

Copperfield

Desperately clinging to the medium that made him famous, Copperfield made excessive use of television. There were cameramen on stage for half the show, projecting the close-up effects onto a movie screen for everyone to see. That's acceptable up to a point, but the illusionist bestowed more importance on projected images than the real people

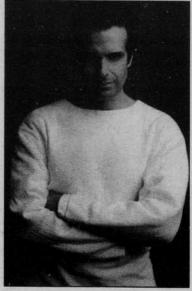
When he had a volunteer standing next to him, Copperfield talked to the image of the volunteer on the movie screen instead of speaking to her directly. By placing so much emphasis on television images, he undermined the live nature of his performance.

Copperfield is renowned for his

grand finales, and, with sentimental music blaring, the magician amazed the audience by magically transporting himself and a spectator to an island off the coast of Thailand. The two vanished from a thin platform hanging over the audience and reappeared on a sunny beach via a live satellite feed. To "prove" that they were really there, Copperfield brought evidence, including a photograph of people from the audience and initials written by a spectator on

In retrospect, Copperfield's finale seems ludicrous. But he made it convincing, as only a veteran performer could. For one wonderful moment, we believed that he really was on that beach in Thailand.

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Guide

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Now, what guidebook would be

complete without pictures? "The Guide" takes an interesting approach to its graphic side by using illustrations rather than photographs. While it is odd thinking someone took the time to draw

some of the images (with great attention to detail), they are more at-

tuned to the book's light-hearted ap-

proach, where photographs could seem more posed and clinical.

treat, humorously defines many sexual terms and some things that come

straight out of left field such as this gem: "Wanker - name that the

Queen of England calls Andy and

Charlie when they are being lazy or bad." Always good for a laugh.

As if "The Guide" didn't give enough, the glossary, like a dessert

Courtesy photo



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Chocolate Sundaes

What would you expect to pay for this marvelous product? \$40? \$60?? Cashing in at \$19.95, "The Guide" is worth every penny and then some. It can be found at most bookstores or bought online at www.goofyfootpress.com.

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