



Crockett's Spirit

Impavidus Scribere Veritas — The Brave Write the Truth



Volume 4 Issue 1

January 2016



A Letter from the Editor

by Jedi General Dregondo Tensabeh

We are fast approaching a milestone. February 1st will mark the third anniversary of Esprit Starbase. With that in mind, I've added something new to Crockett's Spirit. In days of yore when I used to work word search puzzles, some of them had word lists that you could check off as you found and circled each obscure word. That way, you could be sure you didn't miss any. Most of the word search puzzles I've published had simple words that were fairly obvious. Several of the more recent ones contained the names of characters portrayed by Star Trek actors. Many of those names were compounded by abbreviated titles such as Sgt., Mr., Col., and so on. Since the puzzle-compiling software I use strips away periods and spaces, names with titles are harder to spot, especially uncommon names and the names of aliens. So now, your word search aficionados will have a word list on the last page of CS with spaces and punctuation intact to guide you. Good luck and have fun!

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Fiction

Fallen Angel - Part 24

by Capt Wynan

Captain Moore held Angel tightly to him, trying to shield her from the torrent of water raining down on them. Before they all left, a couple of the men had wrapped her in a blanket and covered her with a tarp. Moore could feel her shivering in his arms. The ground, saturated with the day's rain, was soft under foot. The further they walked into the forest the higher they could feel the water rising. Soon they were walking through water deep enough to cover and saturate their shoes. The ground gradually began to elevate as they continued to walk through the utter blackness of the forest lit only by softly glowing lamps carried by the strangers that allowed Captain Moore's men to see where they were going. Boomer struggled to keep up while carrying Lillian as well as helping Professor Pearson to slog his way through the rising water. Through the dimly lit forest, they could see a wall-like object rising in front of them as they approached it. A set of dark wooden steps leading up to the top of what proved to be a bluff-face appeared out of the gloom. The lead stranger started up first followed by Captain Moore and the rest of the crew, with Henderson, Boomer and a slender stranger bringing up the rear.

A distant rumble had begun to be heard and was growing in intensity. The stairs started to quake. The crew looked around wildly trying to figure out where the sound was coming from. The strangers started motioning and yelling, trying to be heard over the growing roar, urging everyone to hurry up the steps. The stairs shook violently as a wall of water slammed into the wooden structure. The structure groaned under the strain of the floodwaters and the weight of the people. Boomer was the last in line to go up the stairs when the water hit, slamming into him, washing over him and Lillian, trying to rip them from the stairway. Lillian's sudden screams alerted Henderson and the stranger who whipped around to

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from Page 1)

see Boomer clinging desperately to the hand railing and trying to hold onto Lillian at the same time. Henderson and the stranger grabbed Boomer just as the lower part of the stairway gave way. Boomer screamed in pain as something slammed into his right leg. Lillian clung to Boomer, crying uncontrollably. Henderson and the stranger pulled as hard as they could to drag Boomer and Lillian out of the water.

With a final heave, Henderson dragged Boomer up the stairs safely above the water. Henderson lay on the stairway struggling to catch his breath. The stranger kept pulling on the two men who were trying to regain their equilibrium. Boomer patted Lillian's back trying to calm her.

"Come on kid, we need to get out of here," Henderson said.

"I think my leg is broken," Boomer said trying to keep Lillian from hearing over the storm.

The stranger was pulling on their sleeves, trying to urge them further up the stairs. Henderson helped Boomer to his feet. A sharp pain caused Boomer to flinch as he was pulled up. He ignored the pain as they continued up the stairs.

Finally, everyone made it to the top, to a plateau, where they could look down and see the swirling waters ripping trees out of the ground as it rose steadily up the bluff face.

Everyone was exhausted but they continued forward along the plateau for some time until a high wall appeared out of the darkness. A door opened as they drew close. Captain Moore walked in and looked around. He noticed that he and the others were in an enclosure that contained several large, low buildings toward the center with smaller buildings around the edges. The trees rose above the buildings giving cover. The crew soon found themselves inside one of the large buildings. They walked through a large hallway to a room in the back where several beds were lined up against two walls. Moore laid Angel on one of the beds as he pulled the tarp off her. He rubbed her hands trying to warm them.

