Letters to the Editor

Lost in Space

In the Top Ten Space Movies (Novell Connection, July 2001), I would have also included The Forbidden Planet. I consider it to be one of the very best—especially when you consider when this movie was made (1950s). Independence Day is way too lightweight and implausible to even be in the top 10.

With those two exceptions, I think you did a very good job in your selections.

Thanks,
Larry Long

I liked the article about the top ten space movies, but I disagree with some of your choices in the top ten list. Your list is as follows:

1. Star Wars series
2. Space Odyssey: 2001
3. The Day the Earth Stood Still
4. A pollo 13
5. Star Trek I-IX
6. A liens
7. E.T.
8. Men in Black
9. Close Encounters of the Third Kind
10. Independence Day

I loved choices 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 10. However, the other movies did not deserve to be in the top ten list.

First, The Day the Earth Stood Still could be considered more drama than SciFi. A better choice from early SciFi would be The Forbidden Planet or Metropolis. Plus, if you are wanting more drama, why not choose a film like the X-Files: Fight the Future? This film is more action/drama with some SciFi elements thrown in.

The next one, A pollo 13, is a historical film. When I think of space films, I think of fantastic journeys through space. While Apollo 13 is a great historical drama, it contains no element of this type of journey. I would prefer seeing something on the list that has something to do with a fantastic journey such as Planet of the Apes—either the past movies or the upcoming film, just based on the fact that it was made by Tim Burton.

Men in Black? Come on. That is like putting a movie such as Mars Attacks on the list. Men in Black had aliens, sure, but it is a comedy. This choice is as bad as including a movie such as Space Balls. Space movies should have action and space battles. If you want to include a “campy” movie, why not choose a Japanese anime movie such as Robotech: The Movie?

Kudos for including a list like this. I am sure most readers like me enjoyed reading your choices. My list would be as follows, in order of the best first. (And I will break up the Star Wars movies, since I think they should be looked at independently.)

1. Star Wars Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back
2. Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope
3. Star Wars Episode VI: Return of the Jedi
4. The Star Trek series
5. A liens
7. Planet of the Apes
8. Close Encounters of the Third Kind
9. The Forbidden Planet (in homage to the movies that started it all)
10. Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace

Eric N. Quigley

What? How can the A liens trilogy be below A pollo 13? A pollo 13 was so boring, I slept through it. Next you will put Castaway at number 2 and say, “well, since he looked into space....” I am, get over it, A pollo 13 was snooze-ville. The list was clearly a SciFi top 10 and should be kept SciFi only!

Great mag! Love N etW are 5 and am drooling for N etW are 6.

Keith Connors

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