you're wrong?"... "Was Jesus a sinner?"... "I think you're crazy"... "Scientists are the crazy ones"... "Our souls are infected with *aliens*"... "To be Mormon, you have to be *really* crazy"... "Meet the Mormons"... "Some things just do not make sense"... "God lives on a distant planet"... "Had sex with Mary"... "The Garden of Eden was in Missouri"... "Magic underwear will protect you"... "Religion is a neurological disorder"... Jewish rabbi that don't believe in the Holocaust... "You seem to be wanting to outsmart God"... "You can't push a button on the Sabbath"... "If someone tells you God talked to him as a burning bush, you'd think he was crazy"... "Anyone who doesn't believe in me is miserable"... "I am the Second Coming of Christ." He has 100,000 followers worldwide... "How do you get this job as the Second Coming?"... "I think we're alone now"... "My boss is a Jewish carpenter. That doesn't make sense. Jews hire carpenters"... Cannabis Ministry... A suicide bomber rapper?!... "All you have to say is that it is wrong to issue a death threat on someone who wrote a *book*"... Gay Muslim Bar... "I'm wrong about everything"... "This is the stone of God"... "The giant space penis"... "A lot of people believe in End Times"... "I voted for President Bush because of his faith"... "Doubt is humble"... "We're on a road to nowhere"... "Religions are maintained by people who can't get laid"... "God was a prick. He's like a overly jealous 16-year-old!"... "The lowest blow was in the Muslim religion of covering up the women and promising only pussy in heaven by blowing yourself up"... "It's almost like religion was created as a way of keeping women in their place"... "THE CHRIST IS NOW HERE/ THE CHRIST IS NOWHERE"... An atheist religion. Bill Maher: Victory Begins at Home: Pronounced "Mar" (h is silent)... "Terrorists get their money from where everyone else gets their money: *from their relatives*"... "I would *never* go back to my high school. I *hated* my high school"... "Dick Cheney married his high school sweetheart. That so doesn't work for me. To marry the first chick that gives you a hand job"... "Once you say religion, you can get away with anything! The Catholics got away with fucking kids, for crying out loud!"... "The robe, the wand, the smoke. It's so gay. The whole Catholic Church thing"... "You will be promised 72 virgins in heaven!"... "They say married men live longer. So does a house cat that is stuck in doors all the time looking out at a world it can never truly enjoy"... "I don't support the Republicans or the Democrats"... "Look up the word 'liberal' in the dictionary. It says it is someone open-minded and forward thinking. Those are not bad things. Those are things I think I would want to teach my children"... "Men's biology's want to fuck the young woman rather than the old"... "Jesus was a Republican."

Bill Maher: I'm Swiss: "You liberals are hypocrites!"... "God will forgive him for pissing us off"... "I'm pissed off the most that people are not more pissed off"... "My opponent wants to fuck on Jesus' birthday! Let's put the fetus on the one-dollar bill"... "I don't 'hate' America. I'm *embarrassed* by America"... "George W. Bush's flashbacks are of blackouts"... "There's prejudice in the work place. The family guy gets more time off than the single guy because 'he's got the twins in the school play'"... "This is a president (Bush) that doesn't believe in evolution. I'm not mocking him. I'm reporting on him!"... "Religion ridicules itself"... "How people can believe that 'Jesus is with me' is beyond me. It's like they believe in an imaginary friend"... "Religion keeps people from thinking for yourself"... "I don't ask for my opinion to be made into the law"... "I'm pretty much preaching to those who think like me. So we're masturbating here."

Bill Maher: Crazy Stupid Politics: "Not to get political"... "There is no bottom to the Republican Party"... "Bush was like the uncle who molested me and I had blocked it out"... "How come when you get fucked by Newt Gingrich, you get sick"... "A fact-free Republican Party that lives in a bubble"... "I don't want to sound partisan"... "Who is protesting health care? The worst looking people in the world!"... "Cathartic political comedy!"... "Stupidity is a pre-existing condition"... "We want you to be well"... "These people are not too bright. After all, the Tea Party named themselves after a gay sex act"... "Women vote smartly"... "I can't wait until Mitt Romney is the Republican nominee and people start Googling 'Mormonism'"... "Religion is selling an invisible perk ('God')"... "Stop trying to get everybody to like you. There's half the people in this country that wouldn't like you if you personally saved them from drowning"... "You will never pry their irrational fears from their cold, dead brains"... "Make them nervous!"

"I'm very happy with the minority that likes me. There's a beautiful, progressive Canadian--European country here in America. It's just surrounded by rednecks." –Bill Maher.

"Republicans are geniuses at making people believe stuff that you wouldn't think you could make people believe – like schoolteachers are responsible for our budget deficit. But at the moment, the Republicans are all afraid of Obama. Only the fringe people are in the race right now. Donald Trump? Why are we even listening to this forgotten clown? Why don't we ask John Wayne Bobbitt's severed dick what it thinks about fixing the nuclear reactor in Japan? What does the Octomom's vagina have to say about Medicare reform?" -Bill Maher.

-Joan Crawford

Mommie Dearest: I can sort of relate to Joan Crawford. She's obsessively and compulsively driven. She's an independent *star*. She's overly dramatic... I remember seeing this movie on TV at a very young age (maybe seven or eight years old). I thought it was horrific because it was shown through the eyes of a child (just like through my eyes at the time and age). The movie was almost unwatchable for someone at such a young age... "Whatever I did wrong, I'm sorry! I can do better!"... "Your mother has told me how *difficult* you have been and that you need the strictest discipline possible."

-Judy Garland

Life with Judy Garland: Me and My Shadows: “Remember Jude, we’re property of MGM!”... “Lana’s the kind of girl you can sleep with, but you can’t talk to. You’re different”... “When I get back to work, I’ll work even harder”... “I need to be adored”... “I need your strength”... “She wants me to be something that I cannot be. She tells me that I don’t show her enough ‘love’”... Wanting fame is a death wish. Once you’ve got it all and are so universally loved, look at what happens when you’re not anymore... She’s had one too many breakdowns.

-Denis Leary

Denis Leary: No Cure for Cancer: A ranting devil of a comedian. I like that - it’s an exorcism on society as comedic act.

