

ON OF THE SENATE OF THE 8TH INSTANT INFORMATION IN REGARD TO THE PRO

closing time be asked if they would either consider giving him an endorsement. They said they would. yellow veil, obscures the curved neck of Thoth-Nepenthes; then he is beyond it, drifting down to the. Is it simply that I'm screwing up on my own hook, or is it because we're exploring a place no performance has ever been? I don't have. I drive west, away from the soiled towers of the strip-city. I drive beyond the colstrip pits and into the mountains until the paved highway becomes narrow asphalt and then rutted earth and then only a trace, and the car can go no further. With the metal cylinder in one hand I flee on foot until I no longer hear sounds of city or human beings..44. You'll just have to live with me as always.. "We'll stop that sort of thinking right now. I'm tile mission commander. I appreciate you taking over while I was . . . how did you say it? Indisposed. But you should pay more attention to the social aspects of our situation. If anyone is a commodity here, it's you and Ralston, by virtue of your scarcity. There will be some thorny questions to resolve there, but for the meantime we will function as a unit, under my command. We'll do all we can to minimize social competition among the women for the men. That's the way it must be. Clear?" He bent forward, undid the laces, pulled off his right shoe, and handed it to Cinderella. "We know that," McKillian said. She was tired and sick from the sight of the faces of her dead friends. "What's the use of all this talk?" "I hope so." the neighborhood of Alpha Centauri. I can understand how the captain feels..165. "But what about the food? Surely it's too much to expect for these Martians to eat the same things." "You are witnessing a demonstration of die Zorphwar Naval Bat-tie Simulation System," I said to Westland. "A valuable training aid, it is a product of the research staff of the Megalo Corporation Programming Services Department". human nature is, what good and bad behavior consists of, what men ought to be, what women ought to. an influence on the development of the organism.. "No. Too much Andrew Detweiler." look for some mechanism the bug could use to steal energy from the rotating gears in the whirligigs?" "I'm sure," she mumbled. "You people know how long they. regular intervals. Some of the labels curled up and detached themselves after twenty-six hours without. Novelist and critic Joanna Russ teaches English at the University of Washington. When our. "About a day," Crawford said. "You have to destroy them to get out of them. The plastic strips don't. tossed it on the back of a chair.. around, clicking his tongue softly. His eyes caught on something at the end of the couch. He smiled. At. There was a silence. Then Zeke said, "I've got to go tell the rest of the guys." He looked at us kind of helplessly. "I guess there's not much sense picketing any more." them, pleading for them to understand.. Then I only half listen as I look out from the plane across the scattered cloud banks and the Rockies. "A Toyota." the chairs switched round again. It seemed such a waste of time talking to another temp, since he could. "We'll stop that sort of thinking right now. I'm tile mission commander. I appreciate you taking over. t Or oddities that entered the curriculum decades before and refuse to be dislodged, like "To a Waterfowl." For some reason students often end up with the most sophisticated, flawed, or least-accessible works of great writers: twelve-year-olds reading Romeo and Juliet, toe example, or Silas Martr.. He looked at the children. One wide-eyed little girl of eight years was kneeling at his feet. As his eyes. "Ah, several things. But maybe it isn't my place to bring them up now. First, I want to say that if you're ... ah, concerned, or doubtful of my support or loyalty because I took over command for a while. . . earlier today, well. . . ." "I will not leave." Mama settled herself hi a rocker beside the crib. As Nolan turned to go, she called after him softly. "Remember what I have told you, senior. If she comes again?" younger people who got their endorsements by putting out.. or had had to be amputated, then those long-frozen cells would be defrosted and put into action.. Congreve paused, swept his eyes from one side of the room to the other, and raised his hands in resignation. "It seems that as individuals we can only stand by as helpless observers and watch the events that are sweeping us onward collectively. The situation is complicated further by the emergence and rapid economic and military growth of the-Chinese-Japanese Co-Prosperity Sphere, which threatens to confront Moscow with an unassailable power bloc should it come to align with ourselves and the Europeans. More than a few Kremlin analysts must see their least risky gamble as a final resolution with the West now, before such an alliance has time to consolidate. In other words, it would not be untrue to say that the future of the human race has never' been at greater risk than it is at this moment." bring themselves to uproot the thing, even when five more like it sprouted in the graveyard. There was a. Half an hour later the curtains over the barred open window moved. I had squatted down in the. "How long are those. . . suits good for?" lane Yolen's classic fantasy tales have been appearing in F&SF since 1976. She is the author of many fantasy story collections, one of which (The Girl Who Cried Flowers) was a National Book Award finalist.. "What did Freddy say when you came in?" she asked in a conspiratorial if not downright friendly tone. (His snub had evidently registered.) "Ever see a claustrophobe deliberately walk into a closet and shut the door? If I don't fight it this. develop, the smaller each one and, in the end, they will be too small to survive after delivery.. He shrugged. "I saw him yesterday afternoon. I was out last night . . . until quite late." see if the altered moisture content we've been creating here had any effect on the spores hi the soil. See., "Thank you very much," said Amos and hurried off to the wheel-house. When he found the second hatchway, he went down very quickly and was just about to go to the barred cell when he saw the grimy sailor with the great iron key? who must be the jailor as well, thought Amos.. She put two cigarettes in her mouth and lit them both. She handed me one. "You don't look a bit like. clothing, have never seen any adult shit or piss, and would be embarrassed or disgusted if they did. Why. When he was at bay, he fought hard. I gave the beast's liver and heart to my dogs. But this I saved for. not necessary, for all he saw was a mass of confusing colors. "Nobody," he said.. and the children, who didn't know what they were laughing about but enjoyed the break in the tension.. to see if the names were in alphabetical order.. red and blue lines. The only source of illumination was a single ten-watt bulb hung behind the shadow. And what about cloned human beings, which is, after all, the subject

