

February 2011 issue



Awesome Dolls Magazine

Featured Website

A Blog about Five American Girl Dolls With a Dream

by Emma, Lisa, Mia, Ruthie, and Felicity

<http://wwwablogaboutamericangirldollswithad.blogspot.com/>

Meet a Reader

What are your interests? Tap, reading, and playing with stuffed animals.

What is your favorite food? MEATBALLS!

What is your favorite thing to do with your doll/dolls? Play with them.

How many dolls do you have? 3

Which doll/dolls do you have? Emma Lee (Emily) Bennet, Molly McTire, and Gwen Thompson

What is your favorite movie? Star Wars 1: The Phantom Menace

-Emily (writer's sister)

Thank you so much, Emily, for giving me this information. I will have a “Meet a Reader” in every issue so if you would like to be in the magazine just email me your answers to the following questions.

What are your interests?

What is your favorite food (not counting drinks, milkshakes, or smoothies)?

What is your favorite thing to do with your doll/dolls?

How many dolls do you have?

Which doll/dolls do you have?

What is your favorite movie?



Crazy Hair Galleria of Photos

If you have any pictures, please email me them and I might put them in this magazine.

Dragon Quest

By Corsicapeace

Chapter 2: The Letter.

Phoenix sighed. She had just had the most wonderful and most confusing day of her life. She was trying to recall all that had happened, for she was writing a letter to her 13-year-old brother, James. James was away at a neighboring castle, training to be a knight, and was interested in everything his little sister told him. They were extremely close, and let each other in on every secret they possessed. And this – thought phoenix – is definitely a secret.

Dear James,

I beg you come and visit me at keepers' manor. I have something to show you, but for now, I suppose I shall have to be satisfied with simply telling you. I woke up as usual, and saw the sun peeking from behind the emerald green hills of Crystallia. It was just only illuminating the glorious palace grounds, and they were setting up for a jousting match. Immediately I began to make preparations, and I finished before any other servant or maid. I asked her highness if I may watch. She sniffed and asked if I had done my work in haste, which I had not. Lady Belle her royalness beauteous highness reluctantly granted me permission. I was, for once, happy with her, because as you know I normally refer to here as that nut-brained toad. At the match, I saw one of the knights drop a small, crimson and gold speckled oval. It was very smooth, very round, and about the size of my hand. I asked if he had dropped it. He said yes and that I may keep it. His name was Sir Harold. I was so thrilled that I did not even notice that he was not the least indisposed to give it to me. I went to the palace library and I read up on it. I then discovered that the object I am in possession of is a dragon egg. AN ILLEGAL DRAGON EGG! I need your help! Please come as soon as possible.

Forever your friend,
Phoenix

Phoenix sat up strait and rubbed her back that had been bent over so long writing. She stepped outside and handed the envelope to her friend, Allysa, who had been sitting on the ground outside her tower, which was next to Phoenix's. "Please take this to my brother!" she said. "Sure." Answered Allysa. And without another word, she walked away.

The Song Dynasty of China

By Hannah D.

The Song Dynasty came at a time of war but we made much advancement in literature, education, and art.

Examinations were necessary for anyone who wanted to be a government official. You had to go through many years of studying the Confucius Classics to be able to take them. Once you had studied for many years you would be ready to take the twenty-four hour local exams. It tested the test takers on their knowledge of the Confucius Classics, ability to write poetry, and skill in artistic writing called calligraphy. If you passed this test you went on to the provincial level of tests. The provincial tests took two days and tested the participants on their memorization of the Classics. If they happened to pass they would move on to the national level of the tests. This test lasted seventy-two hours and tested their knowledge of the Classics and knowledge on current topics. These tests could take many years to pass. People would take time away from their family just to study. Once you had passed all of these levels you were a part of high society and could become a government official.

