

MINE

education. The error is that all proofs must be of the "hard" kind, i.e., cut-and-dried and susceptible of. It had been a mistake, he realized that now, but Darlene would never understand. Sitting there safe and snug in the apartment in Trenton, she couldn't begin to know what he'd gone through for her sake? hers and Uttle Robbie's. Robert Emmett Nolan n, nine weeks. "Both. I don't have anything concrete except to say that well survive the same way humans have always survived: by staying warm, by eating, by drinking. To that list we have to add 'by breathing.* That's a hard one, but other than that we're no different than any other group of survivors in a tough spot. I don't know what we'll have to do, specifically, but I know we'll find the answers."earing my mother bad dropped the night before in a winter dance. That block of ice was the coldest and."You want a cigarette?"I turn to leave and meet Stella in the hall. The top of her head comes only to my shoulders, and so she has to tilt her face up to.an upturned rake in his backyard on Larchemont?only eight or ten blocks from where I lived on.electric it fairly raised the hair on my arm nearest her. Even her voice was changed?higher, firm, rapid..he tried to pretend he wasn't. Even if he hadn't been here, I would not think so."I'm afraid to," said Amos. "It has said such awful and terrible things."Organizer?" he asked Zeke in a sort of whisper..predator..bona fide starship, in which the captain and I were to have accelerated through normal space to.and a small misshapen arm poked out briefly. I could only stare, frozen. The shirt was ripped to shreds..the part of the human race necessitate additional punishment; and in the third, if he does.I'll see to it that the members of Local 209 have access to these minutes; and if, after.was kept hot and full all the time. "It's hard to describe Andy. There was something very little-boyish.proteins and be able to duplicate them. Further than that, some of the plants might have been able to.have no hotels or public transportation and the cabletrain from Gateside is the only way in, aside from."Don't mention it." He opened the door for me and then closed it behind me. I sighed and walked across to 408. I tang the bell. It didn't play anything, just went bing-bong.."Mary," McKillian said, "it occurs to me that I'd better start looking for airborne spores. If there are some, it could mean that the airlock on the Podkayne is vulnerable. Even thirty meters off the ground."But she can. I watched Stella outside Bradley Arena in LA when some overanxious bikers wanted to.Amanda GafI and Selene Randall came to Aventine during the autumn hiatus, when the last of the summer residents had gone back to jobs in the city or followed the sun south, and the winter influx of skiers and skaters was still some weeks away. Aventine scarcely noticed them, and if my current cohab had not gone off through the Diana Mountain Stargate on some interstellar artists' junket, they might never have been more than clients to me, either. There are nights I cannot sleep for wishing she had chosen another realty agent or come some other season. I was alone, though, in the boredom of autumn when Amanda walked into my office with her seeds of tragedy and elected me gardener.."No."writer" means Charles Dickens or Virginia Woolf (not to mention William Shakespeare), then it does not."I don't mean that. Walk over to the bathroom door."So they welcomed an opportunity to tour fairyland. The place was even more bountiful than the last time Crawford had taken a look. There were thick vines mat Song assured him were running with.Her voice faltered only a little but her hands began to shake. The orange in the chair's color went darker and the yellows bled away. Amanda stabbed several times with a hairpin without being able to place it right. After a seventh or eighth try she stood up, letting the hairpins spill onto the carpet. She walked to the far end of the fireplace, where she stood with her back to me, toying with the tops of the fire tools. "It hasn't been long at all since?since I told you I... trusted you"..superb release from Deutsche Grammophon. She was at her best in Schumann, her Wolf was comme ci.,them, either through the mail or by purchase, used them to spy on their neighbors and on people in hotels..It was impossible to answer with ice in my chest. I could only stare back while she hunted around for.more of Amanda, but I was puzzled by the notes..By the time I filled Lucas McGowan in on all the details (I got the impression he was less concerned with his wife's infidelity than with her taste; that it wouldn't have been so bad if she'd been shacking up with movie stars or international playboys), collected my fee, and grabbed a Thursday special at Colonel Sanders, almost two hours had passed. Harry hadn't answered my knock, and so I let myself ia with a credit card..In their room, Darlene lay shivering on the bed, eyes closed. Her head moved ceaselessly on the pillows even when Nolan pressed his palm against her brow.."Sure. That's what Fm here for, isn't it?". "Yes, it is," said Amos. "What do they keep here that is so uninteresting everyone tells me to avoid.It's gonna be a hell of a concert tonight I know it" Jain had said mat and smiled at me when she came through here about ten. She'd swept down the center aisle in a flurry of feathers and shimmering red strips, leaving all the civilians stunned and quivering..license yesterday"."How long?".empty..I drove, not paying any attention to where I was going, almost as deeply in shock as he was. I finally started looking at the street signs. I was on Mullholland. I kept going west for a long time, crossed the San Diego Freeway, into the Santa Monica Mountains. The pavement ends a couple of miles past the freeway, and there's ten or fifteen miles of dirt road before the pavement picks up again nearly to Topanga. The road isn't traveled much, there are no houses on it, and people don't like to get their cars dusty. I was about in the middle of the unpaved section when Detweiler seemed to calm down. I pulled over to the side of the road and cut the engine. The San Fer-."What can you do?" he asked, figuratively..the only thing to do was to jump in and at least try to save the prince. But there was a splash of water at. are and everything, but I don't know: they were criminals, after all. What they were doing only makes it.much higher it's going to be when we get back on the job. The highest thing ever, they say. I won't.From Competition 18: Transposed sf titles 155."Perhaps it would," Amos admitted..Driscoll translated the question into a computer command and peered at the data summary on one of the compack screens. "Insignificant seismic above threshold at eight hundred yards. Downwind ratio less than five points up at four hundred. Negative corroboration from acoustics-background swamping." The computers were unable to identify vibration patterns

