

Josh Becker DGA

Directing From The Edge



Q & A Archive
Page 34

Name: Julie
E-mail: juliejhnsn7@aol.com

Oops see I told you I didn't like the title I couldn't even get it right in the previous email. Don't take offense at my memory, I'm up way past my bedtime.

--Julie

Dear Julie:

Hey, get off my case with this title, will you? Just kidding.

Josh

Name: Julie
E-mail: juliejhnsn7@aol.com

Josh,

I just finished "The Winds of Time." I like everything about it except the title. I could go on and on about specifics but I'm sure you have better things to do. If you make it I'll see it.

My fav parts: Mike going through the airport with fake passport--the assassin who can't get the pipe bomb to detonate--krasker sitting around reading anna karenina---the action scenes at the end are really good.

Dear Julie:

I'm glad you enjoyed it. The title, BTW, is "The Winds of Fate," which you may not like any better, but there it is.

Josh

Name: Chris DeRoza
E-mail: grendel449@hotmail.com

Howdy,

My question is what is the best 16mm camera I can buy? Is the Russia made (Krasnogorsk -3) 16 mm movie camera a good filming camera and do you know if I can still get film for it? What kind of film it uses?

Loved "Thou Shalt Not Kill...Except" Keep up the great work.

Thanks

Dear Chris:

The Krasnogorsk uses 16mm film, the same stuff that all 16mm cameras use, and they certainly still make it. I hear it's an all right camera, although I've never used one. Probably the best 16mm camera you can get is an Arriflex SR-2 or SR-3 or even a BL. I own a Bolex, which is fun and dependable, but rather difficult to use and won't shoot synch sound.

Josh

Name: Charles Corder
E-mail: cscorder@hotmail.com

Dear people:

What the hell is the matter with some of you? This is how it works: Josh expresses his opinions (it is his site, after all). You express your opinions. Sometimes there will be disagreements. Believe it or not, this happens in all areas of life. Most mature adults don't find this to be threatening. If you find Josh's opinions on the movies or anything else so upsetting to you or your way of life, perhaps you don't need the Internet in your bunker. Or maybe you just need professional help.

Josh, I don't agree with everything I read here, but I always enjoy reading it. Please keep up the good work.

Charles

Dear Charles:

Well, thank you.

Josh

Name: Harry
E-mail: hermescroll@yahoo.com

Dear Josh

I've noticed that the majority of t.v. episodes you've directed were written by Adam Armus & Nora Kay Foster. Is this just coincidence or by design?

Harry

Dear Harry:

I was the standby comedy director and Nora Kay and Adam were the standby comedy writers. We all sort of handled the last-minute stuff.

Josh

Name: Peter
E-mail: peter@hotmail.com

Dear Josh:

fuck you

Dear Peter:

You wish.

Josh

Name: ADAM CROCKER
E-mail: ACROCKER666@YAHOO.COM

Dear Josh:

WILL I EVER GET TO SEE CLEVELAND SMITH IN MOVIE FORM. IREAD

THE SCRIPT AND I COULDN'T GET IT OUT OF MY HEAD. THE WHOLE TIME I WAS READING IT I HAD THE THEME FROM INDIANA JONES IN MY HEAD. IF THE MOVIE WAS MADE HOW DO I GET IT?

Dear Adam:

Are you yelling at me? Scott and I wrote the script in 1984. I can't imagine it getting made soon, but I'm still waiting.

Josh

Name: Julie
E-mail: juliejhnsn7@aol.com

Josh,

Thanks for the responses to my questions yesterday. My friends don't even get back to me that fast. Best of luck, and I'll keep my fingers crossed for IHAHammer.

From,
Julie.

Dear Julie:

Welcome to Beckerfilms.com, the most responsive site on the web.

Josh

Name: XenaHerc
E-mail: XLWH@aol.com

Hi Josh.

I noticed some fans have mentioned "Lunatics A Love Story" and "Battle of the Big Tuna". I have both which I bought about 1-1/2 years ago.

