



It was a magical world, a South Seas island we wouldn't mind being deserted on, a world where anything could happen; an ancient Egyptian culture could live for thousands of years undiscovered by modern man, a one-eyed dog could be understood by and understand the humans who surrounded him, and a German spy called his 'enemies' friends.

*Tales of the Gold Monkey* took us back to a time that seems a lot simpler than the one we know now. It brought history alive for those of us too young to remember the Duluth Dukes, clipper ships and the beat of the big bands. In some instances it even rewrote that past.

But if we noticed, we didn't mind. *Tales of the Gold Monkey* was about people. There was always plenty of action and adventure, but the emphasis was on the relationships of the characters. The talented actors and actresses involved in the series brought a special spark of life to the inhabitants of Borabora and Matuka that had us tuning in week after week. And that wasn't always easy. ABC decided to play tick-tack-toe with its television schedule, pre-empting it and moving it around so that it wasn't always easy to find. And then because the ratings weren't as good as they liked, it was cancelled.

But it could have been worse. ABC, in its infinite wisdom, could have decided to revamp the show. After all, they knew the formula for a hit -- they've been watching NBC. Picture Jake Cutter, playboy pilot, super sleuth and part-time stuntman ("We have to cover all the bases, kid."), gathering his team of mercenaries together each week to solve crimes around the world. To help him there's Sarah, his beautiful copilot who never mixes business with pleasure -- well, almost never. And there's his best friend Corky, a computer genius who lives on a boat ("But, there weren't any computers in 1938." "That's okay, kid. There weren't any Flying Tigers then, either. It's called dramatic license."), and Bon Chance Louie who bartends at the local watering hole. And let's not forget Jake's nemesis, Princess Koji, who each week gets closer and closer to luring him into her hot tub ("Will she catch him?" "Are you crazy, kid? We'll let 'em hang on 'til fourth season."), and the mandatory two plane chases each week.

Well, *Tales of the Gold Monkey* may be off the air, but it's not forgotten. Over the last couple of years I've had the fun of writing to, talking with and, in some lucky instances, meeting *Gold Monkey* fans from all over the world. We've kept each other updated on what the former residents of the Marivellas are doing now, and we've discussed and dissected our favorite characters and our favorite episodes. The show has influenced us in ways we never expected. There are those of us who

would now rather listen to the sounds of Glen Miller than the Beatles or study the inside of a plane engine than worry about the klunking noise the car is making. For me, it's awakened an avid interest in the Flying Tigers whom, I am ashamed to say, I had never heard of until I watched *Tales of the Gold Monkey*. And watching Jake gracefully land the *Goose* on one engine -- or less -- each week helped me get over the white-knuckled flying I was prone to. Other people probably think we're crazy to be so enthusiastic over what is, after all, only a television program, and a cancelled one at that, but I know that I've never known a more supportive and caring group of people than these fans. And talented!

When *Cutter's Goose* was first conceived, I really didn't expect much in the way of submissions. Lorie was the only other fan of the show I knew, but she wouldn't let me drop the idea. I swear she must have gone door to door looking for other *Gold Monkey* fans because I started to get contributions to our zine right away. Then the flyers went out and more people started responding. And each of them knew someone else who loved the show as much as we did. Now look at it. Our baby has turned into an elephant (so what do you expect after 20 months in the oven?! Everyone had something to contribute. If they didn't write, or draw, we got their encouragement and support for this zine. We finally had to reduce to fit all of this under my stapler and we still have enough material left over to seriously consider a second issue! So if this zine has inspired you at all, please submit your works of art, poetry, filksongs and fiction to us. We'd love to hear from you.

We'd also love to meet you. The majority of the contributors to *Cutter's Goose* will be attending Most Eastly Convention in New York over Labor Day Weekend, 1985. It's a media convention being held at the Sheraton LaGuardia Hotel (for more information write and SASE: Devra Langsam, 627 E. 8th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11218). We won't be hard to spot as most of us will be dressing as one of our favorite *Gold Monkey* characters, and of course there will be a *Gold Monkey* party! So please come. Or if you'd just like to correspond with other fans of the show, contact me and I'll put you in touch with other enthusiasts.

*Tales of the Gold Monkey* lives! And I think this zine proves it. I also think ABC and Universal should know that we haven't forgotten. Write to them and let them know what a great show you think it is. Who knows? Maybe they'll syndicate the show. Or better yet, maybe they'll do a *Movie of the Week: The Return of the Tales of the Gold Monkey*. Stranger things have happened!

Keep the *Goose* flying! *Marilyn*