“Inside the Actor’s Studio: Denis Leary”: “I was an altar boy and I used to drink the holy wine”... “I didn’t know you could do that with stand-up comedy”... “Steven Wright is doing stand-up? The guy who can’t talk to girls!?”... “I just said what was on my mind”... “I had this show about death and life. It was ‘No Cure for Cancer’”... “I’m an Asshole!”... The manic, crazed comic... “Do you live life at a different speed?”... “Stand up is therapy.”

-Chuck Norris

Code of Silence: “The man was a hero”... “They say you’re incorruptible, untarnished. I heard they call you ‘Stainless Steel’ on the street”... “It looks like a war zone”... The epic impracticality of holding up a cops’ bar!... “You’re Chicago’s white knight”... This movie actually has quite a few similarities to “The Dark Knight”. There’s even a Chicago tunnel highway car chase... “This concludes our demonstration”... Chuck Norris – action hero with muted emotions.

-Ron Jeremy

Porn Star: The Legend of Ron Jeremy: The Hedgehog... “I have no self-esteem”... His penis is 9 3/4 inches long - and that’s when it’s not stimulated!... “Ron marches to the beat of a different drum”... “He taught me how to eat pussy”... “There are so many actors and so few jobs”... “Those girls have no pussies!”... “This is Dildo-land!”... “I can kiss my own penis”... “You’ve got to do that. Give yourself head!”... “He is considered the best cunnilingus artist in this business”... “He has eaten more pussy than all the cannibals in Africa ever did”... “It’s that pizzeria look that really gets to me!”... “He’s fucking boring!”... “He craves publicity. He craves notoriety”... “I think it’s the lack of drugs that allow me to work night and day”... “He loves food more than women”... “It’s amazing how time changes things”... He’s currently listed having been in 1,181 movies!!!

-Paul Giamatti

Sideways: “I am not going to get my hopes up. I have stopped caring”... “You’ve been officially depressed for two years now, and you’re a negative guy anyways”... “If you don’t have money at my age you’re not even game any more”... “This wine has gone sour. I just want to go home”... “We don’t know how to market it. It’s a fabulous book with no home.” Pop your anti-depressants... “I’m finished. The world doesn’t give a shit of what I have to say. I’m unnecessary”... This is a tale of two liars. One a self-proclaimed loser, the other an actor. Both have a lot of changing to do... “Universally rejected”... “There’s so many beautiful and painful things about it. Did you really go through all that?”

-Joan Rivers

Joan Rivers: A Piece of Work: I went into this documentary disliking Joan Rivers for her grotesque plastic surgery. Five minutes into it, I found a kindred soul underneath the plastic and the make-up... “This is what scares me: if my calendar book is completely empty, nobody cares, and I’ve become totally forgotten”... “Joan is a chronic workaholic”... “She needs to be busy”... “You’re hot, you’re not”... “People see her as a plastic surgery freak”... “Age is the one mountain that you can’t overcome. It’s a youth society and nobody wants you”... “Joan tried to reinvent herself”... “Joan Rivers: A Work in Progress by a Life in Progress”... “I prepare like a crazy lady”... “My life is just jokes”... “It scares me to see myself without any makeup”... “People want to look at young women. So I started having plastic surgery”... “I just want to be loved”... “I was dying to be a mother”... “I need another pair of eyes. I need his input desperately”... “He didn’t have Joan’s strength”... “I’ve got to take a deep breath and start again”... “I don’t want to retire. I don’t want to sit in the sun. I don’t want to garden. I paint. Who cares?”... “Joan has a fanaticism, an maniacal focus to succeed”... “All stand-ups are insecure”... “All comedians I grew up around were very damaged. They need that reassurance. They need that cover”... Her assistants post her Twitter comments... “It’s such a cruel business”... “I’m furious about everything”... “Anger fuels the comedy”... “That’s not funny! I have a deaf son!”... “I feel sorry for the man with the deaf son”... “He had something of a catharsis”... “Every joke is going to be plastic surgery or old”... “I am a funny person”... “Nothing is yours permanently and you better enjoy it while it’s happening”... “The only time I am truly happy is when I’m on a stage”... “I am a performer. That is my life. That is it”... “That’s sick. Sick is very commercial.”

-Richard Pryor

Richard Pryor: Omit the Logic: “I want to free fly when I perform”... “The demons he wanted to exorcise”... “This is it. He’s finally killed himself”... “He felt that he had to imitate Bill Cosby in order to cross over with white audiences”... “He wanted to do it they way he hears it”... “Dynamite Chicken”... “He knew how to drop atomic bomb words. He knew the power of

words"... "You had to go through Hollywood"... "Who's managing you?" –"Nobody." –"Who's agenting you?" – "Nobody"... "That Nigger's Crazy"... "This is the only guy who was touching on stuff that was taboo"... "He wasn't just telling jokes. He was telling stories"... "What a colorful world that he paints"... "I discovered masturbating by accident"... "There was a tenderness to him"... "Wife Number 4 and 7"... "Bicentennial Nigger"... "The Networks were scared of him"... "Stifling My Creativity"... "He wasn't compromising"... "He went out swinging"... "It was a Richard I had never seen before"... "There were many women in Richard's life"... "My father *came* and went at the same time!"... "His father and uncle were pimps. His mother was a prostitute giving blowjobs to white gentlemen"... "I don't know what it was to make me that way"... "If you're a sensitive type, you self-medicate (do cocaine)"... "He had 13 different personalities. 9 were nice. The other 4 were *mean*"... "Richard fucked up"... "He defeated himself with what his bad habits were"... "He's going to bring that experience back at you in a year"... "His grandmother tethered him to earth. And when she died, he became undone"... "I'm a mother fucking artist. I do what I do. Shortly thereafter, freebasing was introduced"... "The drug had become his lover. I didn't exist to him"... "He had gone to a very scary place"... "35 to 40% of his body was burnt. No one thought he would live"... "All the pain in his life came back"... "I lit myself on fire while high"... "Was it a conscious suicide attempt? Who knows?"... "Junkies are dumb. They do dumb shit"... "You killed the old Richard Pryor?" –"Yes I did. He was a horrible man"... "I could see the burns all over him"... "He was dead broke"... "He needed to heal"... "He wanted to go back to work"... "He has to want to do something"... "It was rough and you knew that it wasn't going to be okay"... "He could feel that it wasn't there"... "He disappeared"... "I messed the first show up"... "He was back to getting high"... "This time he gave up"... "He was too vulnerable to go back on stage"... "It was very self-destructive"... "You can't save himself from himself"... "He had MS"... "Even in the end, he never knew how good he was."