They are available at - www.bigstar.com/

"Lunatics A Love Story" is 1-2 weeks to ship (\$71.99) and "Battle of the Big Tuna" is backordered (\$26.99)

I try to buy anything with your name and your friends' names on it. I think you and your friends are very talented.

Have a good one.

Take care,
XenaHerc

Dear XenaHerc:

I had no idea you could get "Battle the Big Tuna." So, what did you think?

Josh

Name: Danny Cork
E-mail: dannycork@hotmail.com

Josh,

Hey did you ever accept that college job you were offered a while back?
(The film teaching thing)

Danny.

Dear Danny:

No, I didn't, although maybe I should have.

Josh

Name: Diana Hawkes
E-mail: sdhawkes@penn.com

Hi Josh,

Have you ever let any gossip about the personal lives of actors (or directors) affect your enjoyment of a film?

I ask because I have this hang up myself and wondered if I was being too shallow or maybe just "thinking too much".

I came across "Laura" as a college gal and fell in love with the works of Gene Tierney. Then I came across a t.v. bio of her a few months ago that exposed her troubled real life. Ever since, I can't watch "Leave Her To Heaven" for example without her personal details clouding how I'm seeing the film itself.

Similarly, I used to be a Woody Allen addict, until the *marry your daughter/Mia Farrow* fiasco went down so publicly, and now I cringe when I find myself watching a rerun of one of his films. Gerard Depardeau admitting to rape, Roman Polanski's troubles,,,these things surely fall

under the realm of "none of our business". Having said that, I still find a connection to what you've said repeatedly about-- an element taking you out of the story being the death of the it, from the audience's POV. And in a 'round-about way, I am taken out of the story by the overshadowing of the players themselves sometimes.

As a matter of fact, Anthony Quinn's supposed abusive side being corroborated by interviews I saw of his ex-wife and son very much affected how I assimilate his performances. Did that ever cross your mind when directing him? (other than him abusing YOU! I read your synopsis!)

In a related vein, Would you ever let gossip, media troubles, drug use, have any weight in hiring an actor?

Dear Diana:

Drug use, certainly. Right now I would have to think long and hard about hiring Robert Downey, Jr. or Matthew Perry, not to mention it's got to be damn near impossible to insure them right now. I do my best to divorce an artist's personal life from their art. I don't care if Pablo Picasso was a prick, I don't think it matters. Barbra Steisand may well be a bitch, but she's got a great voice. For me, one has nothing to do with the other.

Josh

Name: ADAM CROCKER
E-mail: ACROCKER666@YAHOO.COM

Dear Josh:

WILL THIS EVER COME TO BE? WILL THIS BE AVAILABLE IN MOVIE FORM? DETAILS DETAILS

Dear Adam:

What are you referring to? Details, details.

Josh

Name: Blake Eckard
E-mail: bseckard@hotmail.com

Josh,

How did you happen to sit in on an academy screening of Robocop? Have any of your own pictures been eligible for academy awards? How do you

know?

Now, here's the main thing...I'm drivin' around with a buddy (actor) and we're drinking and blathering on about the horrible state of movies. Tom Hanks comes up and, after 30 minutes, we both came to reluctant realization that we are very happy with him as an actor. As we continued to loosen up, we even decided that we'd consider him to be on a par with the likes of Clark Gable, Jimmy Stewart, John Wayne or Jack Nicholson. I'm dead serious, and I'm definately NOT a nice guy when it comes to praising ANYONE...espically when boozin'.

People love Tom Hanks, that's a fact, and I think they should. He started off doin' crap to survive as an actor like "Mazes and Monsters," or "Volunteers". But with "Big," (which I didn't like, but everyone else did) he seemed to at least be trying to pick good stories. Well, eversince his academy win in 94 for his 93 performance he's been picking good stories. I don't care, "Forrest Gump", "The Green Mile", and "Cast Away" are all good stories, and that's what it's all about. Tell a damned story, and make it interesting. Plus, he's really good in all of them. That's more than can be said for anyone in films right now...At least it was last night in the minds of two drunken Midwesterners bouncing around in a pickup.

