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The Last Word

A Mark of Excellence is the quarterly newsletter of the *International Mark Hamill Fan Club*. Yearly dues are \$15 US, and include 4 consecutive issues of the newsletter, a membership card, access to the fan club area on the website, and special mailings as appropriate. For more information, please send a SASE to:

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A Mark of Excellence

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The horrific return of the Joker brings more than just fright back into the heart of Bruce Wayne and Gotham citizens. It brings about the most entertaining animated movie I've seen to date. From the action-packed opening scene, to the dramatic ending that leaves you begging for more, this is definitely a movie for all genres.



After many frequent acts of thievery involving high-tech equipment, Terry McGinnis, the new Batman, starts raising questions with his crime-fighting partner, Bruce Wayne. Both are confused as to who is the mastermind behind it all. They don't have to wait long before the Joker reveals himself and takes the fame for his work. The only thing wrong with this sce-

nario is the Joker has been dead for forty years, and Bruce Wayne is tragically sure of this. The question is: where did the Joker return from?



The cast is an all-star lineup including Henry Rollins, Melissa Joan Hart, and of course, Mark. A neat little tidbit in the movie: in keeping with the character being older, Mark has given the Joker a more mature voice. But it still echoes like music in my head when I hear his maniacal laughter fill the night.

All in all, *'Batman Beyond:*

Return of the Joker' easily wins itself a position as one of the better movies I've seen. And as the Joker has said, 'If you don't like the movie, I've got slides.'

- Berry Beebe



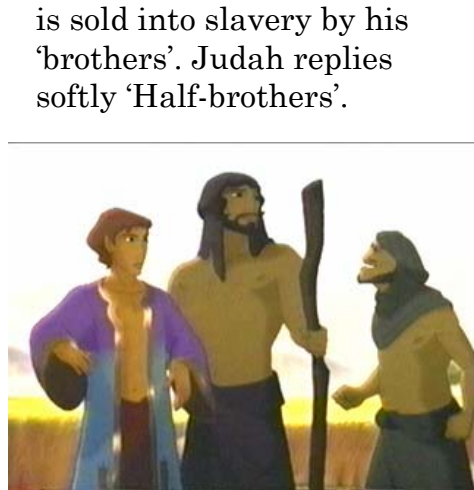
Late Christmas morning, I popped in this video, and settled down to watch. Prepared to raise the volume in order to hear it over the several conversations between six teeners happily comparing what they had received for said holiday, I found I had no need of the remote. Absolute silence descended about five minutes into the movie.

Once it ended, a lively dis-

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'Joseph King of Dreams' is an 'adaptation of the Joseph story in the book of Genesis', as stated at the beginning of this video. The prequel to the Academy Award winning 'Prince of Egypt', Mark voices Judah, Joseph's oldest 'half-brother'. This distinction is stated by Joseph after a confrontation between himself and the rest of his siblings. It later comes back to haunt him when, true to the biblical story, he



is sold into slavery by his 'brothers'. Judah replies softly 'Half-brothers'.

As the film concentrates on Joseph's story, Judah is not featured again until the last third of the video. He and his brothers travel to Egypt in the hopes of obtaining food. They do not recognise Joseph, though he remembers them. He devises a test, the end result showing him how much both he and his brothers have changed during the interim years. The film ends with the family being re-united.

Batman: Return of the Joker

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cussion broke out, with comments ranging from 'I'm glad we finally found out what happened to Robin' to 'Yeah, but is the Joker really dead now?' All agreed this Mark's performance in this was incredible, the com-



ment, so often heard and echoed here once again, 'He gives the Joker the voice we know he should have'. Consensus is that Mark outdid himself this time.

Future Watch



Mark will be reprising his role as the Divine Rod on an upcom-

ing episode of 'Son of the Beach'. Shooting took place the week of 17 December 2000.

He's done voice work on a new cartoon series, 'Time Squad'. No other details as yet. Mark has also been hard at work on a new computer game, 'Hunter Nation'.

A number of people have e-mailed HdShroom, asking if Mark is doing a voice in an upcoming Disney movie, 'Atlantis: The Lost Empire'. The answer is no, nor is he playing the part of the father in a remake of 'The Sound of Music', another recent question/rumour on the web.

Blast From the Past...

Kermit has a nice surprise for the audience: they cancelled Ernest McGonagle... who was hired to gurgle Gershwin because the stars of 'Star Wars' are in the show tonight. So the show starts quietly with a shepherd and his herd performing and singing their song. Then Kermit meets C-3PO and R2-D2 behind the stage. 3PO is explaining that they received a hyperspace telegram from Chewbacca and that he's being held prisoner by a "bunch of weird turkeys" - and Kermit has to admit that it sounds like his show. But then someone blasts through the door calling "Remember Alderaan!" and "Down with the Empire!". Kermit asks, a bit puzzled, "Who was that?" And we know 3PO - "It was my master - Luke Skywalker". And they both have to admit that human beings are a strange race. The show goes on while Luke searches for Chewie.



Trying to give the audience a good show, Kermit asks Luke to be part of the show - to sing a song. It's a joke to Luke, he's on a mission and can't get involved in a third rate variety show. He suggests it's much better to let his cousin - Mark Hamill - do this. Though R2 liked the thought, 3PO had to remind him that he isn't a song and dance droid. When Fozzy comes along, he's so happy to meet Mark but Luke explained that his cousin is waiting

outside and Fozzy wants him to come. Mark tries to convince Kermit with his talents - he imitates Kermit and Fozzy, trying to sing and be a singing and dancing comedian. But Kermit isn't impressed. When he asks what else Mark can do and Mark answers that he can gurgle Gershwin, Kermit 'throws' him out.



But Ernest and Mark manage to gurgle a bit together till they get interrupted.

Then Robin, Kermit's nephew, has to tell his uncle that the Star Wars people have hijacked the SwineTrek to get to the barren wastes of the planet Koozebane.



On the SwineTrek Luke has to deal with all the dirt lying around and Captain Link Hogthrob who wants Luke and the droids off his ship but is willing to exchange the SwineTrek for the name of Luke's tailor - "Who's your tailor - I love that outfit!" The co-pilot of the SwineTrek learns first hand that it can be dangerous to push just one button on R2.



Miss Piggy's lashes flutter at the sight of Luke Skywalker - "one of the heavenly bodies" she declares immediately. She does her best to convince him she is the long lost princess. Despite her braided buns and flowing white gown, Luke is not convinced and tries to tell her his thoughts - though not quite like a real gentleman.

As the SwineTrek lands on Koozebane - it isn't a soft landing because Luke forgets "to push the stoppy thing", the villain Dearth Nadir (Gonzo) warns them of impending perils. The gloom is brief and again someone is interested in the name of Luke's tailor - Gonzo, this time. Soon Chewie and R2 are dancing a duet and C-3PO shows he's a natural tap-dancer. And again, Luke allows his cousin to sing - so Mark leads the cast in "When You Wish Upon A Star" - but not before asking Luke "Who's your tailor? I love that outfit!"



fit!"