Richard Pryor Live! In Concert: His pet monkey screwing his guest's ear.

Richard Pryor: Live & Smokin'! I am really attracted to Richard Pryor's rage and his vulnerability. There's a wounded animal in him. You can see it in his eyes. You really can. And there's a fearless quality to him. He's walking a tightrope - *unafraid*... "I love being on film"... "I like blowjobs"... "There ain't no niggers going to the moon!"... "Niggers can't go to heaven"... "I like my buggers!"... "I like the way I fart. I have great smelling farts"... His nickname was "Dickie"... The raging, unstable id of the black community that's been psychologically damaged, prejudiced, and humiliated. It all comes out in Richard Pryor's "comedy" routines... "Black people have a lot to overcome."

Richard Pryor: Live in Concert: An African-American man's impressive observations on white people... "They don't kill car. They kill nig-gar!"... "Will you get this monkey's dick out of my ear?"... "You're thinkin' about dying, aren't you?"... "My father came and went at the same time"... "*Macho man!*"... "Black people like to stay in the pussy for three to four days"... "Maybe your pussy's dead?"

Richard Pryor: Live on the Sunset Strip: "I want to talk about fucking"... "Now that Reagan's in, nobody fucks. When Carter was in, everyone was fucking"... "The first time I ejaculated, it scared the fuck out of me! I thought something was wrong"... "Going home with a Playboy bunny"... "Let's make our sexual life interesting. You go away for a year. When you come back, we'll fuck like *rabbis*"... "Don't mess with the black double-Muslims"... "The first people on the earth were black"... "Fuck all that. How'd you burn up?"... "The pipe said, 'Don't listen'"... Tragi-comedy... "The news said that I had *died*"... "If God wanted to punish my ass, He would have burnt my dick!"

Jo Jo Dancer, Your Life is Calling: Let go of your young wife's hand and follow your dream outside your hometown... humbly. Your dreams are bigger than your love for your "wife".

-James Garner

Murphy's Romance: "Freedom has its costs"... "Have some water and cookies"... "Are you asking about my sex life?"... "Dream something up"... "They need something to gossip about... They think 3 is a *real* interesting number"... "Take after him (your father) or not, it's up to you"... Friday night Bingo... "Sometimes it felt like I had two kids"... "Nice legs"... Witness the amazing amicable warmth and charm of James Garner... "That's what hay is for. To have a roll in"... "I did a lot of dumb things in my life. I married too young. I married the wrong guy. I never went to college"... "Separate the men from the boys, Emma"... "I'm in love for the last time in my life."

-Michelle Williams

Blue Valentine: "You're a big girl now. So don't have any fun"... "So what's up with him? You two fighting again?"... "I never want to be like my parents. I know they must have loved each other at one time"... "How do you trust your own feelings when they disappear like that?"... "We're inside a robot's vagina!"... He's great with kids because he's a kid himself... "It's a feeling"... "Do you think I'm too much in my head?"... All right. This movie has won me over. The child molester joke was perversely pleasing in a twisted and delightful kind of way. And Michelle Williams is so cute... You fall in love with the two of them. And sadly, you fall out right along with the two of them... She's laughing at him and talking down at him... "How much rejection can I take? I deserve some affection. I'm good to you"... "How many sexual partners have you had since you had intercourse at 13?" -"...20 to 25"... "Let's be a family"... The realities of making a living and work schedules and child-raising and real marriage settle in... "I thought you wanted me because I was good at my job"... "Don't let him brainwash you"... "You're the guy who's been emailing my wife?"... "You fuckin' asshole! I am so out of love with you!"... He gets out of a moving car because he simply doesn't care anymore. He's had ENOUGH... In this emotionally exhausted world... "I can't do this anymore"... "We're not good together anymore!"... They divorce/ marry at the same time... "You made a promise. You said, 'For better or worse.' Well, this is my 'worse'. You just have to let me get better!"... This movie transports you back

to every beautifully gorgeous moment of falling in love in your life... as well as all the heartbreaks and how time seemed to feel like it stood still... Sweet nothings... The exhaustion of hope.

-Chris Rock

Chris Rock: Bigger and Blacker: "What's 4 + 4? -'Jell-O'"... Exorcism Comedy.

-Conan O' Brien

Conan O' Brien Can't Stop: "My main goal is to just have fun"... "I was really angry!"... "I like the adventure of it. I like walking around a new city"... Conan does come off as a bit of a dick!... "All I want to do at the end of the day is make people happy... *and* money and real estate"... "I'm going to go and give a little piece of my soul away"... Tour exhaustion makes him go mental and demented... "I'm entitled to have some fun"... The stress of what he does is enough to make anyone a totally exhausted jerk. It's ridiculous... If everyone in the world wanted and insisted on getting a picture taken with you, how would that make you feel? Burnt out and numb!... "My life is so crazy"... "I absolutely love this. But I also understand that this needs to stop pretty soon"... "It was a very therapeutic thing to do that came out of the despair of what happened"... "That's just raw you."

-Paul Newman

"To be an actor, you have to be a child." -Paul Newman.

The Hustler: "I've got troubles, you've got troubles. Maybe it would be better if we just leave each other alone"...

"He's a real high-class con man. He can charm anyone out of anything."

Hud: "Nobody gets out of life alive."

-George Clooney

"Inside the Actor's Studio: George Clooney": "I had a Catholic upbringing. I was an altar boy"... "I want to make films that are meaningful to me and that last longer than just their opening weekend"... "We shot the first scene with only one take so the cast and crew were on their toes and always on their A-game"... "I couldn't believe my luck"... "I'm a big believer of making a set *fun*"... "The product you're selling is extremely personal. It's you."

-Brad Pitt

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Brad Pitt": "That whole scene in 'The Tree of Life' was improvised"... "The performances have to be personal. There has to be a part of you in them. If there isn't, it doesn't work otherwise."

-Daniel Radcliffe/ "Harry Potter"

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Daniel Radcliffe": "Gifted kids can pretend"... "Harry Potter Gets Laid."