The Confucius teachings were the center of the Chinese life. It taught that children should be completely good and obey their parents without question. Their parents would make decisions based on what was good for the whole family. It also focused on everyone being good as the key to happiness. The Confucius teachings were not their religion. Instead it was their way of life. The Confucius Classics were the teachings of Confucius. Because these were their way of life, it was understandable that they were greatly studied for examinations. Their main religion during the Song Dynasty was Buddhism. Buddhism mainly is aligned with the Confucius teachings.

Many different parts of life were categorized based on your place in society or class. The highest class was the emperor, and then it was the officials, then common. The one thing that I will emphasize that was categorized was food. According to the Chinese saying, “The emperor eats ox; the officials eat pig; scholars eat fish; and the common people eat vegetables.” Food was divided into more than just the emperor, official, and common classes. It was divided into over five different categories. Some of the first restaurants were opened by the common people of China.

During the Song Dynasty there were lots of advancements in technology and industry. China was the inventor of paper money. They could not continue trading goods so they came up with a system of money. It turns out that the first record of cannons being used was during the Song Dynasty. The Song people were the ones who invented gunpowder. The block printing press was one of the most important advancements. If the Song Dynasty hadn't invented it, there might not be as many books today. Bridges produced a large problem for people during the Song Dynasty. The bridges needed to support heavy traffic but be tall enough for boats to go under. The Rainbow Arch Bridge was a result of this. Silk is probably the most recognized invention of the Chinese people. The only people who ever wore the rare fabric were the upper-class people. Sometimes silk was even used as money. Lower-class women would work all day at looms making the fine fabric.

I hope I have given you a glimpse into the past of one of the major dynasties of China.

Leah is Shown the Way

Scene 1

(Leah and Rose enter and sit on chairs)

(Claire and Victoria enter and stand to the side)

Claire: Just look at them. I haven't liked them since we first started working here.

Victoria: Neither have I. They are always so cheerful and vain. I wish we could get rid of them.

Claire: Without raising the suspicion of their parents? How could this be done?

Victoria: It would be difficult. Maybe we could let the blame rest on us and run away.

Claire: What a brilliant mind you have, Victoria!

(Claire and Victoria exit)

Rose: Leah, we have discussed everything alive on earth, but what do you think of death?

Leah: Oh Rose, why would you ask such a question? I prefer not to think of such things.

Rose: My sister, do you mean to say that you do not know reality?

Leah: If thinking of unhopeful things is part of reality, yes.

(Leah walks away)

(Rose exits)

Force Lightning

I have recently become interested with force lightning. I found out about it while watching Star Wars VI: Return of the Jedi. When Corsicapeace (had to take out her name for this post) and I started writing Star wars plays we knew we wanted to include it. Unfortunately, a couple of months ago we had written ten plays with some containing force lightning. I was researching force lightning and found out that we had a problem. Our plays that we had worked on half the summer were inaccurate! I did some revising of the ones that we hadn't acted out and everything is okay now. I am not writing this to tell you about how I had to revise plays but to teach you about force lightning.

Force lightning is a force ability. It is also known as sith lightning as it was most often used by members of the sith. It sends electricity through someone's body using your hand or fingertips. The more skilled you were with it, the more the bolts would branch out. The more it branched out, the more people you could target. You are unable to dodge force lightning, but powerful Jedi could block it with their lightsabers. Yoda was able to absorb and redirect force lightning using his hands. One short bolt could result in unconsciousness for the victim or death. There are short and long term effects to the user and victim. It deforms the victim and can lead to brain damage, blindness, or being crippled for life. Humans will usually have small seizures all over their body due to a drop in blood minerals. You could avoid some long term effects with complete bed rest and proper treatment. As for the user, it could drain their energy, deform them, and possibly burn holes in their hand. People on the light side could learn to use force lightning if they wanted to. Most Jedi Councils didn't allow it however. There are many different variations of force lightning.

