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Mt. Holz Science Fiction Society
04/30/21 -- Vol. 39, No. 44, Whole Number 2169

Table of Contents

Science Fiction (and Other) Discussion Groups, Films, Lectures, etc. (NJ)
My Picks for Turner Classic Movies for May (comments by Mark R. Leeper)
Animals on Our Side (comments by Evelyn C. Leeper)
This Week's Reading (SORROWLAND) (book comments by Evelyn C. Leeper)
Quote of the Week

Co-Editor: Mark Leeper, mleeper@optonline.net
Co-Editor: Evelyn Leeper, eleeper@optonline.net
Sending Address: evelynchimelisleeper@gmail.com

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An index with links to the issues of the MT VOID since 1986 is at
http://leepers.us/mtvoid/back_issues.htm.

Science Fiction (and Other) Discussion Groups, Films, Lectures, etc. (NJ):

While the last year's meetings have all been Zoomed, we are hoping to resume in-person meetings in Old Bridge this month (albeit outdoors). People who are "officially" part of the group will receive details as to time and place.

I'm not sure about the Middletown meetings, but I'm reasonably sure that participants need to watch the film on their own ahead of time as well as reading the book.

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May 1 (OBPL author talk), 2:00PM (2 hrs): Neil Sharpson (WHEN THE
        SPARROW FALLS), details at
        https://www.oldbridgelibrary.org/events/2021-05/
        (this is a library event, not the discussion group's)
May 6 (MTPL), 7:00PM: THE STEPFORD WIVES (1975) & novel
        by Ira Levin (1972)
   https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x37rpim
   https://www.hoopladigital.com/title/13326454
May 27 (OBPL): THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER by Octavia E. Butler
June 2 (MTPL), 7:00PM: SECONDS (1966) & novel by David Ely (1962)
    https://fsharetv.co/movie/seconds-episode-1-tt0060955
    https://archive.org/details/secondsnovel00elyd
    https://openlibrary.org/works/OL4127707W/Seconds
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My Picks for Turner Classic Movies for May (comments by Mark R. Leeper)

Evelyn thought that May was a particularly good month for movies on Turner Classic Movies. Come to think of it, I agree. Take a look. Consider it a set of small movie fests. Films will range from the sublime to the totally insane to the surreal GOKE, BODY SNATCHER FROM HELL (1968). It is quite a lineup. But the real finds are films you likely have never heard of.

The main movie fest is actually an official movie fest: the TCM Classic Film Festival, running from May 6 through May 9. Several of these films are either newly restored prints or TCM premieres.

TCM CLASSIC FILM FESTIVAL:
 May 06 8:00 PM West Side Story (1961)
 May 06 11:15 PM Mean Streets (1973)
 May 07 1:30 AM Doctor X (1932) (followed by a short documentary
                on the horror films of Michael Curtiz)
 May 07 3:00 AM Ocean's 11 (1960)
 May 07 5:45 AM My Favorite Wife (1940)
 May 07 7:30 AM The Fortune Cookie (1966)
 May 07 10:00 AM Whistle at Eaton Falls (1951)
 May 07 11:45 AM Annie Get Your Gun (1950)
 May 07 2:00 PM Wuthering Heights (1939)
 May 07 4:00 PM Live from the TCMFF: Sophia Loren (2016)
 May 07 5:15 PM The Man Who Would Be King (1975)
 May 07 8:00 PM SF Sketchfest Presents Plan 9 from Outer Space
                Table Read - Adapted by Dana Gould
 May 07 9:30 PM Plan 9 From Outer Space (1959)
 May 07 11:00 PM TCM Underground Presents: Grease 2 (1982)
 May 08 1:15 AM The Producers (1968)
 May 08 3:15 AM let me come in (2021)
 May 08 4:00 AM Underworld USA (1961)
 May 08 6:00 AM Tex Avery: The King of Cartoons (1988)
 May 08 7:00 AM Tex Avery at MGM (1943 - 1955)
 May 08 8:00 AM I Love Trouble (1947)
 May 08 10:00 AM Ride the High Country (1963)
 May 08 11:45 AM Nichols and May: Take Two (1996)
 May 08 1:00 PM Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? (1966)
 May 08 3:30 PM On the Waterfront (1954)
 May 08 5:45 PM Bullitt (1968)
 May 08 8:00 PM They Won't Believe Me (1947)
 May 08 10:00 PM Lady Sings the Blues (1972)
 May 09 12:45 AM Diner (1982)
 May 09 3:00 AM From Broadway to Hollywood (2014)
 May 09 4:15 AM I Know Where I'm Going! (1945)
 May 09 6:15 AM Strangers on a Train (1951)
 May 09 8:45 AM Her Man (1930)
 May 09 10:15 AM The China Syndrome (1979)
 May 09 12:45 PM Princess Tam Tam (1935)
 May 09 2:15 PM Places in the Heart (1984)
 May 09 4:30 PM I Remember Mama (1949)
 May 09 7:00 PM Hollywood Home Movies: Stars at Work and Play
                (2021)
 May 09 8:00 PM So This is Paris (1926)
 May 09 9:30 PM The Goodbye Girl (1977)
 May 09 11:45 PM Fame (1980)
 May 10 2:15 AM Breathless (1960)
 May 10 4:15 AM News From Home (1977)
 May 10 6:13 AM La Chambre (1972)