Have a good one.

The best,

Blake Eckard

Dear Blake:

What were you drinking, Colt 45? Tom hanks is OK, but he sure ain't no James Stewart yet, and he'll never have the charisma of Clark Gable. I liked him in "Big" and "Apollo 13." "Forrest Gump," "Green Mile" and "Philadelphia" I can all live without. Well, two good pictures does not make much of a career. James Stewart was great in: "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," "Destry Rides Again," "The Philadelphia Story," "The Shop Around the Corner," "It's a Wonderful Life," "Call Northside 777," "Winchester '73," "Broken Arrow," "Harvey," "No Highway in the Sky," "The Naked Spur," "The Man from Laramie," "Vertigo," "Anatomy of a Murder," "The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance," "Shenandoah," and "Flight of the Pheonix." He was quite good in other pictures, too.

How did you happen to sit in on an academy screening of Robocop? Have any of your own pictures been eligible for academy awards? How do you know?

I had a friend who worked at the Academy back then. He has since died. My only film eligible for an Oscar was "Running Time" in 1997, but I lost to "Titanic." Quite frankly, I think "RT" is much better film, but that's just me.

Josh

Name: Alexandria
E-mail: Smithmg70@aol.com

Hey Josh,

I forgot to say that your web site is one of the coolest around, but not as cool as Bruce Campbell's. What films in production are you most looking forward to seeing? Do you think Star Wars, episode 2 will be any good, or is Lucas flogging a dead horse? Personally I'm a Star Wars freak, so I can't wait.

I'm with the Dark Side. Long live the Sith.
Love Alexandria,

Dear Alexandria:

I haven't liked any "Star Wars" films since the first one, and that's a film I can easily and happily never see again. Flogging a dead horse? This horse is so long dead that the bones have turned to dust.

Josh

Name: Tina
E-mail: Do_Tina_@hotmail.com

Dear Josh:

I was just wondering where you got the quote about the world being shrunken into a village of 100 people and if you know if these numbers have changed.

Dear Tina:

It was just an email I received.

Josh

Name: Cynthia E. Jones
E-mail: cynthiaejones@hotmail.com

Dear Josh,

I apologize if the tone of my last (non-published) email was bitter. I was having a bad day, nothing personal. Feeling stupid. Anyway.

Watched William Wyler's "The Heiress" last night. It took a half hour of convincing my roommate to watch it with me, but he was glad that he did. Wonderful performance from Olivia de Havilland. Do you think there are any actresses today to compare? Jennifer Jason Leigh starred in the remake, which I haven't seen.

I feel fortunate that I own a copy of "Lunatics," but I got a screener from a friend of mine who worked at a video store. I finally found "Running Time" on DVD so I can hear the commentary with you and Bruce.

I had never checked out your "short stories" section before, I thought they would be fiction (I'm methodical in my exploration of your site). I was delighted to discover non-fiction essays that were riveting and enjoyable, particularly "Fear and Loathing on I-10." I'm a road tripper myself, but not yet at that level, though I did drive 22 hours straight from Cheyenne, Wyoming to Sacramento, California without the aid of pharmaceuticals.

Have you considered going back into journalism? What is your journalistic experience besides "Film Threat?"

I'm coming to your town for a few days tomorrow... the things I do for Bruce and Ted.

--cindy

Dear Cindy:

I wrote movie reviews for several years for college newspapers, then local Detroit publications. But somewhere in the early 1980s I plunged headlong into filmmaking and dropped journalism for screenwriting. Since having this website, however, I've been inspired to get back into it. I've enjoyed writing all these recent essays and reviews in the past three years, and it seems that the occasional person out there is reading them, too. I'm glad you liked "Fear & Loathing on I-10," I'd been meaning to write that down for many years.