-Kevin Clash/ "Elmo"

Being Elmo: The man and voice that you never fully saw of Elmo!... "He come salive through Elmo"... "It is nerve-raking to be myself"... "It's something good, true, and meaningful. It's the soul of a puppeteer that you're seeing"... "I loved watching 'The Wonderful World of Disney'"... "The new, fledgling Public Broadcasting System began broadcasting an experimental program called 'Sesame Street'"... "To some people, his work didn't seem that special"... "Some people were picking on him that he was playing with dolls"... Practicing with voices to find a character to his puppet... Humble beginnings... "I was so inspired"... The Muppet designs of Kermit Love... "Open the mouth a little to create a smile"... "He's brilliant at manipulation (of a Muppet)"... "Jim doesn't have any black puppeteers"... "I thought my shyness was over"... "They were making three-dimensional designs from Brian Froud's designs"... "Then Captain Kangaroo was cancelled"... "I was a little fish in a big pond"... "At the beginning, Elmo had a caveman type voice"... "See if you can get anything out of this puppet"... "Find one special hook with that character, like a vaudeville comedian"... "Then I got it: the one thing that was just right for this character. Elmo should represent *love*. Kissing and hugging"... "Elmo just loves you"... "The pure innocence of Kevin comes out in Elmo"... "Elmo is very imaginative and creative, like my father"... "He had a lot of excitement about life"... "He's the youngest of the cast"... "This was taking off"... A dying child's last wish is to meet Elmo... "Elmo's happy now. Elmo hopes you are too!"... "She'd get mad at me. This is not a puppet. This is a real baby"... "Elmo is Elmo"... "Being away so much"... "A little of the magic is gone. Jim Henson has died"... "Observing the human spirit – there's nothing like it"... Essential viewing for all young artists... "There's always those type of people who tell you there's no money in that what you're doing"... "The core thing is if what you're doing makes you *happy*"... "What he means to children"... "You put a lot of yourself in it"... "Jim Henson was creating something that touched everyone"... "The comradery and the silliness."

-Charlie Sheen

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Charlie Sheen": "How much did you play 'Stone'?" -"Not all the time. ...Wait, did you say 'stoned' or 'Stone'?"... "It's good to be remembered for something"... "I'm most comfortable making movies. The movie set was a playground for the imagination."

-Lea Thompson

Howard the Duck: Featuring Lea Thompson in very hot skintight leather pants during the final rock concert, like she's dressed up like Catwoman underneath her rock get-up! One of the hottest 80's girlfriend I ever had a crush on.

-Paul Reubens/ "Pee-Wee Herman"

Pee-wee's Big Adventure: The cartoonish and childish character Pee Wee Herman goes on a big adventure for the first time ever when his beloved shiny new bicycle is stolen by his nemesis Francis Buxton, a fellow man-child and neighborhood rich "kid." And he sets off on an obsessive cross-country journey, determined to recover it. Pee-wee's awkward and childish attempts to be cool and mature.

Pee Wee's Big Adventure: I've never seen a man so horny for his bicycle... this was one of the movies I had taped onto video and watched obsessively while growing up. Who wouldn't love escaping into Pee Wee's innocently gayish, hyper-giddy, surrealistic fantasy world?

Big Top Pee Wee: Waking up in the morning with a pig beside you... I love the surrealist humor of a heterosexual actor playing a gay man in love with women and farm animals!

The Pee-Wee Herman Show - Live from the Roxy Theatre: "Put the shell to your ear, not your *rear!*"... The genie in the box!... "You can't live on wishes! You can live on fishes!"... It's like a more adult-orientated version of "Pee-Wee's Playhouse", complete with Phil Hartman as a side character.

-Mel Gibson/ "Mad Max"

Mad Max: Porn for people who like fast cars and road wars. Black leather fetishist road cops... Harsh, barren, desolate landscapes of a post-apocalyptic world of Southeastern Australia... "Here I am... trying to put sense to it when I know there isn't any"... Rainbows during motorcycle accidents?

Mad Max: High Fatality Road... Black leather outback post-apocalypse police in desert cars... "I'm the nightrider. I'm a fuel-injected suicide machine"... Sadistic horror show on the roads... "I'm scared. Any longer out on those roads and I'm one of them. Eternal crazy"... "Look who's turned up for Sunday dinner? My favorite kind: *female!*"... "World's full of crazy people!"... "He's been staring like a zombie all day"... Mad Max is basically The Punisher in the Australian Outback in a post-apocalyptic world... "You're mad!"... Porn for people who like fast cars... Great open, empty roads... Fetishistic leather uniforms... Literally eye-popping car crashes!

The Road Warrior: The ultimate in apocalyptic car chases!!!! I loved this movie!

The Road Warrior: The loner anti-hero that is always on the run.

The Road Warrior: "All that remains are memories. I remember chaos"... "On the roads, it was a white-line nightmare"... Searching for a reason to exist in a post-apocalyptic world... Fetishistic clothing of the warrior tribes on the road... "THE VERMIN HAVE INHERITED THE EARTH"... Desperately scavenging gasoline... "You're quick! I've never seen anyone beat the snake before!"... "Round and round they go, mad by the smell of gasoline"... Eating a can of dog food for dinner right in front of your dog... "I just want my gas and to get out of here"... "Greetings from the Humongous!"... Pink-bearded punk!... Fuel is life... Setting their prisoners on fire while alive... "We can offer you a future"... "We're going to paradise, 2000 miles from here"... Bizarre customized racing cars, of which the most fearsome has two steel posts on its front to which enemies can be strapped (if the car crashes, the enemies are the first to die)... "You should look at yourself, Max. You're a mess"... An oil tanker full of sand. Their dreams and desires are nothing but dust... "He lives now only in my memories."

Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome: The Australian accents actually give the movie an "other-worldly" feel.

Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome: The crazy desolate landscape of the Australian Outback... Bartertown!... Radioactive water... "But he's just a raggedy man!"... Bartertown runs on pigshit... "Master Blaster! Listen to the law!"... "He's beaten men with his breath"... "Thunderdome, how do I get in there?"... "Two men enter, one man leaves"... "I know you won't break the rules because there aren't any"... Inside the Thunderdome with a chainsaw!... "That's the deal, face the wheel"... A quicksand desert... The lost children of the apocalypse... This is Mad Max meet Steven Spielberg... A anti-nuclear war parable from the mid-80s... "If the earth doesn't swallow you up first, that place certainly will"... "They'll be swallowed up by the sand"... "Stop the noise!"... This is one very weird Australian film... Boys and girls swallowed by the desert!... "Is it Tomorrow-Tomorrowland?"... "So what's the plan?" -"Plan? There ain't no plan!"

