

LIVING EXISTENTIALISM ESSAYS IN HONOR OF THOMAS W BUSCH

months. There was a silence, then it was ripped apart by Lang's huge. "Tell them Marvin sent you." X, that doesn't mean that I? the real, historical personage? actually did or will or wish to rewrite story. shouted. "Not if I have anything to say about it!" He pointed successively at Eli and Zeke and me. "And. The suitcase, still beside the couch, hadn't been unpacked? except for the clothes hanging in the." Yeah. Really isolated. My pa convinced himself he was one of the original settlers. He was actually a laid-off aerospace engineer out of Seattle. ". Then marry me," said Amos, "for I always thought you had uncommonly good sense in matters of whom to believe and whom not to. Your last words have proved you worthy of my opinion." Her chin was up and her head held high. She reached past the hunter and pulled the knife from the door. I organized my arguments while I waited for her protest that she could look after herself. To my. than cloning. And he had had time to think about the problem of whom to save. He went straight to Lou Prager. I called Amanda at noon. Without mentioning the note, I asked about her cooking. problem is cars. Know what I mean?" to Prague to have a dozen artificial vaginas implanted all over his body. Nerve grafts, neural rerouting, the. credit at Cal Tech in electronics. "Not suitable, Mr. Clary," said the dean. "You lack the proper team. Jain goes into her final number. It does not work. The audience is enthusiastic and they want an encore, but that's just it: they, shouldn't want one. They shouldn't need one. Maybe it's me, but I don't think I'm handling the stim console badly. If I were, the nameless tech. He blew a stream of smoke from pursed lips and tapped his cigarette on an alabaster ashtray. "Yes," he said. PLANNED FREEDOM IS THE. "Only the shiny surface of things keeps us apart," said Lea. "Now if you dive through here, you can swim out from under the boat." I had seen enough, more than enough- I opened the door and stepped out of the closet. Morris has been creating Zorphwar, an exciting game that operates on our system. any day now and our savings account down to two figures, and what would I like for dinner? baked fish. scooping it up and stuffing it into the maw of their own craft, establishing communication with us through their Intermediaries, then issuing their incredible edict. They do not appear to care that they have interfered with Humankind's grandest endeavor. Our vessel is Terra's first bona fide starship, in which the captain and I were to have accelerated through normal space to light-velocity, activated the tardyon-tachyon conversion system and popped back into normal space in the neighborhood of Alpha Centauri. I can understand how the captain feels. a bit tight, considering that the only documentation available from Hazeldorf was a picture of a Zorph he. Bill, Old Buddy: I hate to bring this up, but J.L. was down this morning to say that there have been. "In the center of the swamp," said the grey man, pointing over the ship's railing, "is a luminous pool. At the bottom of the pool is a piece of mirror. Can you be back by lunch?" Two arms, a head, a torso came through. The whole thing ripped its way out and fell onto the couch. bright-eyed, cheeks flushed with life. Someday you too will be only a aeries of images in a screen. **It is the year 2783. Suddenly the galaxy is invaded by a horde of alien beings, the Zorphs. They enslave all planets in their path. You, as Captain of the Avenger, the great Terran warship, will range interstellar space, seeking out and destroying die forces of Zorph. This is but a bare outline of the ultimate in computer games . . . Amos and Jack were happy as they had ever been, and the North Wind roared to the edge of the ledge and they climbed on his back, one on each shoulder. They held themselves tight by his long, thick hair, and the Wind's great wings filled the cave with such a roaring that the' fires, had they not been maintained by magic, would have been blown out. The sound of the great wing feathers clashing against one another was like steel against bronze. "Then come with me," said the grey man, and the rough sailors with cutlasses rose about him and hoisted the trunk to their grimy shoulders? Onvbpmf, came the thick sound from the trunk? and the grey man flung out his cape, grabbed Amos by the hand, and ran out into the street. "Whose idea was it that Detweiler have dinner and spend the evening with you?" 169. only get flabby, I'd go mad." She bounced out of the chair and came over to lace her fingers together. ripped up meter-square sheets of it. "Is this just a morale session? Thanks, but I don't need it. I'd rather face the situation as it is. Or do you really have something?" Side by side, we pause directly before the door. My teeth, I suddenly realize, are chattering with fear. "Captain," I say as my resolve begins to disintegrate, "why are we doing this?" They worked all day and tried their best to ignore the Burroughs overhead. The messages back and forth were short and to the point Helpless as the mother ship was to render them more aid, they knew they would miss it when it was gone. So the day of departure was a stiff, determinedly nonchalant affair. They all made a big show of going to bed hours before the scheduled breakaway. license yesterday. "I showed him my ID. Instead of going pale, he only looked interested, "I was told by the man in 409. her heart. "Nonsense," said the grey man. "I have more emeralds and diamonds and gold and pearls than I know what to do with," and he opened a closet door. Fonest Jakovich, and our extraterrestrial, Gepbhal Gepbhanna. I. "What's on your mind?" associating them with Maggie of the green sofa, Barry found himself liking the MacKinnons enormously. "Very well," said Amos a second time. "Until then, I shall walk around and explore your ship." "Well try. There he is!" A: Heinlein. his device was sharp and bright When he varied the inputs to the components in a certain way, the bright. I do so and the tech is satisfied with the results. "That ought to do it," he says. "I'll get back to you. Davidson, and Ron Goulart). A Robert Young story is always a pleasure because its high quality is. sixty-track stim by RobCal. Andrew Detweiler and had only seven hunchbacks, none of them fitting Detweiler's description. "He left about half an hour before they found Maurice. I imagine he went over there, saw Maurice dead, and decided to disappear. Can't say as I blame him. The police might've gotten some funny ideas. We didn't mention him." night together in the "penthouse," the former cockpit, the only room with windows. put them on sale at prices ranging from \$49.95 to \$125. By the following day the word was beginning to. But not quite. He still had to get one more endorsement But now it seemed possible, likely, even inevitable. A matter, merely, of making the effort and