Josh

Name: Georgia Antonyshyn
E-mail: glantonyshyn@home.com

Dear Josh,

Would really love to ask Lucy the questions instead of you but I really have to thank Sharon Delaney and even Renée and Universal and even New Zealand and guess what I never get an answer. They are not like you are Josh on giving a reply. So sorry I asked you but I just thought you know them you might know. If there is another way to write and get a reply please let me know.

Thanks again Josh
Georgia

Dear Georgia:

Sorry I got mad, but I don't know what anyone else thinks but me. What Lucy and Rob will do next remains to be seen.

Josh

Name: Julie
E-mail: juliejhnsn7@aol.com

Dear Josh,

Does Raimi have even the slightest chance of making Spider-Man into a decent film? Considering how long Spider-man has been in existence I am puzzled as to why the script was still being written right up to the last minute (if indeed a good script ever existed). Not to mention how many studio idiots will be breathing down his neck the whole time? I have yet to see a superhero film that doesn't make me feel embarrassed for the actors.

--Julie

Dear Julie:

On a directorial level, there's no one better for the job than Sam. He isn't kidding, he really loves the Spiderman comics. Script-wise, however, I think it's impossible to make a good film out of a comic book, they're simply not good source material. The stories are not complete or logical and ask for far too many gimmes. But I'm sure Sam is giving it the old college try.

Josh

Name: alicia
E-mail: goneshemping@aol.com

Dear Josh:

This is the first time i've been to this site and i am completely blown away by your writing--the reviews, essays, articles etc etc are amazing. Thank you so much for maintaining this site. And no i'm not kissing your ass because i want something from you, i'm not an aspiring filmmaker--i just like reading intelligent stuff and its very rare to actually stumble across some, especially on the net.

from Ally

Dear Ally:

Well, thanks. Come on back, y'hear.

Josh

Name: Julie
E-mail: juliejhnsn7@aol.com

Dear Josh:

When will Lunatics be available for a realistic price? Don't get me wrong, I'm not a cheap bastard or anything but I would love to see this movie which I can't afford (amazon for about 70 bucks!) and is not available in my local video stores. Not even any bootleg copies on ebay for crissakes--not that I'd resort to that of course!

Best wishes,
Julie.

Dear Julie:

Look, I don't even have a decent copy of the film (other than a 35mm print). It was sold to Columbia Tri-Star and they have buried it.

Josh

Name: Georgia Antonyshyn
E-mail: glantonyshyn@home.com

Dear Josh,

I would like to know if Lucy really does like to do the conventions ? It seems like they are so big and really something she does only to please. Also is Lucy planning on living in California and New Zealand or just California? Lucy seems to be such a private and sweet lady that I just thought living out here may be hard even if she like to expand her career she seems to be more family and helping others to be top on her list.

Thanks again Josh

Georgia

Dear Georgia:

God, I dislike questions like this. How the hell do I know what Lucy thinks about anything? You have a question for her, send it to her.

Josh

Name: Black Betty
E-mail: bbenzy@aol.com

Hi,

My question is for the webmaster: What programs do you use to design all the cool fonts in your graphics? "Cleveland Smith Bounty Hunter" and "Ball Breaker" are really nice. Could you also tell me what programs you use to design the website with? You do awesome work btw!

Thanks so much,

BB

Dear Black Betty,

Well thanks, but perhaps you should reserve judgement on my abilities until you see the new design for the front page, which I'm currently struggling with. Anyway, I don't design fonts, I got most of mine from Kemosabe's font archive page, which seems to have since bitten the dust. I use Paint Shop Pro for graphics and Dreamweaver for HTML.

Shirley

Name: Jason
E-mail: jscott34@hotmail.com

Josh,

what the heck are you and xoshade talking about? do you know this person?

wavey~o

Dear Wavey-o:

I don't know them, I thought they were speaking gibberish, so I responded in Martian.