Other less official fests include:

HOW TO GET RID OF A BODY:
 May 05 06:00 AM   Macabre (1958)
 May 05 07:15 AM   Mystery Of The Wax Museum, The (1933)
 May 05 08:45 AM   Bucket of Blood, A (1959)
 May 05 10:00 AM   Slight Case of Murder, A (1938)
 May 05 11:45 AM   Stranger, The (1946)
 May 05 01:30 PM   Arsenic and Old Lace (1944)
 May 05 03:45 PM   Gazebo, The (1960)
 May 05 05:45 PM   Diabolique (1955)

HISTORICAL EPICS:
 May 21 08:00 PM   Last Emperor, The (1987)
 May 21 11:00 PM   Gandhi (1982)

ALIEN INVASIONS:
 May 26 06:00 AM   All Monsters Attack (1969)
 May 26 07:30 AM   Simon (1980)
 May 26 09:15 AM   Five Million Years To Earth (1968)
 May 26 11:00 AM   Village of the Damned (1960)
 May 26 12:30 PM   Attack of the 50 Foot Woman (1958)
 May 26 01:45 PM   Invasion of Astro-Monster (1965)
 May 26 03:30 PM   Invisible Boy, The (1957)
 May 26 05:00 PM   Snow Devils, The (1965) to
 May 26 06:30 PM   Goke, Body Snatcher from Hell (1968)

MEMORIAL DAY MARATHON:
(too long to include)

OTHER FILMS OF FANTASY/SF/HORROR INTEREST:
 May 01 01:00 PM   What Ever Happened to Baby Jane? (1962)

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May 01 08:00 PM    Wizard of Oz, The (1939)
May 01 10:00 PM    Wuthering Heights (1939)
May 04 01:00 AM    King Kong (1933)
May 04 03:00 AM    39 Steps, The (1935)
May 04 04:45 AM    Strangers on a Train (1951)
May 11 07:30 AM    I Married a Witch (1942)
May 12 02:30 AM    Enchanted Cottage, The (1945)
May 13 09:15 AM    Around the World in 80 Days (1956)
May 14 01:45 AM    Big Picture, The (1989)
May 15 09:30 AM    Electrical Brain, The (1943)
May 15 05:45 PM    Manchurian Candidate, The (1962)
May 17 02:00 AM    Run Lola Run (1998)
May 18 09:30 AM    Devil-Doll, The (1936)
May 18 12:30 PM    Atlantis, The Lost Continent (1960)
May 18 02:15 PM    Most Dangerous Game, The (1932)
May 18 05:15 PM    Isle of the Dead (1945)
May 22 02:30 AM    Earth Girls Are Easy (1988)
May 22 12:00 PM    Foreign Correspondent (1940)
May 22 10:00 PM    Brass Bottle, The (1964)
May 23 08:00 PM    Frankenstein (1931)
May 24 01:15 PM    Modern Times (1936)
May 25 08:45 AM    Thing From Another World, The (1951)
May 27 10:00 PM    Arsenic and Old Lace (1944)
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[-mrl]

Animals on Our Side (comments by Evelyn C. Leeper):

Not all animal stories have them rampaging against people in general. Sometimes they are very specific:

"Elephants trample suspected rhino poacher to death in South African national park

A breeding herd of elephants in South Africa's Kruger National Park trampled a suspected rhino poacher to death over the weekend. Several other poaching suspects armed with hunting rifles and an ax were arrested by authorities, as the park continues to crack down on criminal activity in the country that sees a rhino killed every day.

...

This is not the first time a poaching incident at Kruger National Park has turned deadly.

In 2019, a suspected rhino poacher was killed by an elephant and then "devoured" by lions, park officials said at the time. All that was found were his skull and a pair of pants."

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2021/04/20/elephants-trample-poacher-kruger-national-park/

This Week's Reading (book comments by Evelyn C. Leeper):

SORROWLAND by Rivers Solomon (ISBN 978-0-374-26677-6) starts in an isolated community set up for African-Americans who choose to follow the "God of Cain" rather than the God of the white people. Well, not all of them choose to be there, because it is very strict (and reminiscent of THE HANDMAID'S TALE in many ways). However, escape is difficult, as we discover when the young and pregnant Vern manages to do just that, and then lives with her two children on her own in the forest that apparently surrounds the Blessed Acres of Cain. There has been some sort of catastrophe, left vague until the end of the novel, but it doesn't seem to have been very disruptive, although we never see anything other than the rural area around the Blessed Acres.

This sounded promising, but somehow I could not connect to the characters. It was not the usual problem of a person from a different culture; I think it was the bizarre nature of the other aspects of Vern's being that I had problems connecting with. I cannot say it was a bad book; I have the feeling that I am just the wrong audience. [-ecl]

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                                    Mark Leeper
                                    mleeper@optonline.net
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Quote of the Week:

          Most people have never learned that one of the main
          aims in life is to enjoy it.
                                    --Samuel Butler
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