Professor Pearson, having carried Lillian the distance from the bluff stairs, took her into a small room out of earshot of Boomer. He dried her off and dressed her in fresh clothes that had been provided by one of the strangers.

Henderson helped Boomer into the bed next to Angel's and started helping him out of his wet clothes. A stranger came over with sheets to cover him with as they cut the material of his pants away from his broken leg. Boomer gritted his teeth as they gently tried to remove the cloth without jarring the bone. Two more strangers came in with baskets of clothes and medical supplies to help Boomer. Soon his leg was in a splint with an ointment rubbed into the skin, and he was covered with warm blankets.

The professor brought Lillian in to be close to her caretaker. She crawled up onto the bed and curled up next to Boomer. The two of them nodded off right away.

Angel's lips finally turned from blue to pink as she started to warm up. Captain Moore and Henderson sat down heavily on a bunk next to Angel's as she closed her eyes to sleep.

"Now that we're here, what do we do Captain?" Henderson asked rubbing his arm.

"I don't know, but since the people did help us, we should find out why," Captain Moore said, his hands covering his face as he rubbed it.

"I think it has something to do with Angel over there. They didn't come around to see us until she arrived," Henderson said. Still rubbing his arm, something caused him to wince.

"Hey, you ok?" Moore asked.

"Yeah, I think I might have pulled a muscle when I pulled Boomer over there out of the water," he said.

"Do you want one of those guys over there to look you over?" Moore asked.

"Nah, I'm pretty sure I'm alright. A good night's sleep on a real bed will do wonders for me," Henderson said as he got up from the bed.

Henderson took just two steps towards an empty bed along the opposite wall when he grabbed his chest and fell to the floor.

"Henderson!" Captain Moore yelled as he sprang to his feet. The crew jumped up as well. All rushed over to their fallen comrade. Two of the strangers quickly moved over towards the fallen man, picked him up, and whisked him out of the room. Another stranger stood at the doorway blocking the exit.

"Where are they taking our friend?" Captain Moore asked.

The stranger crossed his arms and replied in an incomprehensible guttural tone.

"He says they will help him," Angel answered sleepily from her bed.

Captain Moore paced the room until exhaustion overtook him once again and he sat down on the bed. "I don't like this being separated but I guess we have no choice." Captain Moore looked around at his men. Everyone was exhausted. It would do no good wearing them down any further. Everyone needed rest and he knew it.

"Everyone try and get some sleep." Moore said as he got up, extinguished a few but not all of the lamps. Not sure whom to pray to, Captain Moore said a quick prayer to all the deities and gods he had heard of to help Henderson to live. Soon everyone fell into a fitful sleep except Captain Moore.

Angel reached across to the bed next to hers where Captain Moore lay, touched his arm and said, "Sleep."

Captain Moore's eyes closed against his will. He fell into a deep, dreamless sleep.

Fiction

The Alfore Encounter - 28

"Decisions, Decisions"

by CAPT Two Wolves

Chief Medical Officer Doctor Daniel Savage and Commander Skonn returned to Sickbay proper. Captain Darden had composed herself and was sipping tea.

"Mr. Skonn, we are due to dock at Starbase Five in six hours, will all personnel be ready to offload all personal affects and disembark by then?" Darden asked.

Standard Starfleet procedure, when a ship was scheduled for an extensive refit, demanded that all personnel were required to "strip the ship" and store all personal affects which they were not taking with them in specially designated quartermaster's lockers on the station.

"All is ready, Ma'am," Skonn replied. "I was also informed that there will be a memorial for the U.S.S. Eclipse's crew. It will be held in Stafleet Academy's graduation auditorium at 2100 hours. Class A uniforms or professional attire are required. Both crews have been informed."

"Thank you, Mr. Skonn. Continue to hold the conn while I pack," Darden said as she handed her empty mug off to Nurse Hopkins, swung her legs off the biobed, stood, and headed towards the door.

"Whoa! Whoa! Whoa! I didn't release you from my care yet, Captain!" Dr. Savage growled, stopping Darden in her tracks. She turned, crossed her arms and glared at her CMO, who glared right back at her.