Josh

Name: Blake Eckard
E-mail: bseckard@hotmail.com

Josh,

Knowing that you love Peter Bogdanovich's "The Last Picture Show" I was wondering how you feel about "Paper Moon". I gave it a look the other night and was reminded how much I loved the early works by Bogdanovich. The lush, b&w photography in those two pictures is straight out of the 40's or 50's. Man, I love those films! (I live right near where most of "Moon" was shot) Did you like "Texasville" or "The Thing Called Love"? I sure as shit did. Both floped and yet I think they are full of good characters, photography, music, and a darned good story. I'm telling ya! I just hope Bogdanovich will return to direct the last in the "Picture Show" trilogy.

By the way, I was the one that recommended "Boys Don't Cry". I'm glad I was able to refer a recent picture that Josh Becker actually liked.

Have a good one.

Blake Eckard

Dear Blake:

It turns out that several people recommended it, including Renee Cooper. I thank you all it was good. Better than I thought it would be, which is a lot these days. I like "Paper Moon," too (particularly Laszlo Kovacks' photography), but nowhere near as much as "The Last Picture Show" which I think is a legitimately great film. I didn't like the book or the movie of "Texasville," which seemed severely unnecessary. I didn't see the other film.

Josh

Name: Can't Remember
E-mail:

Dear Josh:

Want your thoughts about a few actors. The 2 in question are Bruce Cambell and Tim Thomerson. I've seen ton of movies and one thing that amazes me is that(to me at least) it seems that Bruce and Tim have a bit in common.

From what I've seen they both are pretty darned good actors. They both have good looks, they both have charisma, they both seem to have that 'leading man' quality or potential. However, it seems their whole career's however has been in the B-movie field.

It's fine if they are happy with that, but it seems to me that they have/had the potential for much more. I've seen both Bruce and Tom to much better

stuff than many of today's Hollywood's leading men.

What do you think about them as actors compared to others today who make millions per film? And why do you feel they never got to that 'leading man' status when it seems they have all the tools to be there?

Is it the business or is it their personal choice. Just curious, because to my eyes, both Bruce and Tim can act circles around Stallone, Swartzeneger, etc., yt they are unknowns in Hollywood compared to those other guys.

Thanks.
????

Dear CR:

It's not by choice, that's just how things shook down. I really liked Tim Thomerson back when he was a stand-up comedian, he did a brilliant Charles Bronson imitation. I think he lives right near me as I've run into him at the little store on the corner a few times.

Josh

Name: Cynthia E. Jones
E-mail: cynthiaejones@hotmail.com

Dear Josh,

Yet another excellent film last night, this time "Rashomon." How is it possible that your friends fell asleep during this film? It's only 83 minutes! Subtitles? Rain sounds? The cinematography was fantastic, even though the print wasn't that great, but with Kurosawa even a bad print is better than most any other film.

Once again, I realized how influential this film was. Telling the same story from different perspectives--an excellent storytelling technique. "Go" tried a similar trick, and I'm sure countless other films I haven't seen. Yes, now that I think about it, it's obvious that "Simple Plan" was based on "Sierra Madre." And yes, that was the best I've ever seen Bogey, ever.

Bummer you won't be at the convention. I was hoping we could speak in person someday. I haven't read "Cleveland Smith" yet--my printer didn't want it for some reason--but I did read your "Evil Dead" journal. It appears as though you learned a lot about how NOT to shoot a film by watching Sam waste a lot of time, energy, and money. I admire your economy of approach. Sure, you seemed bitter, but it didn't sound like much fun, and I know how clique-y actors can get. It sucks when your only friend on the set is showing off for everyone else. I loved your first impression of Ted--what, was he, like, 14? Does he still distract you?

--cindy

Dear Cindy:

No one fell asleep during "Rashomon," it was during "Ran." They actually made an American remake of "Rashomon" called "The Outrage" with Paul Newman and Edward G. Robinson that I sort of liked. And Ted was 11 when he came down for "ED." Now he just makes me laugh.

