Greetings from “The Dirt,” the column that gets you the true dirt on the biggest stars, no matter how deep we need to dig. I’m Nintenda Flint, your loyal lurid reporter.

Now this week’s dish.

What’s this I hear about Clovina, the Exotic Snake-Woman? Has she dumped the Headless Horseman and gone gaga for the Invisible Man?

The two—Clovina and Invisible—were spotted together at the Mummy’s big
birthday bash on Friday the 13th. (Or at least she was seen; the Invisible Man is a bit hard to spot, if you know what I mean!)

If you ask me, the Headless Horseman was never right for Clovina. I mean, let's face it, she's basically levelheaded, while the Horseman is the type who always seems to lose his head just at the wrong time, if you know what I'm talking about!

This doesn't mean the Invisible Man will be much of an improvement for Clovina. Personally, I don't know what Clo sees in the fellow. For that matter, I don't know what ANYONE sees in him!

And here's a tasty tidbit. Guess what the Incredible Hunk gave the Mummy for a birthday gift? A big hunk of junk! Talk about cheap. The Mum-ster was reported to be furious. “What's with that guy?” he asked. “He's always passing out hunks of things. Why couldn't he just give me a box of chocolate-covered maggots? That's what I wanted.”

After the Mummy's party ended, everyone hopped over to the Gloomer Paloomer Theater to see Greasy Grumpy Gopher Guts, the new movie starring the Spineless Jellyfish and the Brain. If you ask this reporter, the Jellyfish gave a rather weak and spineless performance in the film. The Brain, on the other hand, was magnificent—cool and intelligent. I would almost describe her as “cerebral” if I didn't know better.

1. Compare the Headless Horseman to the Invisible Man. How are the two similar?
   - A. They both ride horses and their faces are well known.
   - B. They both like Clovina and their faces are not seen.
   - C. They both dislike Clovina and their faces are well known.
   - D. They both fought wars.

2. Contrast Clovina to the Headless Horseman. How are the two different?
   - A. Clovina is levelheaded, while the Horseman is not.
   - B. Clovina always loses her head while the Horseman is levelheaded.
   - C. Clovina is invisible and the Horseman is visible.
   - D. Clovina is visible and the Horseman is invisible.

3. Contrast the columnist's opinion of the performance given by the Spineless Jellyfish to that of her opinion of the Brain's performance.
   - A. She thought the Brain performed well and the Jellyfish performed poorly.
   - B. She thought the Jellyfish performed well and the Brain performed poorly.
   - C. She thought they both gave bad performances.
   - D. She thought they both gave good performances.

4. The Hulk gave the Mummy a birthday gift. Contrast the gift the Mummy got with the one he wanted.
   - A. The Mummy got exactly what he wanted.
   - B. The Mummy got a hunk of junk but he wanted chocolate-covered maggots.
   - C. The Mummy got chocolate-covered maggots but he wanted a hunk of junk.
   - D. The Mummy got a hunk of junk but he wanted a puppy.
Remember you heard it here first: Wolf Man and the She Wolf are expecting! That’s right, a litter is on the way, the stork is at the door, if you know what I mean. Wonder what the little pups are going to look like? Let me guess—kind of hairy with big fangs?

And finally, this just in. There’s been a terrible accident—Suzy the Big Purple Dinosaur was run over by a truck driven by the Fly! But never fear—she’s only a stuffed animal, for goodness sake. She just lost a little sawdust. NBD! No Big Deal! She’s been restuffed! She looks fabulous and she’s singing as cheerfully as ever—much to the disappointment of all those people who find her annoying. (Please note: This columnist is not one of those people!)

And speaking of Suzy and the Fly—they’ve been hanging out quite a bit lately. The accident seems to have brought them together. What a couple! She’s a dinosaur, he’s an insect! She sings annoying songs, he buzzes annoyingly in people’s ears! She’s attracted to fancy dinners, while all he wants is to land on your plate! Come to think of it, maybe the two have more in common than you think!

Finally, I’d just like to send out some brief howdy-do’s to some of my good pals out there. To the Thing—whatever you are—I love you, man! You’re the best. Keep up the good work, whatever it is that you are, and whatever it is that you actually do.

Ditto for the Blob—don’t ever change, you big, ugly chunk of formless, featureless protoplasm!

Also, happy anniversary to the Creature from the Black Lagoon. Keep on crawling, partner!

And as for the Boogeyman, the Slimeball, the Wicked Witch of the West, and the Evil Clown—I wish you all well, my friends, in whatever dark corners you lurk.

Until next week, this is Nintenda Flint saying so long and happy haunting, everyone.

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5. Compare Suzy the Dinosaur with the Fly. How are the two similar?
   - A. They’re both purple.
   - B. They both annoy some people.
   - C. They’re both insects.
   - D. They’re both stuffed animals.

6. How does Nintenda’s gossip column compare with a “typical” gossip column?
   - A. They both report celebrity news.
   - B. They both report serious national news.
   - C. They are both very serious.
   - D. They both report on fictional creatures.

7. How does Nintenda’s gossip column contrast with a “typical” gossip column?
   - A. Nintenda’s column is accurate; typical columns are inaccurate.
   - B. Nintenda’s column is well written; typical columns are poorly written.
   - C. Nintenda’s column is longer than typical columns.
   - D. Nintenda’s column reports on fictional characters; typical columns report on real celebrities.

8. Choose two celebrities—one who you like and one who really annoys you. Write a paragraph comparing and contrasting the two celebrities.