"Yet here is another of Mel Gibson's fine performances, a reminder that he is after all a superb actor. His personal life is in ruins because of the disease of alcoholism, which he is still struggling with. Though he's responsible for his outrageous acts and statements, I think this is not the good man I have met many times. From what I know about alcoholism, I believe he goes through personality changes, that he is content on some days and consumed by rage and madness on others, and that such changes are symptoms of the disease. Make your own diagnosis." -From a Roger Ebert movie review on "The Beaver".

-Tina Fey

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Tina Fey": "That's the school I went to because they accepted me"... "The most important rule of improv is agreeing with one another. The next step is 'Yes, and...'... "The best rule about improv is that there are no mistakes"... "I had a baby at home. I felt the pangs of being home more"... "Some women have told me that they used 'Mean Girls' as a coping mechanism to get through high school"... "Writing is an infinitely more private experience and a more personal one"... "I had applied to Princeton, but was rejected"... "You're looking for any glimmer of uniqueness."

-Klaus Kinski

My Best Friend - Klaus Kinski: In this personal documentary... "I'm not a great speaker"... He was a self-taught actor... "I was not excellent!"... "I wanted to retrace some of our steps"... "No one wanted to finance Aguirre and no one even wanted to see the film for years"... His Jesus raving fits... "He arrived here at our location as a derided, misunderstood Jesus"... "Why would I inflict myself with this punishment?"... "He was impulsive, unpredictable, half-mad. He was not normal"... "The movie is more important than our personal emotions"... "The face is the greatest landscape on earth"... "I, the Wrath of God, will marry my own daughter"... "We complimented each other. I needed him as much as he needed me"... "In his highly fictitious autobiography"... "Werner, nobody will read this book if I don't write bad stuff about you. If I wrote that we get along well together, nobody would buy it. The scum only wants to hear about the dirt, all the time"... "From his exhaustion, he was in a particular, fragile, and sensitive mood." -"Yes, that kind of exhaustion can stimulate you to reach rare heights"... "The mad actor"... "Your brain is raging"... "Why should I get a prize? I already know I'm a genius!"... "You never need to get a prize. It just compromises you"... He demanded to be the center of attention... "Towards the end of shooting, the Indians offered to kill Kinski for me"... Kinski's brilliantly weary face... "Nature's children"... "Between Kinski and me there was an unbridgeable gap"... "He declared everything around here (the nature) as erotic"... "Copulating with a fallen tree"... "The trees are in misery. The birds just screech in pain!"... "The jungle is full of overwhelming and collective murder"... "He thought I was insane. I am clinically sane. Nevertheless, he might have been referring to something in particular. Together we were like two critical masses, which result in a dangerous mixture when they come into contact. Something that became highly explosive"... "I had just given up my plan to kill him"... "He's crazy. That's why we work together"... "We got as far as possible"... "His so-called insanity"... "I could bring his innermost qualities to life in front of the camera"... "It is more cruel to not be able to die"... "Every grey hair on my head is called Kinski"... "He later became the strongest negative force"... "Kinski wanted to protect me from my own madness"... "Nobody believed in the film"... "He had the capacity to become a completely different person"... "This incredible, crazed energy he possessed"... "He finally made the film alone"... "I didn't want to continue our collaboration"... "He had put so much intensity into the scene that from this alone he had emptied himself out"... "He burned away like a comet. Afterwards he was ashes"... "Klaus himself had turned into a butterfly"... "This is the way I'd like to keep him in my memory."

-Jake Gyllenhaal

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Jake Gyllenhaal": "It's important to keep pushing the limits of the film world."

-Amy Adams

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Amy Adams": "Was your family creative?"... "Be polite. Do unto others as you would wish for them to do to you. Searching for joy. Being a light"... "Did you work at Hooters?" -"I did. I was a greeter. I was very peppy. They gave me the shirt and shorts"... "It taught me a work ethic that you can't find anywhere else"... "She woke up every moment and wanting to be a light"... "The choice of joy"... "She affected change on everyone around her"... "There's talent. There's skill. But without work ethic, without that generosity of spirit to take people with you, it's nothing"... "It taught me about simplicity. There is nothing more powerful than stillness"... "How do we learn? We listen. I believe in silence"... "Anyone can be born with a gift. But it takes a lot of time to nurture and develop it"... "We barely know ourselves. It's a lifelong journey of knowledge"... "I laugh at myself a lot."

-Matthew McConaughey

"Inside the Actor's Studio: Matthew McConaughey": "I keep my father alive through keeping his morals alive through me"... "We were making make-believe. So let's make believe"... "I try to break a sweat every day. That's my rule."

-Malcolm McDowell

O Lucky Malcolm!: Malcolm McDowell's performance in "A Clockwork Orange" really is a great under-recognized performance... "He gets easily bored and wants to improvise"... "Stanley knew what he didn't want"... "The film was surreal"... "I felt an instant connection to him"... "Don't try to be liked. Just be *truthful*"... "It's very easy to burn out, to get lost, to believe what they write about you"... "Just keep your feet on the ground and realize that you're not the greatest thing since sliced bread"... "I work and I work. I do lots of crap. Occasionally, a gem comes my way."

-Annette Kellermann/ Million Dollar Mermaid

Annette Marie Sarah Kellermann (6 July 1886 – 6 November 1975) was an Australian professional swimmer, vaudeville star, film actress, writer, and business owner.

Kellermann was one of the first women to wear a one-piece bathing costume, instead of the then-accepted pantaloons, and inspired others to follow her example. Kellermann's swimming costumes became so popular, that she started her own fashion line of one-piece bathing suits. Kellermann helped popularize the sport of synchronised swimming; and authored a swimming manual. She appeared in several movies, usually with aquatic themes, and as the star of *A Daughter of the Gods* was the first major actress to appear nude in a Hollywood production. Kellermann was an advocate of health, fitness, and natural beauty throughout her life.

Swimwear line

Kellermann was famous for advocating the right of women to wear a one-piece bathing suit, which was controversial at the time. According to an Australian magazine, "In the early 1900s, women were expected to wear cumbersome dress and pantaloons combinations when swimming. In 1907, at the height of her popularity, Kellermann was arrested on Revere Beach, Massachusetts, for indecency – she was wearing one of her fitted one-piece costumes."