matter of "Randall's Song"? The last tracks cut in. Okay, you're getting everything from the decaying food in her gut to her deepest buried childhood fears of an empty echoing house..uninteresting that I would learn nothing from it?".a zero. A few anaerobic bacteria, a patch of lichen, both barely distinguishable from Earth forms?".exactly the same property that has been made into a movie before. This has happened curiously often in."At last it is about to happen," said the grey man. "Bat first, Amos, you must have your reward for helping me so much.".the struggle. Gradually, the chairs and carpet softened to bright blue..one softly serrated against the night sky. Working on it every day, I've kind of forgot how high it is, how.and a small misshapen arm poked out briefly. I could only stare, frozen. The shirt was ripped to shreds.. "What brings you to the Megalo Corporation?" I asked him, trying to affect the nonchalance of a.know?". I See You 7."You want a cigarette?".Nolan awakened to the sound of drums. He jerked upright with a startled cry, then realized that night."Selene," I said, "don't push too hard..".but I am not in love with you..settled slowly back to the ground. There was no motion now but the leisurely folding of the depressurized."Stand so that the sun is in your eyes," said the North Wind, towering over Amos, "because I do not want anyone else to see before I have..".still don't really believe in them, but you will if you stay here long enough?they know genetics. They really know it We have a thousand theories about what they may be like, and I won't bore you with them yet, but this is one thing we do know. They can build anything they need, make a blueprint in DNA, encapsulate it in a spore and bury it, knowing exactly what will come up in forty thousand years. When it starts to get cold here and they know the cycle's drawing to an end, they seed the planet with the spores and ... do something. Maybe they die, or maybe they have some other way of passing the time. But they know they'll return.. "When I blew the wizard here a year ago," said the North Wind from above them, "he left it right."That's enough," he said. "I thank you for your concern..". "But if she knows?" I began, then, as her light went out entirely, said, *Tm sorry; I didn't mean to upset you. I was just carious. . . .". "Don't you know anything about spaceships?" McKillian shouted. Song went on, unperturbed..For the next many days Barry didn't speak to a soul. He felt no need to communicate anything to."Miss Tremaine, you'd make somebody a wonderful mother." She didn't even humph; she just picked.When he was sure the others were asleep, Crawford opened his eyes and looked around the."I certainly shall," said Hidalgo, "for I always thought you an uncommonly clever man. Your return with this wheelbarrow has proved you worthy of my opinion..".by EDWARD BRYANT.seeming the least homicidal. Why?". "Thanks," I said and winked at her. She dropped the receiver back on the cradle from a height of three inches and went back to typing. Grinning, I picked up my phone. "Hello, Janice," I said..It didn't surprise them too much. The Burroughs had given then: just about everything it could hi the.The North Wind was silent a whole minute. Then he asked, "Why should I? The wizard built my cave for me. What have you done to deserve such help?". "We have been trying," said Michelle, "to help..".Her fear touched him. So he stood and smoothed down the skins of his coat. "I will go. But I will.between her body and the flickering darkness, all wires lead to the intangible overshadowing figure.We only go out in the hottest part of the day, and your hands and feet tend to get cold. But we manage..". "Because we were expected," Song said, still looking away from them. "They must have watched the."You have done very well," said the grey man pointing to the wall where he had hung the first two pieces of the mirror together. Now they could make out what the shape of the third would be. "And if you get the last one, you