The last thing I need right now is a Texas Standoff between myself and Doc Savage. She thought. "If it's any consolation I will keep someone with me at all times," Darden said. Apparently, those were the very words Dr. Savage wanted to hear, so he waved her off. Thus released, Darden hot footed out of Sickbay as if her feet were on fire. Shara and the Track Cats were right on her heels.

"I know you won't be able to stay with me because you've got your own party and crew to see to. I'll get Yeoman Chen to keep me company and help me pack," Janice told Shara at the turbo lift. "Thanks for letting me sob on your shoulder," She continued as both women hugged and then parted company.

Five minutes later when Shara returned to the VIP quarters, Tony was waiting. He watched as she sat at the small dining room table, placed her elbows on the table and her head in her hands.

"Chica? Are you alright?" Tony dared to ask after five minutes of complete silence.

"I am...fine, Tony," she said with a sigh. "I needed, as Humans are fond of saying, to decompress." Her implication was that she needed a few minutes to dial back the tight Vulcan control she'd had on her emotions.

There was an actual ceremony which included Vulcan wind chimes and meditation candles, but the current time crunch didn't allow for that.

"What are we going to do, Shara?" Tony asked.

"We will attend the memorial then we will travel to visit your mother as planned," Shara replied.

"Do you think that's wise? I mean, we are dealing with some kind of terrorist group that killed two of your crew, caused The Valkyrie to crash, and blew up the Eclipse killing her crew, and we should just sail off to Puerto Rico like nothing happened? Not for nothing but I don't want to bring this kind of threat into my mother's house," Tony countered.

"I understand your concern. However, I was advised by Lodebear that my contact will be meeting us there. Until we meet, we have no way of contacting them or knowing who they are, or what they have planned, until we make contact," Shara stated confidently.

Tony's mouth sagged open in disbelief. A mere few weeks ago she seemed terrified of her own shadow. Perhaps it was the hormones from being pregnant...

"What would you have us to do, Tony? Hide for the rest of our lives? Our daughter will be born in a few weeks. What kind of life would it be like for her? Living a life on the run is not what I've envisioned for our family."

"Chica, I... I just don't want to lose you two."

"I assure you, Tony, you will not."

"What about the fact that all of the evidence that would've exonerated you is gone?" Tony asked.

"Somehow, I do not believe that to be true. The late Commodore impressed me as being far too savvy to allow that to happen," Shara told him.

"You deduced this from just two meetings with him? Isn't that a hunch? I thought Vulcans don't have hunches because they depend solely upon logic," Tony said.

"Not all Vulcans depend solely upon logic. Count me as one because I've seen both sides. That is why I am here with you instead of on Vulcan cloistered in some dusty archival structure studying the outdated tenets of Surak," Shara replied sharply.

"Outdated?! Dios! That is blasphemy! What would the Vulcan elders do if they heard what you just said?" Tony asked, aghast.

"They would agree with every word. The tenets of Surak are merely a psychological band aid on biological problem. It is akin to Old Earth in 2008 through 2035 when political correctness blinded the eyes of many. It not only made them pacifists but complicit in the wholesale slaughter of millions of innocents. It took a select few to rise up and point out the wrong. That's when the wars began."

"Many died back then, Shara," Tony said softly.

"Indeed many did in a war over words which were designed to hide the real ills of society," Shara replied.

"It sounds like you intend to start a war, Shara."

"I don't intend to, but come what may," she said. "In the meantime, I suggest we take this situation one event at a time."

"Have you thought of a name for our daughter yet?" Tony asked, trying to lighten the mood.

"Yes, I like the name, Victoria," Shara answered.

"Then Victoria it will be," Tony replied, smiling for the first time since the whole ordeal began.

