

# FANS SPEAK TO . . . CHARLES EGGLEE

It's time for the devoted *Moonlighting* fans to thank the writer/producer who helped Maddie and David explore their relationship.

Dear Mr. Eglee,

I want to thank you for writing and later producing some of the most memorable episodes we *Moonlighting* fans love to watch repeatedly on our VCR's. One of the funniest episodes is *Funeral For A Doornail*. Some of the best scenes I love are:

- When David plays around with Maddie when she first goes into his office.
- David and Maddie going into an adult bookstore.
- When David and Maddie return to the office after being interrogated.
- David tiptoes behind Maddie and asks the audience if "Mrs. Clemens is out there?" and the camera shakes from side-to-side as if the audience answers "no."
- The chase scene where they parodied *Star Wars*, *Jaws*, and *Psycho*.

Another memorable episode is *All Creatures Great...And Not So Great*. It's very rare for a television show to delve into the area of religion vs. atheism. I thought it was very thought provoking and very well done. It also revealed a deeper side to David. It showed the audience he did have morals and believed in a higher authority. It's also interesting showing how Maddie felt about religion. Both

arguments were compelling and I can see both sides of their points of view.

Another great episode is *Sam and Dave*. The subtext, the secret battle between Dave and Sam was absolutely superb. It defies the normal way many shows deal with love triangles. Every action and every reaction really meant something. We rarely see subtext done in this manner in TV, even in movies these days.

Some of the underrated episodes I love are *Eek! A Spouse!* It really let the audience know that even though Maddie is "married", her relationship with David is not over. *Maddie Hayes Got Married*, was reminiscent of the Maddie and David we knew and loved in the first three seasons. I also loved Bert's rendition of "Lady Is A Tramp" while taking his aggression out on a drunken MacGillicuddy. Even though some don't like *Tale In Two Cities* because of how David cheated on Maddie, I thought it was a meaningful turning point because of these two reasons. One, and the most obvious, David is going to be a father, and two, David realizes after sleeping with that woman, Maddie changed him to the point where he can't go back and enjoy his old habits ever again.

I also want to acknowledge your remarkable work before *Moonlighting*

(*St. Elsewhere*) and after *Moonlighting* (*LA Law*, *NYPD Blue*, *Murder One*, and *Dark Angel*). I know you will continue to create groundbreaking television and I wish you continued success. Thank you again for being one of the writers who helped bring Maddie and David to my television screen.

Christie Taylor

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Dear Charles Eglee,

Thank you for bringing us some of the most hilarious moments of *Moonlighting*! Just to mention one episode, I would choose *All Creatures Great... And Not So Great* because it shows us a different and more spontaneous side of Maddie. This is screwball comedy at it's best, full of "double entendres" and a hint in how the relationship between Maddie and David will evolve during the third season. The TV spectator sees how much fun Cybill Shepherd and Bruce Willis had filming your scenes. Maybe you can develop a new story line explaining the last 14 years, which would interest the actors as much and therefore lead to the *Moonlighting* reunion.

Keep on entertaining us with your interesting stories!

Monika

Dear Mr. Eglee,

I want to thank you for your role in making the best series of all time. You've done a wonderful job and *Moonlighting* is the best gift for all the fans.

Karin Zeller

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Dear Mr. Eglee,

When I received the call from your office that you would consent to an interview, I couldn't believe that we would have the opportunity to speak to an accomplished talent such as yourself. I was then told that you were very proud of your work on *Moonlighting* and you welcomed the opportunity to talk about it. The "Sam" episodes are some of the best written collaborative efforts in the whole series as well as the most talked about. Each time I watch these episodes, I become so involved and experience all kinds of emotions it's as though I'm watching them for the first time, especially the episode *Sam and Dave*. Seeing the insecure side of David emerge and Maddie's confusion over her feelings for these two "different" men was great writing and great television.

Thank you for taking the time in telling the fans what it was like for you to be working on a TV show that became such a phenomenon and for giving me the distinct pleasure of taking a phone call from "Chic" Eglee. It was a thrill for me to be able to talk to you.

Diana Maiocco

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As a huge fan of *Moonlighting* I would like to take this opportunity to write you and thank you. Your talent as a writer and producer of the episodes we fans loved so very much touched us through laughter, tears, and yes even anger and disappointment (at some of your story line choices :)).

I can only hope and pray that you develop a strong desire to continue a show that left us all lost and unfulfilled in its final episodes, and perhaps even grace us with a *Moonlighting* movie, DVD, special TV reunion, anything would be appreciated!! We miss your creativity, you always kept us sitting on the edge of our seats waiting with anticipation to see just what you had in store for us. We want more!!