The popularity of her one-piece suits resulted in her own line of women's swimwear. The "Annette Kellermans", as they were known, were the first step to modern swimwear.

Film career

In 1916, Kellermann became the first major actress to do a nude scene when she appeared fully nude in *A Daughter of the Gods*. Made by Fox Film Corporation, *Daughter of the Gods* was the first million-dollar film production. Like many of Kellerman's other films, this is now considered a lost film as no copies are known to exist.

The majority of Kellermann's films had themes of aquatic adventure. She performed her own stunts including diving from ninety-two feet into the sea and sixty feet into a pool of crocodiles. Many times she would play mermaids named Annette or variations of her own name. Her "fairy tale films", as she called them, started with *The Mermaid* (1911), in which she was the first actress to wear a swimmable mermaid costume on film, paving the way for future screen sirens such as Glynis Johns (*Miranda*), Esther Williams and Daryl Hannah (*Splash*). Kellermann designed her own mermaid swimming costumes and sometimes made them herself. Similar designs are still used by The Weekly Wachee Springs Mermaids, including her aquatic fairy costume first introduced in *Queen of the Sea* (1918).

Kellermann appeared in one of the last films made in Prizma Color, *Venus of the South Seas* (1924), a US/New Zealand co-production where one reel of the 55-minute film was in colour and underwater. *Venus of the South Seas* was restored by the Library of Congress in 2004 and is the only feature film starring Kellermann known to exist in its complete form.

She was portrayed by Esther Williams in the film *Million Dollar Mermaid* (1952), and Kellerman's name is on a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, on Hollywood Boulevard. An award-winning Australian documentary called *The Original Mermaid*, which was about Kellerman, was produced in 2002.

Million Dollar Mermaid: "And of course the incomparable ANNETTE KELLERMAN! This is her story..." "And my legs are doing better, even with braces"... "Please let me come back and swim again, daddy"... "Swimming is a hobby"... "It may be the best for the both of us"... "My daughter is going to study ballet"... "I want to manage you"... "Annette Kellerman - The Australian Mermaid. Half woman, half fish"... "We weren't sure if you'd be interested in making a little money"... "Blimey! There's a girl in the water!"... "I can't give up now. I just can't"... "Give us a good story, Ms. Kellerman"... "Would she be interested in daily swims for 8 pounds a week"... "We stage a water carnival. It's something brand new"... "Our own private ocean. A water ballet set to music!"... "All this sounds highly imaginative"... "I have such confidence in this idea"... She pioneered one-piece bathing suits... "Spectacles with story"... "Well, that's that"... "I've only got \$6 left in my pocket"... Women had to wear gowns as bathing suits in the early 20th century... "Did you see that!? Her legs are bare!"... "She ought to be arrested!"... "Shocking!"... "On a public beach!"... "All I expect is to cover yourself!"... Arrested for "indecent exposure"... "As far as I'm concerned, this is the greatest thing that's ever happened"... "Free the feminine sex"... "This is a crusade!"... "It's high time American women showed some skin!"... "I'll give them a story!"... "Will Swim in One Piece Suit Or Not At All, Says Pretty Australian Miss"... "I shall not retreat or retract. I stand for a one piece suit!"... "Your arms, neck, and shoulders were exposed!! Not to mention your calves and thighs!"... "The only way I've been able to compete successfully is to wear a man's one piece racing suit"... "So how is it possible to swim a race tied up in a corset and ten yards of wet drapery?!"... "Does the court object that the limbs are not entirely covered?"... "Perhaps I could suggest a compromise. This is the original racing suit, except I've sown some stockings on the bottom and a jersey on the top. As you can see, this will cover the entire body"... *The One Piece Suit Girl: Gorgeous Aquatic Marvel*... "See Annette Kellerman in that one-piece bathing suit!"... There's an innocence to Ester Williams that is admittedly very appealing... "Voted by Harvard University as the world's most perfect woman!"... What's so exciting about Annette Kellerman is that she was sort of like the first costumed "superheroine" in a black body stocking. She predated Catwoman... God, what a beautiful smile she has while wearing that black bodystocking! It's like seeing the girl next door in full youthful (and innocently sexual) bloom. Her body is completely covered, but her figure is fully exposed through the tights... "The Breast Stroke!" Applause!... "She will now demonstrate fancy high-diving!"... Now she's got a purple body suit!... "Jimmy, I'm soaking wet!"... "We can dream, can't we?"... "Giving a lecture on the body beautiful"... "Annette, put on your suit!"... "All we're doing is capitalizing on some cheap bathing suit publicity"... Hippodrome... The gold bodystocking makes her look like she's swimming nude... Production numbers by Busby Berkeley... "You have applied your body training to something new and different"... "I've got to keep the Kellermans happy"... Pavlova... "Goddess of the Sea"... "Wonder Woman of the Water"... The Water Ballet... The giant clam opens its mouth for her!... She takes the pearl and the clam closes down on her... Grown men in giant red diapers holding up red flags... Red, Yellow, Blue color palette... Red and yellow smoke cloud machines... Scarlet-dyed water!... "See what I mean. Greatest lecturer of her day"... "Neptune's Daughter"... "It's a wonderful new medium. Movies are growing bigger by the day"... Seeing a younger version of herself... The glass cracks... "Get her out of there!"... "I know what kind of a blow this is"... "How that little girl learned to swim before she could walk"... "You struck gold once but never had the sense to stake a claim"... "Just see that you make her happy."

-Rachel Weisz

"The only way to feel free is to get lost." –Rachel Weisz.

-Dennis Hopper

Dennis Hopper: BBC documentary about the American maverick... “The film showed them something they weren’t used to seeing”... “He’s the perfect dangerous American hero”... “Born to Be Wild”... “I only have the drive to be good”... “It cost Dennis a lot to stick up for what he thought was right”... “I was blackballed for being ‘too difficult’”... “He believed that he was a free, independent spirit”... “This guy is a loony tune, but he sure is interesting”... “I’d never met anyone like him”... “He had excellent framing of perception as well as framing with the light”... “I think it could be a commercial idea”... “Even through the speed and the wine, he was clear and concise”... “He was painting at the time. He was writing poetry. He’s always been with his creative outlet”... “I’m surprised that his art hadn’t saved him like it had with *Easy Rider*”... “I was drinking 28 beers a day”... “He reached the point where he was insane”... “I was going to kill myself because I wasn’t going to act again”... “He should have been dead a long time ago”... “He’s always wanted to do something that was creative”... “He felt he had not done everything he wanted to do”... “David, I have to play Frank Booth because I am Frank Booth”... “There was an incredible intensity to the set”... “He just latched onto Frank Booth very well”... “I want to make a personal movie”... “I’m a compulsive creator.”