Brain Benders

ACROSS

1. *Teen for whom time took a hiatus, with 12D
5. *Secret agent sis, with 26D
9. Cook of "Charlie's Angels"
13. Small intestine segment
15. Kind of admiral
16. Annul
17. Artful move
18. ___ Verde National Park
19. See 71A
20. *Super-secret agcy., with "the"
21. "Uh-uh"
23. Hurricane's center
25. Anger
26. High on the hwy.
27. Pulley component
29. Bit
32. British rule in colonial India
35. Spell-off
36. It rests on a violin
37. Soccer score
39. NASA scrub
43. Capital on the Dnieper
44. Dadaist Max
45. Reach
46. Time long past
47. Peer (at)
48. Place for a lecture
49. Density symbol
51. Microwave
53. Comrade in arms
54. V-formation flier
57. green
59. Kid
60. One of the five W's
63. Marshland
64. *Nationa City's premier media mogul, with 54D
67. Pub quaffs
69. Restricted ___
71. See 19A
73. Aerie
74. Hoot at
75. Japanese noodle dish
76. Deuce topper
77. *Impersonator from another planet, with 34D
78. *Apparent head of 20A, with 28D
- the Road"
8. Like Supergirl's vision
9. Batman and Robin, e.g.
10. Self publishing author, e.g.
11. Idolize
12. *See 1A
14. Computer list
22. Publicize
24. Ram's ma'am
26. *See 5A
28. *See 78A
29. Gross
30. Mississippi feeder
31. Stadium level
33. Taj Mahal city
34. *See 77A
35. Diner sandwich
38. Drifting
40. Iridescent gem
41. Brass
42. Sole
44. Hubris source
50. Cut down
52. Ace
54. *See 64A
55. Edmonton skater
56. Corpulent plus
58. Ice cream thickener
61. Pilgrimage to Mecca
62. Hydrox rival
63. Building near a silo
64. Unwokable state
65. "Right on!"
66. Tetra's home
68. Farm pen
70. Dusk, to Donne
72. "Go team!"

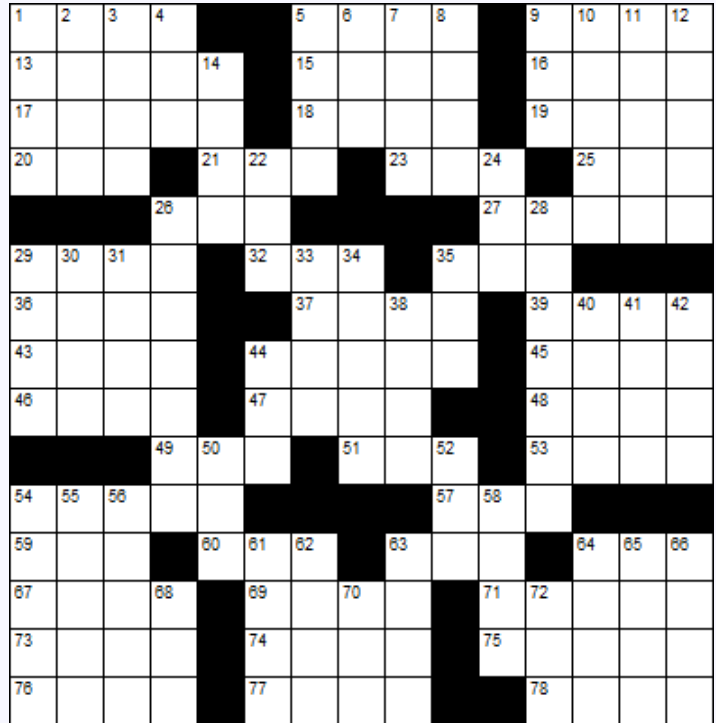


DOWN

1. Notorious pirate captain
2. Lip balm ingredient
3. Change
4. Calendar abbr.
5. Type of ant
6. "Malcolm X" director
7. "___ on Down

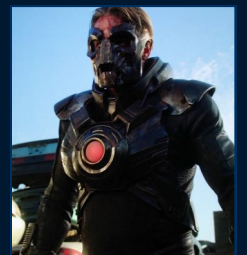
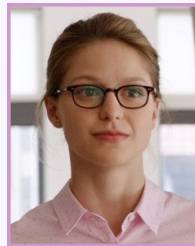
ESB Crockett's Spirited Crossword Puzzle

*Supergirl Part 1 - by JG Tensabeh - January 2016



Answers to Previous Puzzle

D	U	T	C	H		Y	A	M			J	O	H	N	
U	T	I	L	E		A	L	I		M	E	L	E	E	
S	A	N	E	R		L	A	N		Y	E	L	L	S	
T	H	E	R	E	S	A		C	O	R	R	A	L	S	
						K	I	T		E	A	R			
S	K	I			N	A	S	A		K	H	L	Y	E	N
T	I	N	T		I	L	L	S		S	A	U	N	A	
R	O	L	E		D	A	V	I	N		S	L	A	T	
A	W	A	S	H		W	I	L	Y		S	E	C	T	
P	A	W	T	E	R		S	L	A	P		S	T	Y	
						A	U	G		L	A	B			
W	A	S	T	R	E	L		L	A	Y	E	T	T	E	
A	F	O	O	T		Y	O	U		O	R	E	A	D	
S	A	L	T	Y		P	V	C		F	I	E	L	D	
P	R	E	E			H	A	Y		F	A	N	C	Y	



