

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 100.

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. Apollo 13
5. Star Trek I-IX
6. Aliens
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, *Apollo 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 Animae 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. Aliens
6. Space Odyssey: 2001
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 1: The Phantom Menace

Eric N. Quigley

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

Great mag! Love NetWare 5 and am drooling for NetWare 6.
Keith Connors

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