Josh

Name: xoshade
E-mail: xoshade@webtribe.net

Wot Shirly hat sed is that it be OK to sending you some superb criticism, so here it be:

Dear Mr. Barker,

Has it woz reckoning that Greeks likened there plays with films - NOT! Havening maybe four and a good ol' laff mentioning names like you and mine that "Gladiator" definitely failed to do, also "General, The".

Now you are enlightened, please to give Shirley and j00r web team a BLOODY RAISE you cold-hearted bastard.

Be not sore at Shirly, for she's a kind-hearted working lass, unlike yourself. Though, may it been that you're a lass, but's not fer me to say, not looking up your skirt or nuffink. Not that I commonly look up men's skirts, what d'you take me for?!

Anywhey, how would it be to give me a director's job in Hollywoodland and becoming an extra on Zeena:Worrier Poncess as one (singular) disgruntled bush - I would pay you FIVE WHOLE AMERICAN CENTS for this humungeous priviligey.

Eviscerate me not, sir!

waveyO

- xo.

PS. Shorten your screenplayes by one half of a page if you expect reasonable people to be able to read them.

Dear Xoshade:

Klaattu Barrada Nikto.

Josh

Name: Charles Corder
E-mail: cscorder@hotmail.com

Josh:

The review of the movie "Driven" (haven't seen it, won't see it by choice) in Friday's USA Today says the movie is so shoddy and illogical it shows "contempt for the audience." Pretty much sums up much of the "entertainment" business these days. The only thing worse is when the people who make this stuff get in front of a microphone and try to convince us they're sincere about their "art." Now that's contempt.

Charles

Dear Charles:

There's something sadder about "Driven" than simply contempt for the audience. It's Sly Stallone desperately wanting to suck the audience's dick, but he no longer knows where it's located. He's so desperate for a hit he'd sell his mother to the Arabs.

Josh

Name: Alexandria
E-mail: Smithmg70@aol.com

Hey Josh,

Having read the journal you kept while working on The Evil Dead I was wondering, were you a touch on the bitter side? (No offence) Do you still secretly hate everyone's guts? Why, if you hated it so much, did you stay until the end of filming? If you could answer these questions it would be great.

Bye.

Dear Alexandria:

That was written 21 years ago during a very difficult film shoot. I make no excuses, nor did I make any changes. I was 21 years old. I didn't hate anyone, I was just severely annoyed. Why did I stay? We were making a movie. Also, when you take a gig you stick it out to the bitter end.

Josh

Name: Condore Moore
E-mail: bostonman68@yahoo.com

Josh,

One more question, please...what do you think of the directing abilities of Ron Howard?

Dear Condore:

I liked his direction in "Apollo 13" a lot, I think it's quite good. I liked "Splash," too. The rest of his films seem pretty forgettable, though.

Josh

Name: Condore Moore
E-mail: bostonman68@yahoo.com

Josh,

Sorry I didn't include my email address the first time around. I had no idea that it would bother you. I noticed that other people hadn't included their's, so I thought it was okay.

I received a message a few days ago that Telluride will be accepting fewer applications this year. Only a 1000, I believe. So, I hope you enter your film early enough to get a slot. Best of luck to ya whatever you do! My question has to do with your agent...when you complete one of your independent ventures, does he assist you with the selling process? What's his role in getting your film viewed?

Thanks for letting we fans ask you questions,
Condore Moore

Dear Condore:

That's easy, I don't have an agent. I previously have had eight agents and none of them helped me do anything. A literary or director's agent doesn't know anyone in distribution. What people don't realize is that people don't often cross fields or specialties in film. To get to distributors you'd use a sales agent, except those guys take 33%, which was the entire profit-margin on "Lunatics," so I avoid them.

Josh

Name: Cynthia E. Jones
E-mail: cynthiaejones@hotmail.com

Dear Josh,

As part of my ongoing "Good Movies I've Still Never Seen" film festival, I just watched "Treasure of the Sierra Madre." First of all, I can't believe I waited this long to see it. Second of all, wow. Wow. Damn. That was a truly great film. Damn. There are so many things ripped off from that movie. ("Shallow Grave," anyone?)