There are a couple of things that you might not have understood if you have seen Star Wars VI. First of all, if force lightning can kill quickly then how come Luke Skywalker didn't die after a short amount of time of being hit with it by Emperor Palpatine? The reason was that Luke was the last of the Jedi and the emperor decided to slowly kill him to watch the last of the Jedi suffer (there is something wrong with the emperor). Also, how come Darth Vader/Anakin Skywalker dies? When Anakin (this act made him become his old self again) was throwing the emperor down the reactor chasm some of the force lightning hit him. Because of that his breathing circuit was messed up and he died.

I hope you enjoyed learning about force lightning.

At Cafe Claire

Ruthie: Hello everyone. My name is Ruthie and I will be your server today.

Kit: Aren't you always our server, Ruthie?

Ruthie: Yes, but that is beside the point. Now you made me forget my speech!

Chrissa: You've been to plenty of restaurants before. What do they usually say?

Ruthie: Thank you Chrissa. Let me start again. Hello everyone. My name is Ruthie and I will be your server today. May I start you off with some drinks?

Kit: What if we said no?

Chrissa: Kit!

Kit: Okay, okay, I would like some Lemonade.

Ruthie: We don't have any.

Kit: Then I'll have some milk.

Ruthie: We don't have any of that either.

Kit: Then what DO you have?

Ruthie: Water.

Kit: Is that all?

Ruthie: Yes.

Kit: Then why did you ask us what we wanted?

Ruthie: I didn't ask you what you wanted to drink. I asked you if you would like to start off with drinks.

Chrissa: That will be fine. Just bring out two waters.

Ruthie: Two waters coming right up.

-five minutes later-

Ruthie: Here are your waters.

Chrissa: Thank you, Ruthie.

Ruthie: Would you like an appetiser or are you ready to order your main course?

Chrissa: We are ready to order our main course. I'll have the classic bistro burger. I want just meat, lettuce, and cheese on it.

Kit: I would like the tic-tac-toe pizza. Don't give me the whole pizza this time.

Ruthie: Then how much pizza do you want?

Kit: Just one-fourth of the pizza.

Ruthie: Your meal will be coming soon.

-ten minutes later-

Ruthie: Here is your food. Enjoy!

-Ruthie leaves-

Kit: They have enlarged the pizza since we were last here. This is as big as the whole pizza I got last time.

Chrissa: You sure do have a lot of pizza. Maybe next time you should get the classic bistro burger like me.

Kit: Well, I guess I'll just eat on it for a couple of days.

Chrissa: Just remember to save room for dessert!

-after the meal-

Ruthie: Would you like some dessert.

Kit: You know we would.

Chrissa: We would each like a double dark chocolate cookie.

Ruthie: Will do!

-five minutes later-

Ruthie: Here are your cookies and your bill. Thank you for eating at Cafe Claire.

Miscellaneous Page

I have read all of the Harry Potter books and seen all of the movies (except Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2 of course). I would like to say a few things about them.

The books were soooooooooo much better than the movies. They would have some slow parts but most was funny and interesting. I will warn about some bad language and romance.

The movies were pretty good but not as good as the books. The movies left out many parts of the books. Even though they left out some parts the movies were still good. The fourth movie (the Goblet of Fire) was very objectionable. From the fourth on they have a lot more romance and bad words.

Altogether I would highly recommend the books and would recommend the movies for people of at least the age of nine.

About the Author

Hannah D. is a middle school girl who is homeschooled. She will not say her full name, age, birthday, or state for security reasons. She has three AG dolls which are Kit, Ruthie, and Chrissa. She owns the blog “My Life is Turning Chinese!” under Azalea Shanghai which is her pen name. She decided to do this magazine when she saw that Simply AG Magazine was taking a break. She immediately decided that she would do her own magazine. She hopes that she will not quit like she has done with her newspapers. She hopes that she will be able to do it every month and not every week or five months. But above all, she hopes that people love her magazine and look forward to it every month.

“Bravery is not when you fight but the courage not to fight.”

-Hannah D.

Find her at:

www.awsomeedolls.blogspot.com

(Awesome is meant to be spelled awesome)

coming up in the next issue...

1. even more stories

2. even more pictures

3. a miscellaneous page about books