

RUTHIE-CHAN'S

STATION #5, y0

PORT LAS VEGAS

E-APA DIVISION



Where 104° degrees is "going out" weather.

**Another Piece of
Ruthie-chan's World**

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Greetings all, I hope this finds everyone well.

Things are getting better and I can take part in fannish activities again, which is nice. I have to be careful though. I have many interests and I find myself getting so deep in fandom that I end up having less to no time for other things I want to do, like writing, music, and art. Those ALWAYS suffer the most.

I have become a Board of Director's member for the Vegas Science Fiction Association. I'm a Member-At-Large: Internet Publications. Basically I edit their monthly zine (the last ish was the first one I did for them), and I'm in charge of their website www.vsf.a.us. Parts of it are still under construction (the calendar and the ecards). I've been slowly working on it for a couple of months. As a BoD member I also help in decision making.

I also created a different interface for the Mangaverse. Now you get to it through www.SFFAMOC.net, which is a liaison to the rest of fandom for Science Fiction and Fantasy in Anime, Manga and Other Comics. I've found that many traditional fans don't think that anime, manga, some even comics, have no place in fandom. This baffles me. Certainly not all of them, but the ones that deal with SF/F do IMO.

However, www.mangaverse.org will still take you straight to TMV. ^^ Volume 2, Number 4 is out.

I have a second interview on Friday at Vons (the local grocery store owned by Safeway). I hope I get it. Robert has been laid off, and since it seems I accidentally threw away our tax records we have to wait for two weeks for the IRS to send us a copy before he can complete the Unemployment form. What a bummer.

Thankfully we have a bit saved and we get food from the church. Good thing too, otherwise our fridge would be rather empty right now.

Mailing Comments - e-APA 15

Chris Garcia – *Alternating Wildly*:

How do you do it? How can you be so active and not tear your hair out? I almost started biting off more than I can chew. Luckily, I was able to recognize it before it go so out of hand I ended up gafiating and letting everyone down.

You're right though, Anna rocks. I dunno how she does it, but I bet she's got LOTS of support. ^^

I noticed that the Drink Tank and VFW have the same amount of issues. Bravo.

Your daughter LoCs? How cute! I wonder if I can get Hazel into it too when she's older and can actually read. She already loves Star Wars and anime and reading. Well, she thinks she reading anyway. Heehee.

Regarding History Sites, the problem with some of them is that they aren't always very objective.

Every time I look at your Regal Toastmaster picture, I keep wondering, "where's the toaster?"

Dave Locke – *Trial Balloon*:

I do the same thing with APAs. It's so much easier that way, even with the different publishing frequencies. However, with life as it is now, I am reluctant to do more than what I am doing now . . . I have pondered joining SNAPS, the Las Vegas APA, but anyone can read it, which makes me feel like I have to be very careful with what I say. And with time being a factor. . . *sigh*

So, I walked away for a bit, thinking about this stuff and I think the thing is, not only do I have make my own submission (which is the easy part) it's that I have to READ everyone else's contribution. *sigh* If only I needed a mere four hours of sleep every night. . .

I'm sorry about your Christmas 2004, but I enjoyed your telling of it.

I loved your random observations. They made me chuckle. Re: constellations, I think the only one that looks even vaguely like what was described is the Big Dipper. With everything else, I wonder what those people were smoking. I can also find Orion's Belt, since it's only three stars in a row. Well, not in Vegas. ::wink::

I hate the whole "True Fandom" thing. There are some who take it so far, and view the *Enchanted Duplicator* as the fannish bible. Gag me with a fork lift. Some get so adamant that they scare away the neo-fans, and people who would be fans if given a chance (whom I like to call fanlings). I deal with a few of these people regularly enough it makes me wanna club them over the head with a clue stick.

So while True Fandom is supposed to be tongue 'n' cheek, more often than not it en't, especially when dealing with "traditional" fans.

R-Laurraine Tutihasi – *Feline Madness*:

Our car was making a funny noise. It turned out to be more than

a loose belt. If it hadn't been under warranty it would have been over \$2000 to fix. As it was, we had to pay half. Egads.

Batman Begins is the BEST Batman movie ever! I even felt sorry and sad over the death of Bruce's parents. That's something that has never happened before. Once it's out on DVD it will be mine.

I have scrapbooks that aren't photo albums. One of them I took a part because it was in an magnetic album and was ruining all of my childhood memorabilia. However, I haven't decided what to do with the X-files one I have.

