

PROFILES IN TRIVIA:
THE ADVENTURES OF FOG CITY 3

The following is a true story. Mostly.

When I first signed on to AOL in November 1995, I pretty much blew all our 10 free hours looking around the web at all the cool stuff that was there; and it was fun to point and click at all the pretty pictures and graphics, but it was a lot like that Peggy Lee song from the 60's-- "Is that all there is?"

Then our friends told us about the Trivia games in the People Connection area, and it's been a wonderful experience ever since: chat rooms full of smart, funny people and the sound effects they love; obscure, arcane bits of knowledge offered by hosts and scorekeepers who treat newcomers with a generous welcome; and pretty much a place where, if you've got a sense of humor, you can enjoy the give and take of conversation no matter where you end up in the standings.

Our original screen name looked like we were shouting when it showed up for the first time in a chat room; so we subsequently changed it to "Fog City 3," representing the three of us: me (Fog), Mrs. Fog, and Young Mr. Fog. Since we're on the west coast, I mostly play in the late-night games, and I'm always amazed at how many east coast players are up at that time too.

I read a lot: non-fiction, mysteries, comic books; can let the time slip by browsing around an old record shop or bookstore; and will talk back at the TV whenever "Jeopardy" is on, annoying Mrs. Fog to no end when "Final Jeopardy" is revealed and I shout an answer before she has a chance to think about it. She always gets the last laugh when I'm wrong and she's right. Mrs. Fog is a fan of football, figure skating, ballroom dancing, and that drum corps competition that's on PBS every so often. Young Mr. Fog aspires to be "Speed Racer."

If you've been in a game with me, you'd know that there is no strategy in how I answer; it's pretty much "do I know this or not?" If I know the answer, I'll let it fly; but if I don't, I'll live and lem, or sometimes type in a one-liner to keep my fingers busy. But beware lemming off of me-- people have been burned from my wild guesses...And I don't bag....I'm just being a careful typist.

You'll always get a laugh out of me with a loopy reference to anything involving "Star Trek," Top 40 music, Bond movies, "I, Claudius," spaghetti westerns, "Twin Peaks," or Charlton Heston's last lines from "Planet of the Apes." Often, I'll break into song, typing out lyrics in the middle of a game, because of something someone said....do feel free to join in by typing loudly and proudly. I've been in a Sinatra phase lately. It's a crazy, cuckoo kinda thing.

See you in the trivia rooms.