reaping the reward..the bright image races toward you, trees hurling themselves into red darkness and vanishing, then the not see them anymore. Even so, be stood at the rail a long time till a sound in the darkness roused him.before smashing into the stone of the fireplace..with the word "Princess" in big, glitter-dust letters across her breasts. Her hat said: "Let Tonight Be Your.hilarious is the coyness, the sidelong glances, smiles, grimaces hinting at things that will never be shown on.It'd make a nice educational toy for a child, though. I took it apart into twenty or thirty pieces, put it back.Window 28 was the window that issued licenses: he had passedl.Prudently he didn't spring them on her all at once, but waited until she'd finished each one before telling her what the next had to be about. She didn't raise any further objections until he came to Number 8, whereupon she insisted she didn't have any feelings about beets whatsoever. He refused to believe her, and to prove his point he cooked up a quick dinner on her hotplate of Spam and canned beets (it was rather late by then, and they were famished). Before she'd had three mouthfuls, the poem started coming to her, and by the time she'd got it into final shape, five years later, it was far and away the best of the lot.."It'll keep. It's cold out there, baby."..Even if a woman were to have one of her somatic nuclei implanted into one of her own egg cells and.inconsistent" Her control was cracking. Tears spilled out of her eyes. Her hand was white on the handle.have, having thoroughly enjoyed his company, but unfortunately they'd both used up their quota for that.swamp.."I'm standing here, trying to be friendly," said Amos. "I was told there was nothing of interest down here. And since it is so dull, I thought I would keep you company."..much to each other. Isn't that so? Even before Debra got religious, we weren't in the habit of talking to.for three days. I had to pay a month's rent in advance anyway, but I put it down as a bribe to keep.The grey man went over and picked up a tangerine-colored alley cat that had been searching for fish.tiredly against the wall. The lander was not the most comfortable place to hold a meeting; all the couches.135."You people want to take a walk around the dome with me? Maybe we could discuss ways of giving."How did you know I talked to him and not the side of beef?".about- those wheels for a long time. I just won't believe they'd evolve naturally."..Hold on, honey," Lang said dryly. "If you conceive now, I'll be forced to order you to abort. We have the chemicals for it, you know."..II.The commission agents who had handled the orders for the first Ozo were found out and had to.master's in oceanography at UCLA in the afternoons. In the year I'd known her I'd seldom seen her stick her nose into the sunlight before eleven..get Alpertron on the phone for me. Stella? Can you score a couple grams? Stella, check out the dudes in.it looked a hundred per cent more livable. I couldn't put my finger on what he had done to it to make it.175.of one kind or another, it would be very unlikely that any one of them would be another Isaac Asimov,.water, both hot and cold, and various other fluids. There were more of the tall variety of derrick, making the place look like a pastel oilfield..Destination: W. S. Halson.He tried to think of a compliment that wouldn't be completely insincere. "Heavy," he allowed at last..cant be held responsible for what they say in their poems. We're all compulsive traitors, you know."..me."I looked unhappily at the couple standing in the outer office with my secretary. What a time for clients to walk in. "I have some people here. Can it possibly wait?".He grinned his beguiling grin and picked up my discard. "Ifi very . . . unusual. Have you lived here long, Mr. Maliory?". "Damn it," says the tech in my ear. "Level's too low. Bring it up in back." I must have been dreaming..exactly short His clothes were nondescript. Everything about him was neutral?except his face. It was."I didn't tell you that. We pulled the dome back and found spikes. It was your inference that they.devious magic."..it about?" he asked..we've been here nine days, spouting out water vapor, carbon dioxide, and quite a bit of oxygen into the."Listen, these Martians?and I can see from your look that you still don't really believe in them, but."But I'd have to become part of ... what Selene is." She pulled away from me, shaking her head. "That's unthinkable. I couldn't bear it. There's no other way but to go on as I am. So promise me, Matthew, promise that if you ever see Selene, you'll tell me. I have to know when she's stealing time."..Dear heart, Brother Hart, Come at my behest, We shall dine on berry wine And you shall have your rest..alley on the 13th?though the details of the murder didn't seem to fit the pattern. But he was sick, bad an.?David Labor."Because she's positive her ex-husband is the kidnaper. She doesn't want to get him in any trouble; she just wants Gwendolyn back.*1.I don't know what we'll have to do, specifically, but I know we'll find the answers."..shifting, and the physical space allowed is so small that critics welcome any way of expressing judgments.stories straight down to the neon-lit marquee of the movie house..reached out to settle thousands of planets scattered across the galaxy. Then, suddenly, the galaxy is."We were provided for," Mary Lang said quietly. "They knew we were coming and they altered their.192.to wander, and she stood up and gazed into the valley below them. It was as barren as anything that.Nothing was trouble which guaranteed me the chance to see her twice a day. When I met Selene on."That's another way vampires are stupid. They never check the victim's blood group. The wrong.He was very clever. He always made it look like an accident or suicide when he could. I didn't interfere..who likes to sniff the air for trends, you may have detected a smell of old attics, as much sf seemed to.* Those of my Gentle Readers who know that under no circumstances wfl I take a plane need not register shock. I traveled to California and back by train. -Yea, they still run..In the morning Brother Hart rose, but his movements were slow. "I wish I could stay," he said to his.The assumption here is that matters not subject to cut-and-dried "hard" proof don't bear any relation to evidence, experience, or reason at all and are, therefore, completely arbitrary. There is considerable indirect evidence one can bring against this view. For one thing, the people who advance it don't stick to it in their own lives; they make decisions based on indirect evidence all the time and strongly resist any imputation that such decisions are arbitrary. For another, if it were possible to do criticism according to hard-and-fast, totally objective rules, the editor could hire anyone to do it and pay a lot less than he has to do now for people with special ability and training (low though that pay necessarily is). It's true that the apparatus by which critics judge books is subjective in the sense of being inside the critic and not outside, unique, and based on the intangibles of training, talent, and experience. But that doesn't per se make it arbitrary. What can make it seem arbitrary is that the whole preliminary process of judgment, if you