The thing about scrap booking is that you have to be careful about what kind of materials you use, otherwise you're actually decreasing the life of your photos and memorabilia. Just because it's acid free doesn't mean it's good quality paper. You need something that's also lignin free and has been *tested* in a lab. Otherwise you don't know what you're getting.

Never use magnetic albums. If you have to use an album that's a bunch of plastic sleeves make sure the plastic is made out of polypropylene. PVC plastics are terrible!

Avoid extreme temperatures, direct sunlight, and moisture. Those are the death of albums.

Yeah, can you tell I'm big on this stuff? ::wink smile::

Steven H. Silver – Plata:

I love Anne McCaffrey. I met her at a book signing about 10 years ago. I was in high school and near the end of the line. We were told she would leave in two hours, and I knew there was no way she'd get through all of us within that time period.

I was so worried that I wouldn't get to meet her, that I found a piece of paper and a pencil and wrote her a note with my address. I turned to the guy in line behind me and asked him if he would be kind enough to hold my place in line. He said yes; bless him.

I went right up to Anne and when she finished with the person she was on, I touched brushed her shoulder and said, "Anne." She turned to me. I said something along the lines of "I just want to give this note."

About an hour after she was supposed to leave, I was able to walk up to her and get her to autograph my book. I was so pleased.

I was even MORE pleased a few months later when I got a personal letter from her. She gave me writer's advice too. (I must have mentioned being an aspiring writer in the letter.)

Blue Jaunt – David Burton:

I think you're right about your interests in fandom reflect how you got into it. We know how I got into, my sister getting me to join and participate in N3F, and I'm still really big into groups and clubs, especially now that I've discovered the joys of local fandom. I like fanzines now that I've discovered them, but not all of them. Some are way too gossipy.

You said: "I'm still amazed at people who come to this country, and steadfastly *refuse* to "join" it, preferring to act as if America (or Canada, or wherever) was just an extension of their homeland, and that the natives should accommodate *them*. I know that were I to move to Mongolia, say, I'd expect to assimilate myself into *their* culture (resistance being futile) rather than vice versa."

I completely agree with you. It's one of the things that drives me absolutely batty about this country. There are so many people who speak Spanish and don't bother to learn English but expect us to take care of them (hello, maybe you wouldn't need welfare if you could speak English), and we only perpetuate the problem by having all these freaking conveniences for them. Then you get the idiots who say that English is not officially the USA's language. Maybe not in writing but I wish it were so these people would shut up and get off their arses and learn some English. Egads. If you had to speak it to get around you would learn it. Language submersion works! It really does! I promise!

About animals having souls, they do. Everything has a spirit. If animals didn't have souls we wouldn't be able to connect with them. So yeah, our beloved pets are waiting for us somewhere. Lets just hope they're not bistaching about us not giving them all the treats they wanted. ::wink::

Garth Spencer – I Never Got the Hang of Thursdays:

You know, the more I read about you, the more I wonder whether or not you have ADD. Some of the signs of Asperger's Syndrome are similar to that of ADD. There are also six types. Go here to read about it and feel free to talk to me any time about it outside this APA if you so desire. Here's the best place to learn about it <http://www.amenclinic.com>. There's a lot of information, so if you start feeling overwhelmed let me know and I'll do my best to help you get started. It's interesting stuff.

Your skull getting pierced by a ray of light made me smile.

Lawrence E. Soehnel – The New Flesh:

Welcome! I am no longer the youngest person here. ::grin::
I loved the Transformers as a kid too.

Mailing Comments - e-APA 16

Peter Sullivan – *Pleasantly Random:*

Welcome! I just saw your LoC to VFW and I'm thinking, he sounds familiar, only to realize, hey, he just joined the e-APA. Hee hee. I love your zine title.

You spell fanzine wrong. It's rather cute. You are spelling it the way it is pronounced but it's spelled zine like magazine. You've reminded me that I used to pronounce it zeyen (rhymes with dine). It wasn't until some corrected my older sister did I get the clue on that.

Egoboo is a very important part of fanzine publishing. If you get LoC's or anything that indicates people like what you're writing then all that time and effort is worth it. If no one read The MANGAVERSE, why in hells bells would I bother putting it out? I'd use that time for something else. So yeah, I want my egoboo gosh darn it!

