

Oops! ... we did it again

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Looking back onto the experiences in London 2003 we come to our point. Having been there, we'd like to tell you what we have seen there. And actually we can make it very short. Michael Jackson was there and did everything for his fans. Every day he appeared in the public and we could see him. Michael was shopping in 'Harrods'; and went to the 'Exeter-event'; by train ‐ a train which also we, his fans, could take.

He did many things which were very unusual for him. And he really made the unbelievable happen just to get in touch with us. So he came to the demonstration in a sightseeing bus, collected our banners, sang and shouted together with us. He also joined our party in the Equinox and stayed there for 2 hours, although he actually never stays so long at any event!

He came on stage and talked to us like a friend, he told us personal things and finally satisfied our curiosity about the Sony-affair. After the show he didn't disappear as usual quickly and in secret, no, again he collected banners from his fans and then he even drove back to his hotel in a normal taxi where everybody could see him. He opened his window, gave a mass of autographs and several fans could even meet him. He wore no mask and no sunglasses. He did everything so that we had the chance to see him. And in his face you could see his true joy about our love and support for him. Fans Already on Friday Michael had to speak of luck that he could leave Paddington- Station alive. Masses of fans and press fell into hysteria when he arrived. Michael was crushed. He was pushed so hard that he finally fell to the floor ‐ one of the worst situations that can ever happen. An accompnist finally could help him back onto his feet. The situation was so hard that Michael Jackson who's one of the most peaceful people on earth even is supposed to have slapped a paparazzo's face.

Uri Geller talked about what happened but he was nearly speechless himself. He said that he had met many celebrities in his life but he never saw something like that. "It was just horrifying. Michael was knocked to the ground. I honestly thought we wouldn't make it and we would end up in hospital." At Michael's hotel the scene was similar. Several hundred fans pounced on his car. They nearly forced the gate. Two fans were injured. One's leg got under the car and another one fell to the ground and was trampled by others. The scene was horrific. At the party in the Equinox on Saturday all fans behaved very well! They were told several times that Michael would immediately leave the theatre if the fans left their seats and/or if anybody came on stage. And everything was okay! Nobody molested Michael and he was obviously pleased with the situation. For that we can be really proud!

The same night when Michael returned to his hotel the bad scenes recurred. Many fans never went behind the barriers, instead they stood 'free' over the street just waiting for their chance to start running. When Michael's car arrived it was crowded with people again. The scene is indescribable! Michael had opened his window to be able to get in touch with his fans but many blindly grabbed for him. Finally Michael sat there, covering his face with his hands and arms to protect himself…

Fans finally got stuck between the gate, the hotel-walls and the car. Many were terribly afraid, and even worse, a member of Michael Jackson's security-team got injured. Police and ambulance arrived.

It was the sad ending of an actually very, very nice day with Michael. Fanship turns to Friendship To be honest, we are angry. We are angry, sad and very upset. Situations like that simply must not happen! It is so wrong that Michael gets in danger because of us. He's been living in the public since so many years now. He had fans all his life, but it's our impression that the situations get even worse with time. And this is unbelievable!

We've recognized that the situation is always the same and it's always the same people who start the running and the hysteria. Most of them are well-kown! They don't stay behind the barricades, they just wait and look for their chance to jump at Michael or his car. Then others get infected.

But this is an unpardonable behaviour! This time fans were injured, security-men were injured and Michael escaped the same fate by a hair's breadth!!! Guys, one day we will kill Michael if nothing changes! This is not longer 'only'; a question of moral or respect, this is a question of crime. Persons who behave that way are aware of the fact that they endanger themselves, others AND Michael !!! And this is heavily negligent!

After the terrible events in London we talked to many other fans who think exactly the same way we do. Everybody who loves Michael has to feel this way. The fanclubs, the fans, everybody. So many fanclubs stick together to fight against Sony ‐ although it's nearly clear that Sony won't change their behaviour. And it's also sure that Michael in any way will leave them and his life will go on, his music will go on and his success as well. With our help or without. Nevertheless we do it because it's our wish to do for him what we can.

If we do things like that why then can't we do the same in an actually much more important field??? By trying to stick together to guarantee his safety?? By trying to STOP those selfish people who all the time do EVERYTHING to get through to Michael and who stop at really nothing to reach their goal! Sad enough that they succeed so many times. They are the most thoughtless and ruthless of us and so the first who reach Michael. This time some of them again walked with him into the hotel, while the others got hauled over the coals by Michael's bodyguard. Mostly the wrong ones get the punishment.

It's time that this stops! It's time that WE stop this!

We cannot say that this is a 'security-problem'; and they have to solve it, because it's us - at least some of us! - who are that very problem! It's us who endanger ourselves AND Michael, and we would be

nearsighted, weak and stupid people if we didn't try to do something and to change the situation for the better! If we wouldn't stand up and fight against the unfairness of those few people who all the time destroy everything. They destroy our chance to see Michael! To see him and to be together with him in peace, friendship and harmony.

At the party we have seen that it IS possible! And Michael stayed with us for a really long time, didn't he? If he just had the possibility, he'd do that much more often! We have seen how he searched for the closeness to his fans – and how he so often got punished for that behaviour. One day he may stop that at all and start looking after himself like so many other stars do.

Uri Geller who was there with Michael said about the scene at platform:

"For a moment I thought he would faint. But then he suddenly looked at me and said 'I love these people' and I said 'Are you okay?' He said 'I am okay' and kept waving to his fans."

Later in the comartment:

"I'm OK. Don't worry. Don't be angry with the people out there, because they didn't know what they were doing. And I love them."

Listen to those unbelievable words and think about it!

