It wasn’t really the Lego Statue of Liberty... even though that was the beginning of the end. I had already been assaulted by a four-foot plastic elephant, seen a doll-house twice the size of my parents’ apartment, peered at a wooden camper trailer for Barbie and Ken and been shocked by scenes from Star Wars in Sansurround to highlight Ken- neal’s new line of dolls (or is it Muffet)? I think it was when they put Donner and Blitzen out to pasture that I excused myself to the restroom.

As we entered the sixth floor of Gimbel’s Herald Square Store this year, we were confronted by black walls bearing pictures of comets and Saturn (didn’t you know that all faraway planets look like Saturn). Understand me, the entire floor was decorated like the Battistella Galactica — even the infant’s section. MITSFS would be proud.

The shopper is provided with a floor map which depicting the entire shopping area as a giant squashing — Gimbel’s Toy Universe. The rear rockets are blaring away over Seventh Avenue, and the side rockets are shooting up into the sky.

We emerged near what the map described as the Giant Snoopy Safer and were bombarded by the Star Wars them emulating from the Space Center — now in Kenney’s “Space Center.” Recalling in shock, we found ourselves — in the auditorium. “When I was young, this was the sound and light show in Kienner’s “Space Center.”” Recalling in shock, we found ourselves — in the auditorium. When I was young, this was the sound and light show in Kienner’s “Space Center.”

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