Along for the Ride: About Dennis Hopper and his right-hand man/ assistant of over 40 years... “Hollywood is the destroyer of relationships”... “Every place was fucked up somehow”... “Dennis Hopper: The Cocaine Cowboy”... “What Is Art?”... “Art is the effective transmission of experience”... “There was a woman before me that I had to obtain her, I had to cherish her”... “It takes courage to be original”... “He was very well-versed in world cinema”... “We shot what the script indicated, but not necessarily the script”... “The center of alternative culture in Taos, New Mexico at Dennis Hopper’s place”... “Out west was like a place where time forgot”... “One of the most intense individuals I’ve ever met”... “He had a disease at that time. And the disease was self-destruction”... “The film wasn’t a success and he wasn’t allowed to direct anymore. He went into a downward spiral”... “Every morning, he would look at the sacred mountain”... “He was a real method actor who drank a quart of rum per day just like Mad Dog Morgan. He totally immerses himself”... “He became convinced that the Russian was an assassin”... “In Europe, he was treated like a creative genius”... “He was very sensitive”... “When a masterpiece comes along, people should see it”... “He assumed a very humble position”... “He was at the peak of his ability to transform himself”... “He’s going to blow himself up (to promote the movie)”... “I used to be something more interesting than I am now”... “He saw the absurd side of life and found it humorous at all points”... “He was evolving into the character”... The mighty rumble of thunder amongst puffy white clouds across a giant blue sky in Peru... “People who work below the radar doing thankless jobs”... Neil Young-like soundtrack drone guitar-work.

-Elvira

You’ve got to love Elvira, the Mistress of the Dark. She’s sexy, naughty, but still a little bit innocent with a B movie nerd personality!

-Carrie Fisher

Bright Lights: Starring Carrie Fisher and Debbie Reynolds: “Performing gives her life. It feeds her in a way that family cannot”... “People aren’t corporative. But audiences are”... “Todd and I had a shared history of weirdness”... “My emotional wellness chicken”... Carrie Fisher autographs: \$70!... The meet and greet photo sessions... “They talk to me as if I were Princess Leia”... Naïve young love... Chain-smoking Carrie Fisher’s sad eyes... “Carrie at this time was famously on drugs”... “I knew something was the matter with me”... A manic depressive Princess Leia... “We were both entering a whole new level of reality”... “I’m Princess Leia!”... Selling her Hollywood memorabilia collection... “I love having my ghost. I love having my memories”... “Do you think she would have been happier being a gym teacher (like she first wanted)?” –“It would have been more *normal*”... “I’m still here”... “I’m weep because I’m bipolar”... “I’m going to marry you while you’re sleeping tonight”... “I have to abstract the pain so it is not happening to me”... “I’m manic right now”... “Smiling when you’re low”... “Okay, so we’ve got to stop, like my therapist likes to say.”

-John Hurt

1-28-17: **John Hurt had one of the greatest voices of all time. So powerful and distinctive. "The Elephant Man" is flat out one of my personal favorite movies as well. Not many movies make me cry like that one. Also see the extremely relevant "1984". <https://www.yahoo.com/movies/john-hurt-oscar-nominated-star-of-the-elephant-man-chest-burst-victim-in-alien-dies-at-77-014512761.html>**

-Tracey Ullman

Tracey Ullman: Live and Exposed: “I decided to tell my life’s story”... “I loved talking to myself”... “There were no musicals for young trolls”... “I put a frizzy pink dress and sheer pantyhose... and no panties”... “Don’t fuck with the Lord of the Dance!”... “I’m a happy schizophrenic!”

-Fred Rogers

Won't You Be My Neighbor?: An exploration of the life, lessons, and legacy of iconic children's television host, Fred Rogers... "The greatest thing that we can do is to help somebody know that they're loved and capable of loving"... "If you take all of the elements that make good television and do the exact opposite, you have "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood". Low production values, simple set, an unlikely star. Yet, it worked"... "Love is at the root of everything - all learning, all parenting, all relationships. Love or the lack of it. And what we see and hear on the screen is part of who we become"... He went through the seminary... Fred Rogers saw television as a viable way of communicating his special message of goodness straight to children around the country... "I don't know of how else to put this, but... are you square (heterosexual)?"... He talked calmly and unusually slowly perhaps on purpose so that children could fully understand him and they wouldn't *feel* overwhelmed... Fred Rogers was all about *feelings* and discussing topics that were uncomfortable for children to grasp such as assassination (Robert Kennedy) and grief (the Challenger disaster and 9/11). He even did an episode about superheroes about teaching children the difference between real and imaginary when he learned about a child jumping off a roof trying to be Superman... Rogers was a Christian pastor who brought his values to his work on TV without ever trying to preach his religion... Some saw him as "square"... His show starts out encouraging that walls be torn down. His message remains amazingly timely today... He was a life-long Republican... Capturing the essence of a remarkable human being... Fred Rogers playing with kids in an urban neighborhood was like seeing a cartoon character in real life... Many children, including myself, grew up with Mr. Rogers... The importance of silence. He used time in a completely different way than other kids' TV shows that were more about slapstick and explosions. He's allow the time to pass... It explores what made him want to do those good things... The added poignancy to the shared televised foot bath between a gay, black police officer and Fred Rogers. "I love you just the way you are." And it was during a time when racist white people were pouring cleaning chemicals in swimming pools where black kids were swimming in public swimming pools... A lifetime pursuit of uniting that led to struggles with depression... His obsession with 143 - both his weight and his code for "I love you" provides some insight into his personality... Rather than comedy and pranks, Mr. Rogers was intent on making kids feel safe and secure in a scary world... Feeling depressed after retiring from the show: "I miss my playmates"... "Fat Freddy" was his nickname that he was bullied with as a teenager... We need Mister Rogers now more than ever... The way he "preached" through the TV show was the way he lived, pure and simple... Fred Rogers was a Christian Republican. Today's "Christian" "Republicans" should be forced to watch and discuss this film. Doing so would change the world... He used the children show to address his own insecurities. He faced his doubts and used that topic to explain it to children and how he used to feel. He never forgot how to feel like a child. He used the puppets as his own alter egos for his younger self and his older self.