Friends, if we don't try to stick together and to think about what we can change, we simply haven't deserved an incredible man like him being our idol!

We are said to be Michael's 'fan-army', so should this army not also be able to win against the injustice of this few people? Shall we give up and say 'we tried everything, but nothing helps …'. It will help if we just all stick together! Let's not give up in this point – for our sake and especially for Michael's!

Recently Christian Marks, Michael's official biographer gave an Interview to Stefan of the German Michael Jackson-page Mijac.de. There they also talked about this issue:

Stefan: You just mentioned the horrifying scenes in front of the hotel in London. I would like to know what Michael thinks about those fans who always "storm" towards him without any consideration for injuries, damages, and disadvantages. How does Michael feel about that?

Christian M.: I was surprised how cool Michael reacted to this. I was very nervous and upset. He was the coolest of all. But he was very hurt too - He just does not show that. Let us take his Berlin-visit last year for example. When he arrived at the 'Hotel Adlon' hundrets of fans stormed to him - Michael got a kick on his leg during that trouble. Because of that he hobbled a little bit at the Bambi Awards-Show. One day after the kick, he had to be driven in a wheelchair because his leg caused so much pain. But he did not show his pain to the others. I think that this can be explained with his terrible childhood. He always had to go on stage; he always had to go to the recording studio even if he didn't want to. And in Berlin it was the same situation again. He said: "I have to go on stage." - This is a performance of one's duty for him. Maybe some kind of a Prussian trait of character ;). But nevertheless Michael feels awful when something like this (London 2002, Berlin 2002) happens. He would love to sign posters and CD's, he would love to talk to the fans for some words, but this is not possible that way. The way it always is, Michael is like a hunted animal.

'Fanship turns to Friendsip' is always open for proposals and plans about what to do. Please get in contact with us and let's talk about this issue! Also go into your usual discussion boards and start to talk about this issue with other fans and friends, turn to your own fanclub with proposals. Start to work together!

Let's make a change! And let's do it together!

What we think of at the moment is that we'd need a better cooperation between Michael's or the hotel's security and the fans. We should be able to tell the police which people they have to keep an eye on. If we see that it's not enough security we should be able to call for more or for more barriers. We must have rules, and we must find ways to - really - punish those who disregard these rules. Many have stopped to see this guys as friends and this is a wise decision. Because these are not friends, a friend of Michael and/or of us others would not do something like that, just thinking of him /herself and endanger the people he/she loves, right? We don't want to see Michael being pushed to the ground again, we don't want to see him sitting in his car frightened covering his face with his hands! We want to see him happy, safe and smiling!

Guys, It's really time to start caring!!!!

Because if we don't open up our eyes and minds to this matter we'll have Michael Jackson in hospital or even dead one day.

WHAT COULD BE MORE IMPORTANT AND SERIOUS ???

Um endlich etwas zu tun, wurde die Kampagne 'Care for Michael' ins Leben gerufen. Viele Fans und FCs sind entschlossen, sich aktiv für Michaels und ihre eigene Sicherheit einzusetzen - im Vorfeld wie auch vor Ort. Lest hier

mehr darüber und schließt euch an! To the FttF-Team - comment of a member I did not know all that stuff had happened. I saw on the news when I returned Michael being pushed to the ground...I was horrified to say the least.

It makes me so angry that Michael goes out of his way to make himself accessible to us and that has to happen.

YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT IN ALL THAT YOU SAY... I AM 100% IN AGREEMENT. WHAT WE NEED IS TO GET EVERY FAN IN THE WORLD TO READ THIS. YES IT IS PAINFULL... BUT THE TRUTH OFTEN IS. I ALWAYS FEARED THAT THIS WOULD HAPPEN. IF A FAN DIES HOW WOULD WE FEEL? HOW WOULD MICHAEL FEEL?

I CAN NOT BRING MYSELF TO SAY THE WHAT IF'S YOU MENTIONED...BUT FOR ANYONE WHO TRULY LOVES AND CARES ABOUT MICHAEL THOSE ARE/MUST BE THE HEARTFELT HIDDEN FEARS...THEY ARE MINE.

EVEN AFTER THAT TERRIBLE EXETER INCIDENT MICHAEL STILL WANTED TO BE NEAR US! IN HIS SPEECH WHEN HE SAID 'SONY SUCK' AND WE STARTED CHANTING IT BACK, HE SAID 'SO LOYALE!'

MY HEART SKIPPED A BEAT... I THOUGHT WOW! YES MICHAEL WE ARE LOYALE BECAUSE YOU ARE LOYALE TO US...YOU LOVE US AS MUCH AS WE LOVE YOU AND YOU HAVE MADE THAT MORE THAN CLEAR TODAY.

THIS IS WHAT WE HAVE AND THIS IS WHAT WE NEED TO PROTECT AND CHERISH. THE RELATIONSHIP MICHAEL HAS WITH US IS SO UNIQUE. NO OTHER 'CELEBRATEY' CARES ABOUT THEIR FANS AS MUCH AS MICHAEL DOES AND ALWAYS GOES OUT OF HIS WAY TO MAKE SURE THAT WE CAN BE AROUND HIM.

But how long can it last as you say if things do not change.

I wish I got to meet you...

As I can not really mix with people I do not see all the trouble or know the people responsible...in one way I am glad, I would never want to be swallowed up by such madness or be part of anything that could hurt Michael.

I know of people who will do anything to get near Michael with no regard for themselves or anyone else...nothing satisfies them.

Perhaps Michael's people do know them but I expect these sad individuals have followers of their own.

The world is such an awful place...and now they are planning July 4th attacks on the USA...when will all the madness stop?

It is all too much...

Love and care for Michael,
Susie Michael (UK)