The problem is, most of the films I want to see are from the 1970s, and Panavision. So. I have to buy them on DVD to see them in the proper aspect ratio. It sucks to pay \$30 to see "They Shoot Horses, Don't They?" even though it's a great film. I loved it, I just can't afford to own every single movie from the 1970s. So. Over the years, did you just bite the bullet and watch things like "Bridge on the River Kwai" pan and scan? (I know, there's a letterboxed VHS version--but rarely for rent.)

I just wish that video rental places would realize that letterboxing is the way to go on all of their 2.35:1 films, especially from the 1970s. The 'panning' and 'scanning' on old films is particularly painful. What to do if you're a broke film geek?

I'll read "Cleveland Smith" this weekend. I haven't finished watching "TSNK...E" (yes, it is a tagline) with the commentary yet, I was interrupted half way through the other day and haven't gotten back to it. Your voice is almost exactly as I pictured it...opinionated, cynical, and yet upbeat. Listening to you and Bruce hang out is too cool. Have a good weekend, and hopefully I'll see you this Friday or Saturday in Pasadena.

--cindy

Dear Cindy:

I won't watch anything that's been panned & scanned anymore, and haven't for years. As a youngster I tried to see everything in the theater. I've seen "Kwai" several times in 'scope. Of course, I have the DVD now, too. I also have the letterboxed VHS. I really love "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre." Another person who loves it is Sam Raimi, and "A Simple Plan" owes more than a nod to it. Bogart is REALLY good, as is Walter Huston. Sorry, I won't be at the convention.

Josh

Name: Porkchop
E-mail:

Dear Josh:

I know you worked with Anthony Quinn on Herc. I was just wondering, did

he have unusually large hands?

Just asking cause I saw him in something and I noticed his hands looked huge, but I guess you can never really tell on film. Since you worked with him, were they big?

Dumb question I know, but I was curious.

Meatball

Dear Porkchop AKA Meatball:

You know, Quinn did have large hands. He's just a big man. A big old man, with a huge voice.

Josh

Name: Chance LaTane
E-mail: chance234@aol.com

Dear Josh:

Now that "Xena" is over, do you think Renee will continue acting in films and TV? Will she and Steve move to the US? Thanks for providing such a great website. :-)

All the best,
Chance

Dear Chance:

Renee certainly doesn't confide in me. She's a good actor, I hope she keeps acting. I think she and Steve will probably get a place in L.A., keep their place in New Zealand and commute between them (which is a long commute).

Josh

Name: Brewhaha
E-mail:

Josh,

Did that mean cameraman on "Xena" get fired? Was he ever cruel to Renee O'Connor or Lucy Lawless? If so, what did he say or do?

Cheers,
Brehaha

Dear Brehaha:

No, he never got fired. Almost no one ever gets fired in New Zealand, they just don't do that. He'd have gotten fired by lunch on the first day here in L.A. He was generally creepy to everybody, but he particularly didn't like me.

Josh

Name: Brehaha
E-mail:

Josh,

Who does Bruce Campbell hang out with, besides you and Ted, that is? Do his kids call you Uncle Josh? Who does Ted Raimi hang out with?

Cheers,
Brehaha

Dear Brehaha:

I'm getting a little annoyed at the letters without email addresses, as I believe they are from the same person writing under various names. Nevertheless, Bruce's kids barely know me and do not call me uncle. Bruce hangs out with his wife, I guess, and I don't know who Ted hangs out with.

Josh

Name: Condore Moore
E-mail:

Josh,

Do you know Goldie Hawn and Kurt Russell personally? What do you think about their acting abilities?

Have a great day!
Condore Moore

Dear Condore:

I haven't met either one. I saw Goldie Hawn once on the Warner Bros. lot. Neither one turns me on tremendously.

Josh

Name: Virgin Harry

E-mail:

Hey Josh,

What's your logline for "If I Had a Hammer"? What about the story grabbed you so much that you actually invested a lot of your own money? And, when will you know if your film was accepted to the Telluride Festival? Good Luck.