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood: Someone has hurt my friend Lloyd, and not just on his face. He is having a hard time forgiving the person who hurt him.... Do you know what that means... to forgive?"... Mr. Rogers and his epic... long... reflective... pauses... "It's a decision we make to *release* a person from the feelings of anger that we have at them"... Fred Rogers giving children emotional therapy... "It's strange, but sometimes it's hardest of all to forgive someone we love"... His seething resentment with his father... His sister is on his third marriage... "You happy?"... "She seems nice enough"... "Do not talk about my mom!"... "Your mother was not the saint"... He snaps at his dad and hits him... "Have you ever felt the way Lloyd does? So angry that you want to hurt someone? Or yourself? I know I have"... "They used to call me "Fat Freddy"..." The picture of van Gogh's "Starry Night" is also a TV set! It transforms to reveal moving images!... "As in the hokey kids show?"... "We have a lot that needs to be said"... "She knows that not what you do?"... "I can't do it"..."Children need to know that even when adults make plans sometimes they don't turn out the way they hoped"... "What are you doing with it?" - "***We are trying to give children positive ways to deal with their feelings***"... "Do you consider yourself a hero?"... "What did happen to you, Lloyd?"... "Can I take your picture? I like to take pictures of the people that I meet?"... "Daniel (the puppet) is Fred"... "It just makes me very mad and I don't know what to do"... "I just don't know if he's for real"... "He's a lot more complex than I thought"... "He's just about the nicest person I've ever met"... "There's a lot of hopelessness out there"... "Let each person know that each of us is precious"... "When you're a parent, you get a new chance to grow"... "He's not a perfect person. He has a temper. He chooses how he responds to that anger"... "He does things to keep himself grounded. Reads Scripture. Swims laps"... "You've covered some heavy stuff for a show that's aimed at children"... "Death, divorce, war. It gets dark"... "*Won't you be my neighbor?*"... "People line up to tell you their problems." - "Isn't it so wonderful? Such bravery?"... "I'm grateful for your compassion"... "There's no normal life that is free from pain"... "Would you like to meet my special puppet friends from the world of make-believe"... "Didn't you have a special toy?"... "I'm sure that if she were to see the person you are today that she (your mother) would be proud of you"... "Sometimes Daniel is too shy to talk"... Fred Rogers' puppets are his own therapeutic way of working through his own past traumas... "I realized that there was still so much more to talk about"... "He's very private and that's okay"... "But you were right, Lloyd. It couldn't have been easy on them. Thank you. Thank you for that perspective"... "Being a parent doesn't mean being a perfect parent. You might be experiencing some of that now"... "He left as soon as mom got sick. Did you know that? He didn't even wait for her to die"... "I still care about my work"... WQED... "A hospital is where you go when your body is hurt. But what do you do when your feelings are hurt?" - "*Why you talk about them (your hurt feelings)*"... "It's good to talk"... "When did you become angry? Do you remember? Did something happen?" His mother dying... "Holding onto this anger"... "Are you a vegetarian?" - "I just can't imagine eating anything that has a mother"... "Broken people"... "Think of all the people that loved us into being"... "Just a moment of silence"... Mr. Rogers staring directly into the camera and into your very soul!... "Thank you for doing that with me. I feel so much better"... "I realize that I need to deal with my feelings"... "My dad is dying"... "Thank you, God"... "I am sorry for leaving you and your sister. It was selfish and it was cruel"... "You know, death is something that many of us are uncomfortable speaking about"... "Anything mentionable is manageable"... "I asked him to pray to pray for me. I figured anyone that is going through what he's going through must be very close to God"... "Sometimes people get

sad"... Deceptively simple, yet complex... "Maybe I could slow down for a few months"... Successfully captures the kind, loving essence of Fred Rogers!... He was comfortable with silence.

-Rutger Hauer

7-24-19: Actor Rutger Hauer died today at the age of 75. I just re-watched this climatic scene from Blade Runner and was instantly reminded of how I felt when I first watched it when I was just 16 years old. It's still utterly hypnotic mainly because of his performance. It's the most "alive" acting work I've ever seen... and it's all done by a replicant (an android), which is one of the major points of the film. Maybe that's why so many Blade Runner fans are affected by Hauer's death today because the film dealt so heavily on death, dying, and simply the importance and significance of being alive. It's still utterly amazing that Hauer improvised the "Tears in Rain" speech. "All those moments, will be lost in time like tears in rain."
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NoAzpa1x7jU>

-Rudy Ray Moore/ Dolomite

Dolomite Is My Name: "Sometimes a dream just don't come true"... "How did my life get so damn small?"... "Stealing jokes from hobos"... "You look like a pimp!" -"I've come with a whole new character and material"... "I don't have a lot of good memories of back home. So I don't think about back home"... "I'll do whatever it takes to break in"... "Will it be like that cute little Bill Cosby? He's so sweet!"... "You've got a product here that you can't sell or promote"... "I created a character"... "I've been the Harlem Hillbilly"... "It's all pretend"... "Was that even a real movie?"... "Your appeal is limited"... "I want more"... "I want the world to know I exist!"... "And there's got to be kung-fu in it"... "You know what we should have? An all-girl kung-fu army!"... "In storytelling, it's always best to write what you know"... "I'm going to bet on myself"... "This place is overrun with junkies"... "You put that sex scene in the movie so you can fuck the white girl!"... "Give it to me, Dolomite!"... "We've been working for free for several days now"... "Didn't you have any contingency plans for overruns? Editing? Post?"... "I'm going to go off and do a real movie"... "At least we had a good time." -"You didn't have to pay for all this shit. I'm in debt up to my ears"... "I can't believe I'm back here on this grind. I don't even own my own records anymore"... "No one wants to play this movie"... "I'm a little confused. Is this movie supposed to be funny?"... "Hey, I found a review!"... "Dull-o-mite is a more apt title. This could be the lamest film of the year"... "The only touch of originality is introducing the fat man as romantic hero"... "Critics don't want to have fun. Brothers want to see car crashes, explosions, and titties. And we delivered that."