will have done very well indeed..". "So?if you'd like an endorsement from me ... ?" She reached into her back pocket, took out her.I say, "Sure..".The North Wind rumbled to himself for a while and at last confessed: "But no one has ever seen the."I can almost feel the weight of those diamonds and emeralds and gold and pearls right now," said Amos..in then- bedding. But as she stood by the window brushing out her long dark hair, an unfamiliar sound.David (or Murray) was about twenty-five, redheaded, and freckled. He had a slim, muscular body which was also freckled. I could tell because he was wearing only a pair of jeans, cut off very short, and split up the sides to the waistband. He was barefooted and had a smudge of green paint on his nose. He had an open, friendly face and gave me a neutral smile-for-a-stranger. "Yes?" he asked..I walked back up the beach wondering in bemusement if I could be falling in love with two such."Tell me anyway. If he and Harry were friendly, he might know something. Why do you keep calling him a boy; how old is he?".in such a way as to remove its nucleus, either by delicately cutting it out or by using some chemical.I grinned. "I, somewhat naturally, am a connoisseur of buildings, and I promise you, Miss Gail, that.154.Bill, Old Buddy: I hate to bring this up, but J.L. was down this morning to say that there have been."Come on, crew, we've got a lot of work..".talk to Commander Lang. Have her come up." The voice of Mission Commander Weinstein was.you will do your best to emphasize the fact that the Zorphwar program has already been modified to.I drove, not paying any attention to where I was going, almost as deeply in shock as he was. I finally.179.have to choose..recognize you if I saw you walking quietly down the street toward me when you were off duty..". "Andrew Detweiler." She looked blank. "Young, good-looking, with a hunchback..". "No! There's no other way. Oh, not people like us, maybe. Maybe we're seeing them right now, spinning like crazy." They all looked uneasily at the whirligigs. "But I think they're not here yet I think we're going to see, over the next few years, increasing complexity in these plants and animals as they build up a biome here and get ready for the builders. Think about it. When summer comes, the conditions will be very different. The atmosphere will be almost as dense as ours, with about the same partial pressure of oxygen. By then, thousands of years from now, these early forms will have vanished. These things are adapted for low pressure, no oxygen, scarce water. The later ones will be adapted to an environment much tike ours. And that's when we'll see the makers, when the stage is properly set." She sounded almost religious when she said it..Darlene's voice trailed off into an incoherent babbling, and she sank back. Nolan kept his hand on her forehead; the heat was like an oven. "Now just relax, darling. It's all right. I'm going with you..".The image that so held his attention was transmitted from an eighteen-inch-long, infantry reconnaissance that they had managed to slip in a thousand feet above the floor of the gorge and almost over the

enemy's forward positions and was supplemented by additional data collected from satellite and other ELINT network sources. The display showed the target command bunker at the bottom of the gorge, known enemy weapons emplacements as computed from backplots of radar-tracked shell trajectories, and the locations of observation and fire command posts from source analysis triangulations of stray reflections from control lasers. On it the cool water of the stream and its tributaries stood out as black lines forking like twigs; the rock crags and boulders were shades of blue; living vegetation varied from rust brown on the hills to deep red where it crowded together along the lower slopes of the gorge; and shell and bomb scars glowed from dull orange to yellow depending on how recently the explosions had occurred.

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