This line, and this line alone made me immediately think, "Oh I like this guy." (Anyway, I hope these comments are of some interest or use to you, and if not I enjoyed writing them anyway ;-))

Regarding full media CDs, that kind of loses the point of an audio zine. . . People forget how important music is for your science fiction shows. It's why I can't watch Andromeda. The music is so awful. Worse than the story lines!

You're right about Ken Livingston's words. Spot on.

David Burton – *Blue Jaunt:*

Regarding Joe Camel. *pause* I hate you. I really do. I will never be able to look at Joe Camel the same way again.

Ya know, in a marriage, if you're having little to no sex, something is wrong. Hello Ruthie, that should have been a clue RIGHT THERE. Though, since we've been working things out, we have GOOD sex more often. TMI? Maybe. Oh well.

Robert and I both want to make it work. I can't force him to want to, he had to want to all on his own. I'm glad he did.

I like your take on various fandoms. I wish more fans were like that.

Chris Garcia – *Alternate Wildly:*

How's your Dad doing? I hope he's improved. (Lets hope I'm not

being an ass asking this. . .)

Forrest Gump was okay to watch once, but yeah, I don't know why it was so popular, though I still here, "run Forrest run." I still want to smack the lady I knew who named her son Forrest. . .

Isn't it amazing the stupid stuff people do?

R-Laurraine Tutahasi – *Feline Madness:*

Now you've got me wanting to see the new Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

Communication and *honesty* in a relationship are keys. And realizing that love is a choice and it takes work.

You're right about kids being far enough a part interacting differently with their younger siblings. As number 3 of 8 kids, it was the way you described it for me and some of my younger siblings, though as we got older and I moved out that changed a bit.

Steven Silver – *Plata:*

When I forget where I saved a file usually doing a search for it works. . . unless I forgot what I saved it as.

Garth Spencer – *I Never Got the Hang of Thursdays:*

I think people believe that marriage is exactly like dating when that's not true. While dating elements are necessary to have a good marriage it's not the only thing. So yeah, marriage is a partnership; but it doesn't have to be devoid of love like it used to be in days long past.

BTW, just to be clear, Robert and I aren't just fuck buddies. We aren't seeing anyone else nor do we plan to. If we want to, then we know our relationship is over. Most friends with privileges relationships don't work because someone will always get overly attached or jealous. ALWAYS.

So, for us, being friends with privileges is more of a psychology thing about what point we are at in our relationship. I don't think we'll move to bf/gf until he can say "I love you" to me again. I know he cares a lot, but he's taking his time saying it again, which is good. Once it's said it can't be unsaid and having him come back to me and saying, "actually I lied, can I take that back" would be a bad thing.

Does any of that make sense? I think we both ended up copying our parents without realizing it. Ya gotta always pay attention, no matter what. Easier said than done.

Regarding same sex couples, I was told by such couples that they go through the same stuff we heteros do.

About the divorce rate, I think part of that is now it's so easy to get a divorce these days. Before a woman could divorce an abusive husband, and now she can divorce him for wearing socks to bed. It's ridiculous.

Love is like a bonfire. At first it's a really big flame that practically consumes you. After a while though, it starts to die down. Eventually you have the nice warm embers at the end. BUT, to keep everything warm and comfy you have to keep throwing in a stick once in a while, otherwise it turns cold.

Tossing in that stick is easier while you are dating, but when you're married so many things change and come up. Finances, children, work, family, other obligations, that you start to forget to toss in that stick. After a while you're wondering why you keep shivering from the cold.

If you're lucky there are still patches of warmth and you can start the fire going again.

If course, in a relationship, each person has to do some stick tossing. One person putting forth all the effort doesn't work. Never has, never will.

And because I forgot to mention it, on the new VSFA site, you can put up reviews. Anyone can in any of the categories listed. So feel free to check it out and do so. www.VSFA.us

I really like our Intergalactic Complaint Department (IGCD).

I'm rather proud of it. I'm also proud of our zine V3, so if you've got extra time go and read it! It's on efanzines.com and also on our website.

Some Hazel stuff, because, you know I have to, her new thing is playing bokken. Yes, she says bokken. It's very cute.

BTW, most of the space images I've had in RS are screen shots from a game called EVE Online.

Okay enough of this crap. I'm going to go play City of Heroes with Robert.



Hazel in the rocking chair wearing her PJ's and my bra.

I had a bunch of space to use up, there ya go. Nyah.

Apologies, I didn't have time to proof read this.