VH

Dear VH:

The tagline is: "On Sunday, February 9, 1964 the world changed forever . . ." The logline would be something like, "A romance between an activist folkie girl and a rock & roll boy on the weekend in 1964 when the folk movement ended." The deadline for Telluride is July 15 and the festival is at the end of August, so I would assume that they announce their selections by Aug. 1.

Josh

Name: Alexandria

E-mail: Smithmg70@aol.com

Hello Josh,

If you ever see Sam Raimi tell him the world needs an Evil Dead 4. The idea is not old and tired. Please, will he make one just for me, I need Ash and blood and guts ripped and only Sam does it the way I like it. How are you doing? What are you working on at the moment? If you have read this then you are a kind man.

Bye Josh.

Dear Alexandria:

See, and if you'd asked me I'd say three "Evil Dead" movies was perfectly

sufficient. I don't think Sam needs to make anymore of those. Am I still a kind man?

Josh

Name: August
E-mail: joxerfan@hotmail.com

Dear Josh,

There was a cute article in "Maxim" magazine a few months ago about 100 unforgettable moments on film - not necessarily great art, but images that you'd never forget. Some were, in my opinion, real classics: the camera panning back from Scarlett O'Hara to reveal more and more wounded soldiers and finally a tattered Confederate flag in "Gone With the Wind," for example, the climactic beach scene in "Planet of the Apes," and John Wayne charging the bad guys in "True Grit." Others were predictably commercial, like the aliens blowing up the White House in "Independence Day," and Linda Blair's head spinning in "The Exorcist." Some were just funny: Bruce chainsawing his hand and then trapping it with a copy "A Farewell to Arms" in ED2, and Phoebe Cates undoing her bikini top in slo-mo in "Fast Times at Ridgemont High." (Hey, it's a men's magazine!)

So what are some memorable moments for you, whether cinematically or just emotionally? I recall you mentioned the phone scene in "Marty" as one. For me, one is the final battle scene in "Zulu" where the exhausted soldiers try to out-sing the Zulus with "Men of Harlech," another would be Cagney pretending to be yellow at the end of "Angels with Dirty Faces," and another would be Bette Davis letting Herbert Marshall die in "Little Foxes."

Any come to mind?

Thanks,

August

Dear August:

I don't know where to start, my mind is a giant jumble of movies scenes I love. Quickly: Peck's and Heston's fight in "The Big Country," Guinness and Hayakawa's confrontation while drinking scotch in "Kwai," Georgie in "Ambersons" saying, "I want to be a yachtsman," Lancaster firing the machine gun in "From Here to Eternity," Gable popping up from behind the couch in "GWTW," Bogart looking down at the letter and the words blur in the rain in "Casablanca," Eastwood stepping in under the lens into the saloon at the end of "Unforgiven," Cloris Leachman touching Timothy Bottoms' cheek at the end of "Last Picture Show," Bette Davis arriving at the ball in a red dress in "Jezebel," the bullet holes through the car roof in "Mrs. Miniver," Myrna Loy counting Fredric March's drinks with a fork on the table cloth in "Best Years of Our Lives," Marilyn Monroe's entrance in "All About Eve," Cary Grant doing backflips in "Holiday," Martin Balsam

getting slashed across the face and stumbling backward down the steps in "Psycho," on and on and on.

Josh

[BACK TO Main Archive Page](#)

[BACK TO Current Q&A](#)

Questions or Comments

BECKERFILMS SITE MENU

[\[Main \]](#) [\[T.V. Work \]](#) [\[Film Work \]](#) [\[From the Pen \]](#) [\[Favorite Films \]](#)
[\[Ask the Director \]](#) [\[AfterWord \]](#) [\[Links \]](#) [\[Reading List \]](#) [\[Website Team \]](#)

This site is the property of Josh Becker Copyright © 2001 Panoramic Pictures, All Rights Reserved.

