

Goodnight Gazette



Issue #1, September 2008

Welcome



What you are reading is a brand new publication which content is solely dedicated to the magnificent world of James Bond, but with a slightly different angle. We penetrate details, linger around rumours, address far-fetched themes, review mishaps, provide lists and treat 007 far more seriously than it was ever intended.

All with a personal touch. It is supposed to provide Bond-fans worldwide with an enjoyable read. I am the editor and I would gladly welcome any contribution to the *Goodnight Gazette*.

Do email and send me your questions, tips, feedback or writings and the GG would be most grateful.

The *Goodnight Gazette* will be published most irregularly.

The Gazette is named after Bond's secretary, Major Mary Goodnight, in *The Man with the Golden Gun* played by Swedish Britt Ekland.

- Pontus Forslund, editor

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AUTHOR DAHL NAMED AS THE SPY WHO LOVED PLENTY



To the general public Roald Dahl is well remembered as a popular author of children's books such as *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *BFG*, *The Witches* and *Matilda* to name a few. Surely it's not general knowledge, James Bond-fans aside, that Dahl also wrote a few movie scripts including *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* and foremost *You Only Live Twice*.

Script writer Harold Jack Bloom who was initially hired for *You Only Live Twice* left the production at an early stage having made out the first draft of the plot. Roald Dahl, an old friend of Ian Fleming accepted the producers' approach, having him adapting the Bloom script although Dahl claims he had little creative input and that Saltzman and Broccoli were in full control of the script.

A recent book wrote by journalist Jenet Conant, does however get an amusing new angle to Dahl's connection to the Bond franchise. *The Irregulars: Roald Dahl and the British Spy Ring in Wartime Washington* reveals that Dahl's experiences from his work in the British Intelligence were very much in correlation to the lifestyle of the fictional 007.

He had a good career in the Royal Air Force but an injury made him unfit to fly and in 1942 he was moved to the US, to work for the British embassy. There he was to use his good looks and social skills to infiltrate the powerful milieu of Washington in order to recruit American support for Britain against Nazi Germany. In doing so, Dahl made numerous sexual conquests including Millicent Rogers, the heiress to a Standard Oil fortune, and Clare Boothe Luce, a right-wing congresswoman and the wife of the publisher of Time magazine.

Boothe Luce was quite keen, Dahl later claimed to have begged his superiors to take him off the assignment, only to be told to get back into the bedroom. "Girls just fell at Roald's feet. I think he slept with everybody on the east and west coasts that [was worth] more than \$50,000 a year," said Antoinette Marsh Haskell, the daughter of Dahl's Texan friend Charles Marsh.

Dahl did prove himself as an agent and passed on several useful pieces of intelligence. Doesn't he stand out as the most suitable script writer to a Bond movie ever?

Do we have to send her a cake?



In the large galley of personnel that have contributed to the James Bond franchise few are held in as poor regard as Madonna.

Not only did she try to use *Die Another Day* as a commercial tool for her upcoming album she also wanted a snogging part which she was denied. So following her obstinate personality she had her pointless cameo part playing a lesbian, seemingly with the motif that she had the power to refuse Bond a kiss on account of being homosexual, although that hadn't stopped Bond before. Her childish mind must have been somewhat satisfied when she got to say the word "Cock" on screen.

To top it all off she also provided the Bond series with the most appalling theme song ever.

She is, however, an icon to many, The Queen of Pop and all that. Few female artists have survived like she has and her career and success are admirable, especially when you consider the fact that she can't sing. Ever hear her live?

Pierce Brosnan sounds like Freddie Mercury in comparison to her co-star.

All the same, Madonna turned 50 this august and we wish her all the best, and hope that she'll someday grow up. Oh, and never comes close to a Bond set again.

Should she be sent a cake?

We've got rat cake, rat sorbet, rat pudding and strawberry tart. But I think the strawberry tart is out of the question. She already has plenty of tart to pass around.

Michael Pate passes away



Michael Pate has died at the age of 88. He was known in the Bond community as the first screen Leiter in the 1954 Climax television version of *Casino Royale*.

Born 1920 in Sydney, Australia Pate worked with radio and after World War II where he served in the Army he expanded his career to television and movies.

During his time in Hollywood he appeared in several TV-series, including *Wanted: Dead or Alive*, *Mission: Impossible*, *Batman*, *Perry Mason*, *Zorro*, *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.*, *Gunsmoke* and *Rambide* and was often cast as an American Native.

He returned to his Australia working in television and theatre both as a producer and as an actor. In the seventies he was working on one of Australia's most classic series *The Matlock Police*, which aired 1971-76 having Pate only missing out on the final season.