More Brain Benders

SUDOKU PUZZLE

January 2016
Very Easy Symmetrical
by JG D. Tensabeh

			7	1				5
7	5				4		8	2
9	3			5			1	4
				7				1
	9	8				4	7	
6				8				
5	7			2			4	8
8	1		3				2	6
4				9	8			

Solution to December's Sudoku Puzzle
Hard Non-Symmetrical

6	1	5	3	4	2	8	7	9
4	2	9	7	1	8	6	5	3
7	8	3	6	5	9	2	1	4
5	4	2	8	9	6	7	3	1
3	9	8	1	2	7	5	4	6
1	7	6	4	3	5	9	8	2
2	6	1	5	7	3	4	9	8
9	5	4	2	8	1	3	6	7
8	3	7	9	6	4	1	2	5

WORD SEARCH

January's Topic: Walter Koenig Roles
Look for 26 characters
by JG D. Tensabeh

Z	A	F	X	P	A	V	E	L	C	H	E	K	O	V
J	L	J	O	S	E	P	H	G	R	I	F	F	I	N
O	F	R	A	N	K	M	O	O	N	E	Y	Q	A	F
E	R	J	I	M	C	A	R	S	E	Y	V	K	U	I
M	E	E	H	M	B	X	T	L	X	T	O	D	E	R
E	D	M	Z	Q	U	I	N	N	T	R	A	S	K	E
R	B	S	R	S	K	M	J	V	M	V	E	Y	J	M
C	E	F	H	M	T	O	M	D	A	V	I	S	V	A
H	S	V	A	E	S	V	A	G	U	N	N	A	R	N
A	T	D	R	S	H	I	L	L	I	N	G	P	P	F
N	E	R	R	Q	E	P	O	M	P	E	Y	R	A	R
T	R	Y	Y	E	G	N	S	S	M	Z	E	G	U	A
J	E	R	R	Y	X	E	T	J	J	G	Z	L	L	N
C	O	O	G	A	N	E	K	R	I	K	N	E	E	K
S	T	U	D	E	N	T	L	T	Y	E	W	O	R	O

Solution to December's Word Search:
Montalban Roles

M	A	N	U	E	L	M	T	O	K	U	R	A	A	F
R	O	R	T	E	G	A	R	K	A	N	E	Z	J	E
A	B	A	R	B	U	R	G	C	E	S	N	T	O	L
F	S	T	E	F	A	N	E	V	I	A	A	A	E	G
A	A	L	R	V	I	B	A	V	T	K	K	S	M	A
E	T	T	A	K	E	R	A	S	R	N	A	M	A	L
L	I	N	H	L	C	D	O	U	T	A	M	O	R	L
M	N	B	N	E	Y	C	T	N	M	T	U	R	T	O
E	E	A	A	R	R	O	O	U	S	C	R	O	I	I
I	E	T	N	O	D	T	P	C	K	H	A	L	N	H
J	H	E	T	N	J	Y	O	I	H	A	I	O	E	S
A	H	C	A	A	H	R	C	R	E	I	R	Z	K	
W	I	M	X	C	H	A	T	O	R	T	S	U	T	A
V	R	O	D	R	I	G	U	E	Z	E	R	E	X	H
A	L	M	A	T	T	E	O	M	A	T	S	O	U	N

Brain Benders

Word Search

January's Word List:

Adm. Roka	Lee
Alfred Bester	Leo
Coogan	Oro
Dr. Shilling	Paul
Drexel	Pavel Chekov
Fireman Frank	Pompey
Frank Mooney	Quinn Trask
Gunnar	Sentry
Harry	Student
Jerry	Tiger
Jim Carsey	Toder
Joe Merchant	Tom Davis
Joseph Griffin	V. P. Maximov



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