



Ruthie-chan's Station

A piece of Ruthie-chan's World.

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Transcript sent from:

Las Vegas, Sol, Desert Landscape

Fandom is a wonderful thing, especially when your spouse is six hours late coming home at the expected hour. I was worried sick and trying very hard not to think that he's dead on the side of the road (he was returning from San Jose, an 8 hour drive). I tried all sorts of things to get my mind off it, but finally, what really got me not to think about it too much was writing an LoC for Peregrine Nations and looking up the answer to the free book question. Thankfully the man arrived home safely. He slept in a resting spot for 6 hours. o.O Yes, we really do need cell phones.

The Bookshelf

I finally finished all of Miles Vorkosigan books by Lois McMaster Bujold. Yahoo! They were all incredibly fun and neat.

I also read Issola by Stephen Brust. FABULOUS read. I love his books about Vlad Taltos.

I just finished reading the His Dark Materials trilogy by Philip Pullman. The first one is called The Golden Compass, the 2nd The Subtle Knife, 3rd, The Amber Spyglass. They're in the youth section of the library. I thoroughly enjoyed the series. It's about a young girl

named Lyra, and all the events that transpire around her. She's part of a prophecy as well. It's a fantasy mixed with some science fiction.

COMMENTS

Pilcrow – David Burton: The weather has been strange here too. Apparently we're having the wettest winter since 15 years ago or so. It's rather nice actually.

I get calls for Juan and Maria Diaz all the time. >_<

I used to watch the cartoons you mentioned too. I even liked the Smurfs as a kid. I'm tellin' ya, I was a toon potato. Mention a 'toon and I've probably watched it. Now, though, I very rarely sit and flip channels.

Sarah and I are 5 years apart. Currently my four sisters all hold some duties with N3F, and my Aunt now does the WelCommittee. According to Arnie Katz it's rare to have siblings in fandom together, so I suppose my family is extra weird since we're all fans, though my Dad and big brother are just Trekkies and like Star Wars. Everyone else is a member of N3F, though I'll admit, a few siblings

are neo-fans; but that's okay, I used to be one too. ;)

If you had asked me a month ago if I were in contact with local fans, I would've said no. I joined the Vegas Science Fiction Association, and started talking to some of the peeps there. Interestingly enough, I never would have known about them if Woody hadn't emailed me as the President of N3F for Las Vegas fans. I said I was the only Neffer in Vegas, and he invited me to join them. I had never thought before to find local fans. I'm glad I got found though. They seem to be quite spiffy.

So, can I be intrusive and ask why you never had children of your own?

I Never Got the Hang of Thursdays – Garth Spencer: The only thing Hazel is afraid of right now is the vacuum. ;)

I am aware of some of N3F's history. Jon Swartz, Janine and a few other members enlightened me. I believe it was Damon Knight who helped in the founding of N3F. Someone correct me if I'm wrong. I believe the purpose was to have an organization that could cater to everyone in Fandom. It may not have turned out exactly that way, but I think we're really good for neo-fans, especially now that we're out of the dark ages and getting in the groove with the times.

Feline Madness – Laurraine Tutihasi: My parents kept the German accented "e" in Renate, but left out the rolled "r".

You are right about the Japanese word "chan". Though I think it's more like "chahn." Their vowels are Ah Eh EE Oh OO for a, e, i, o, and u. If anyone is interested there's info on the Japanese language in my fanzine The MANGAVERSE which can be downloaded at www.mangaverse.org (my turn to plug plug).

See comments to David about local fandom. ;)

Northern Raptor Janine Stinson: Hon, if I'm out doing myself just for having pets along with having one child then I must have killed myself already since I'm Pres of N3F, have my home business (I just started), clean (usually ;)), and find time for the man of the house. Haha! Then I'll probably kill myself again when I have

another baby and again 3 more times after that (since I currently want five children). I hope I have a cat's soul. . . If not, I'm really dead. . .or will be soon. ;)

Why did I have it in my head that you were ancient? Might I ask the "taboo" question of, "how old (or should I say young?) are you?"

About parenting licenses, how does one go about that? Seriously. There are so many things to consider. Would it be the law to conceive only AFTER taking and passing parenting courses? Or just that you have to take a course before actually having the baby?

Who would write the course? Everyone has different opinions on proper parenting. . .

Would we have to enforce birth control?

How would we be able to enforce birth control taking?

Will course taking be the only thing that one has to do?

Where would the funds come from for the courses and law changes?

What happens if someone has a child without a parenting license?

Would they have a fine? Jail time? Their kids taken away from them? If so, what would the courts do with those children and would that really be the best thing for them?

Would the amount of money made be a factor? Sometimes the best parents are those who aren't "wealthy", but make due.

What makes a good parent?

How could this be started or implemented?

Would there be limits on how many children you could have?

How would this NOT infringe upon our freedom and natural rights?

It sounds like a nice idea, but I personally don't see how such a thing can be possible without a serious change in the human psyche.

I think much of the problem stems from people's love of materials more than their children (aka: living beyond your means so you can have X number of cars or X furniture etc. etc.), and especially not the right kind of sex education. It's either the "no sex police" or "here are some condoms, have fun."

Responsible sex (no such thing as safe sex, so first thing

is to change it from safe to responsible), the consequences of sex (like babies), options if you do get pregnant (other than killing your kid), all about pregnancy (get to the nitty gritty so kids won't want to risk having a baby yet), STD's (including graphic pictures of infected genitals – so as not to upset the Christians the boys and girls could be separated and only shown their own gender's infected bits – and what happens to those with HIV and AIDS), that abstinence is the best to prevent unwanted diseases and children, and that abstinence is best psychologically because casual sex hurts people since you're making a connection with someone and breaking it (I've seen this happen with my friends it's tragic and very difficult to get over.).

I personally would also include refraining from masturbating since that tends to make people want instant gratification so when you're with someone sex becomes a more selfish act instead of a giving one (you'd be amazed at the things people have told me about their sex lives).

So, there are my two cents (well that's probably actually more like five cents) on that subject.

About scrap booking, I think men forget that they don't have to make their special photo albums all frilly froo-froo. My husband thinks I'm nuts, but at least he likes the end results. I also think that people forget that you don't have to create a big master piece for each page. As long as you have your photos down using photo safe products and tell the stories that go with them, you're all good. Those are the most important parts anyway.

I also think it's a social stigma. The woman are the ones who are supposed to be all decorative and the men are supposed to be all dirty, but now we live in the day and age where anyone can do just about anything regardless of traditional gender roles. Though it seems to be more difficult for men to get creative unless it's really geeky like miniature war games or something.

Well shoot fire, and now there's all this empty space. It's all your fault Janine. Yep, I blame you. Ha. ;)

So, it looks like I must torture you all with HAZEL PICS!



Above, right after church on Easter Sunday. I had to fight with her to let me take off that dress in favor of her pajamas.

Left, wearing the dress she picked out, her fancy hat and the shirt she likes to wear as a shawl.