Before he retired in 2001, Pate was honored with a special award at the 2000 Film Critics Circle of Australia Awards. In the 1953 *Casino Royale* Pate was cast as the MI6 agent Clarence Leiter, the parts of the two agents had been reversed as Bond became American, "Card Sense" Jimmy Bond.

The Line

Double six, fancy that?!

Roger Moore never looked cooler at the gaming table as in *Octopussy* when Kamal Kahn is beaten at his own cheating game.

COMPLETE AND UTTER NUTTER LOST LEITER



The never ending story about the constant change of actors who portray CIA man and Bond's friend Felix Leiter gets a new chapter with Jeffrey Wright. Yes, we know that David Hedison did actually do two outings as Leiter, although with 16 years apart. It's eight actors for nine films turning nine for ten shortly. One of Bond-fans' favourites was the unknown American actor Rik van Nutter who joined Sean Connery in Bahamas for *Thunderball*. Indeed van Nutter's Leiter is one of the most memorable and there are many who ask why it turned out to be his only performance. He did do a fine job baby sitting Domino, reading the Geiger and being punched in the gut.

It is sometimes stated that van Nutter actually had a contract for playing Leiter in the following two Bond-movies after *Thunderball* but nevertheless in *Diamonds are Forever* he was replaced by Norman Burton, never to be heard of again.

True, the character wasn't in the script for either *You only live twice* nor *OHMSS*, but van Nutter disappearance wasn't entirely due to the supremacy of Burton.

The rise and fall of van Nutter's Felix Leiter is spelt: Anita Ekberg.

California-born, Rik van Nutter met Swedish bombshell actress Anita Ekberg while working in the Italian film industry.

Love sprung and the two married in 1963. Anita had been working the legendary Albert R. "Cubby" Broccoli on four films including *Call me Bwana*, the billboard of which Bulgarian villain Krilencu climbs out of out of Anita's mouth in *From Russia with Love*.



The Broccoli's were great friends with Anita Ekberg and when Cec Linder wasn't available to do Leiter for *Thunderball* Cubby went to Anita's husband Rik, almost like a personal favour. Let's put it like this: van Nutter wouldn't have gotten the part if he wasn't married to Ekberg.

But Rik and Anita's relationship was problematic and troublesome mainly because the jealous mind of Rik who accused Anita of infidelity. He burned her early letters, photos and memories. He vanished in 1970 when Anita's was working on a movie but before that van Nutter had sold most of her belongings including furs, jewellery, furniture, the boat and even the house. Anita was devastated and van Nutter's abuse of her lost him more than the part of Felix Leiter, which Cubby re-cast, standing by the family friend, Anita.

Lost in Translation



The title for the soon to come Bond film *Quantum of Solace* could raise an eyebrow or two among Swedish translators, although we've just heard that no Swedish title is to be set.

It was quite a different story for another of Fleming's short story featured in the book that was named *For your eyes only*.

In Sweden, this book was named after another short story in that same volume: *From a view to a Kill*, which translated title became *Ur Dödlig Syminkel*.

However when the movie *For your eyes only*

was released in 1981, translators used the Swedish version for *From a view to a Kill* not really giving it a second thought.

But in 1985 when *A view to a Kill* hit the cinemas, the title was used up and a new title had to be invented. So *For your eyes only* got *A view to a Kill's* Swedish title and the latter was named *Levande Måltavla*, that in English would read *Living Target*.

The *Quantum of Solace* short story was actually missing in the Swedish edition of the book so the film title is left without translation.

THE GOODNIGHT TOP 5 Best non-Bond Fights



There has been many great, exciting action scenes throughout the series. This issue's lists the Top 5 fight scenes where Commander Bond is missing.

1. Tracy vs. Grunther

Full out excitement as the Mrs Bond to be, has a go at Blofeld's Henchman, just after reading poetry while her father and future husband attack Piz Gloria. Tracy's fury is up against the cold Grunther. Thanks to her nails, broken bottles and various trendy house decorations, Tracy defeat the track suited baddie just when the James Bond theme rings out. Impressive.

2. Girl fight at the Gypsy Camp

Fleming's original fight was far more sadistic and fierce including biting bosoms. The scene shot for *From Russia with Love* disappointed the creator but director Terence Young was more realistic considering the censors who made editor Peter Hunt make a few cuts in it all the same. Beauties Martine Beswick and Aliza Gur provide an excellent and classic Bond action scene, with great choreography. Classic.

3. Green 4 vs. Necros

Lethal Milkman strangles people with his earphones on his way to kidnap Koskov in *The Living Daylights*. Green 4 caught him in the act and a brilliant fight scene where every object in the Blayden kitchen turns into a weapon. Very Bond although he is missing. Stunt man Bill Weston and Andreas Wisniewski's Necros pull this off superbly.