Again, thank you for sharing your talent with us. Thank you for giving an interview for this fanzine I look forward to reading it soon.

See you at Blue Moon.

Kim Jackson

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Dear Mr. Eglee,

Thank you for your interview for the fanzine. The writing on *Moonlighting* was brilliant, and some of your episodes are among my favorites. I think all the best episodes had a great mix of comedy, drama, and romance. I particularly love *Funeral For A Doornail* which is one of the funniest episodes. I also love *Maddie Hayes Got Married* because it showed the great tug of war between them but was so romantic

at the end. I also love *Sam and Dave* because it was a great episode at an important point in the Maddie and David's relationship that showed David's vulnerability particularly well. It was the writing on *Moonlighting* that made the fans truly love their romance. There has never been anything like it on TV before or since. Thanks again for the interview, and for the great writing that made *Moonlighting* the best romantic comedy ever done.

Pam Hardin

Herndon, VA

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When I look at some of the episodes that Charles Eglee wrote, I realized that they are some of my favorites especially, *Funeral For A Doornail* and *All Creature Great...And Not So Great*. Sometimes I think these two episodes are not given the respect they deserve. They have everything that *Moonlighting* was about--a mystery, a fight, and making up. These are my "easy viewing" episodes because no one leaves the state at the end (well they do in *Funeral...* but they're still together) and there is no "To be continued" message. I love that!

Kelli

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*Sam and Dave* was my favorite episode written by Charles Eglee. I particularly enjoyed the scene in the restaurant where David confronts Sam for Maddie's affection. He becomes intimidated by Sam's accomplishments and gets himself drunk. As a viewer I was saddened because of having prior knowledge

that David was about to openly declare his love for Maddie. It is due to the good writing of Charles Eglee that I initially liked Sam. I was torn because of my hope for Maddie and David's union. Eglee knows that love is painful and brings us down that road together.

Lucy Degidon

I loved all the shows Charles Eglee did back then. I hope the show returns real soon. I miss it so much!!! If you or anybody hears anything, please let me know, ok?

Thank you so much!

Sincerely,

Myrna Tinoco

Dear Mr. Eglee,

I am a devoted fan of *Moonlighting*. The episode *Maddie Hayes Got Married* is one of my favorites. The bachelor party for Walter Bishop is simply hilarious. Every time Bert Viola appears dressed in drag because the stripper cancelled and sings "The Lady Is a Tramp," I burst out laughing. Followed by that crazy wedding, Terry going into labor, and Maddie chasing them all the way into the delivery room. This is great writing.

Thank you!

Honey Chodan

Charles Eglee:

Hello, Charles! Thanks for wonderful episodes! It was quite entertaining to watch these episodes during the *Moonlighting's* series. I hope the ML reunion movie happens that you would be able to participate in a storyline.

Best of luck!

Take care,  
Arista

Your work on *Moonlighting* is so brilliant! I love *Funeral For A Door Nail* — it always gives me chills no matter how many times I watch it! Thank you so much for the interview and for sharing your talent.

Michelle Krueger

Dear Mr. Eglee,

Thank you for granting the fanzine an interview. I love all the episodes that you helped to write such as *Funeral For A Door Nail*, *All Creatures Great... And Not So Great*, *Sam And Dave*, and *Maddie*

*Hayes Got Married*, all of which are very different. In my opinion, one of the funniest episodes is *Funeral For A Doornail*. Just the porn shop visit alone is hysterical. I love the way religion is used so cleverly with the controversial case about a priest who thinks he's in love in *All Creatures...* My very favorite episode of all from this set is *Sam And Dave*. In fact, my very favorite episodes are in the Sam Arc. Just the restaurant scene alone with the three actors is a masterpiece. There is so much more goin-gon through the minds of these characters than what is being said to one another. I don't think David's competition for Maddie's love could have been more well thought out and Mark Harmon as Sam was great. *Maddie Hayes Got Married* is one of the wackiest episodes but it is really well done and a lot of fun. I just watched it recently and got a real kick out of the crazy ending with the wedding and hospital and especially Bert's strip tease at the bachelor party. I treasure these episodes as well as many that you helped to produce. Thanks again for sharing some of your memories and knowledge from your successful career.

Joy Chodan

Read *Moonlighting Strangers*.

We don't dwell on the past.

We create in the present to make things happen in the future.