trace it through all its stages, is coextensive with the critic's entire education. So critics tend to suppress it in reviews (with time and training most of it becomes automatic, anyway). Besides, much critical thinking consists in gestalt thinking, or the recognition of patterns, which does occur instantaneously in the critic's head, although without memory, experience, and the constant checking of novel objects against templates-in-the-head (which are constantly being revised in the light of new experience), it could not occur at all.* Hence angry readers can make the objection above, or add: In their room, Darlene lay shivering on the bed, eyes closed. Her head moved ceaselessly on the humming and tsk-tsking at thirty-second intervals. She was having a marvelous time. Miss Tremaine was immune to the inevitable despair of the castaway. Ralston in his laboratory was the picture of carefree. I monitor crossflow conversations through plugs inserted in both ears as set-up people check out the. Then it stood erect. It was about the size of a cat. It was pink and moist and hairless and naked. Its very human hands and feet and male genitals were too large for its tiny body. Its belly was swollen, turgid and distended like an obscene tick. Its head was flat. Its jaw protruded like an ape's. It too had a scar, a big, white, puckered scar between its shoulder blades, at the top of its jutting backbone..and biased, is not merely an insider's snobbish conspiracy to make outsiders feel rotten. (Although it is away from him in the middle of a long, unavoidable yawn. His jaw muscles stretched, but he controlled it. two thousand hours, beginning with a Paleocene bee, he has traveled back into the Cretaceous. He stops. In the Hall of the Martian Kings by John Varley. trained Lou to fly this thing? And he almost cracked it up as it was. I ... ah, nuts. It isn't possible.". looming to the west of us. Tomorrow night we play Denver. "It's about as close to home as I'm gonna. they die, or maybe they have some other way of passing the time. But they know they'll return.. There had been a brief lifting of spirits among Song, Ralston, and McKillian at the thought of a possible rescue. The more they thought about it, the less happy they looked. They all seemed to agree with Crawford's assessment.. She picked up the pad. "I wanted to give you your calls.". legs from cramping. My position wasn't too graceful if he happened to look in the closet, but it was too. And that's why I'm on the concert circuit with Jain Snow; as far as I'm concerned, the only real blues singer and stim star.. can't happen over and over, so that three or four or any number of organisms might not develop from the original fertilized egg. As a matter of practical fact, however, a mother's womb can only hold so much, and if there are multiple organisms developing, each is sure to be smaller than a single organism. The more organisms that develop, the smaller each one and, in the end, they will be too small to survive after delivery.. the old woman.

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