4. Hip's nieces vs. Kung Fu School

I've never been a big fan of the slapstick side of 007, but this finale to the Martial Arts sequence in *The Man with Golden Gun* where two giggly girls take on a bunch of halfwits has a certain charm about it. Throwing melons and crotch-kicking. "Their father owns a Karate School."

5. Wai Lin vs. Chinese Gang

A strong performance by Michelle Yeoh where the Bond series gets a taste of Female Hong Kong fighting (those kids were fast as lightning). Nicely executed and a highlight in Brosnan's second film.

Get Spoof



Before there was Austin Powers, Mel Brooks and Buck Henry created the *Get Smart* TV-series in the sixties starring Don Adams. This summer the movie remake is opening around the world starring funny man Steve Carrell as Maxwell Smart alongside Anne Hathaway as Agent 99. It is an obvious spoof on the James Bonds where Agent Smart is trying to keep the evil organization KAOS from world domination. The film has gotten quite good reviews and should be a nice pastime.



SCENT OF A TREASURY AGENT



It is noted that Vesper Lynd's choice of fragrance in the 2006 *Casino Royale* was the classic Melograna aqua di Colonia by Santa Maria Novella.

The Officina Profumo Farmaceutica di Santa Maria Novella is one of the oldest pharmacies in the world. The store in Florence, Italy opened to the public in 1612. It was held by the Dominican friars of Florence until the late 19th century when it became a private business. Today they market a wide range of items, bath and body products, and home fragrances. Also known as the Melograna – Pomegranate, this classic product was launched 1965 and is one of the brand's most beloved fragrances. Combined with a hint of musk, much like the Chanel No.22, the pomegranate dominates with a powder floral undertone.

The pomegranate is throughout history a fruit of great symbolic value, including wealth and fertility.

The Melograna is by experts regarded as a fragrance you either love or hate. It would be the perfect gift to women with character. Why not treat yourself, or your spouse to smell like Bond girl? It's about 54 Euros for a 100 ml bottle.



Listen to Isaac Hayes



It was sad news, to hear that soul legend Isaac Hayes had died. Among his fine recordings we must name his version of *The Look of Love*, the Ursula Andress inspired theme of the 1967 *Casino Royale*, written by Burt Bacharach. Indeed there has been versions of this classic tune but none in the bombastic, symphonic-funk manner as Hayes'.

It is featured on his 1970 album ... *To be continued*, and has been sampled by many hip hop artists.

Get a hold of it and have a good listen!

WHEN YOU GOT A JOB TO DO



Not only was a new Bond being introduced in the 1973 *Live and let die*, but also a new sound to the 007 score. Following the trend of the Blaxploitation break, producer Saltzman wanted a new tougher theme and soundtrack. John Barry was unavailable so producers had to look elsewhere for composers.

Paul McCartney read the novel *Live and let die* when he got the question if he would be interested in writing the theme for the film. He started working almost immediately, "I knew I had to incorporate explosions," he said.

Former Beatles producer George Martin worked with the arrangement of the song, and it was actually Paul's wife Linda who wrote the reggae part. The tune was recorded full on with an orchestra and George Martin took the recording to Jamaica where the crew was filming. Good old blunt film producer Harry Saltzman had a listen and said: "Great demo. Who is doing the real record?" And before Martin could find his words again after Saltzman's remark made him speechless, Harry had started naming suitable artists: Thelma Houston, Aretha Franklin etc.

"I had to suggest that if he didn't take the thing more or less as it stood, I didn't think Paul would like him to have the song. Eventually, it did sink through and I got the job doing the film score, but it was a nasty moment," George Martin said to the BBC in 1982.

George Martin earned a Grammy award for the arrangement of *Live and let die* and got another nomination for the score. The Paul McCartney & Wings single peaked at #2 on the US chart for three weeks and reached #9 in the UK.



Just a thought...



Teri Hatcher's hit show *Desperate Housewives* is a great title. Come to think of it, wasn't her character Paris Carver in *Tomorrow never dies* very much a true "Desperate Housewife". Married for money to a workaholic, drinking his expensive champagne and meeting old flames in hotel rooms. Just a thought...



On the height of the James Bond craze in the 60's, a continental film distributor released Sean Connery's bit part movie debut *No Road Back* as *The 007 Gangster Club*. One paying crowd apparently turned angry in Rome when they realized that they've been had. Who wouldn't? Just a thought...



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To subscribe to the *Goodnight Gazette*, simply send an email to goodnightgazette@hotmail.com. That's another thing you won't regret.

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The Poster



Splendid and action-packed Japanese Poster for *Octopussy* (1983)