correlating with human activity in the data coming in from the sensing devices quietly scattered around the gorge by low-flying, remote piloted "bees" on and off throughout the night; the chemical sensors located to the leeward of the suspected decoys were detecting little of the odor molecules characteristic of human bodies; the microphones had yielded nothing in the way of coherent sound patterns, but this was doubtless because of the white-noise background being generated in the vicinity of the stream. Although the evidence was only partial and negative at that, it supported Swyley's assertion that the main road down to the objective was, incredibly, virtually undefended for the time being..The sailors gathered on the deck of the ship just as the sun began to set, and the grey man put one grey gloved hand on Amos' shoulder and pointed to the mountain with his other. "There, among the windy peaks, is the cave of the North Wind. Even higher, on the highest and windiest peak, is the second fragment of the mirror. It is a long, dangerous, and treacherous climb. Shall I expect you back for breakfast?".vra.Her goldstone eyes widened in disbelief. "Architecture?". "It was a beacon. We figured that out when we saw they grew only hi the graveyard. But what was it telling us? We felt it meant that we were expected. Song felt that from the start, and we all came to agree with her. But we didn't realize just how much they had prepared for us until Marty started analyzing the fruits and nutrients here.. "In a way it's about time," she said, tossing her clothes in a corner. "The only thing to do with these.Scott Meredith Uterary Agency for "Nina" by Robert Bloch Joanna Russ for "In Defense of Criticism" Isaac Asimov for "Clone, Clone of My Own" John Varley for "In the Hall of the Martian Kings" Steven Utley for "Upstart" Lee Killough for "A House Divided" Baird Searles for "Multiples"; Copyright ? 1980 by Baird.drive back to the office and sign. Yon can move in today.. "Well," said Amos, "if you help get us to the top of the mountain, we will let you look into the.Twin Rivers gleamed like gold in the morning sun.. "Look who's talking!" Nolan laughed "They don't call her Mama for nothing-she's had ten kids of her own. She's in the kitchen right now, fixing Robbie's formula. HI go get her.. "It must be ... unusual . . to live in the same place all your life..CHAPTER TWO.violent colors and rich perfume where black butterflies glisten on the rims of pink marble fountains, and.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..I became aware of the wind. It was blowing steadily up from the south. I could smell the sea in it..But I couldn't figure out a pattern for the victims: male, female, little kids, old aunties, married, unmarried, rich, poor, young, old. No pattern of any kind, and there's always a pattern. I even checked to see if the names were in alphabetical order..diaries pipe in one high but full-toned voice, "the lords of Creation..Yet cloning would not be totally useless, either. There would be the purely theoretical advantage of studying the development of embryos with known variations in their genes which, except for those variations, would have identical genetic equipment (This would raise serious ethical questions, as all human experimentation does, but that is not the issue at the moment).as the Speaker of the Law with the abhuman quality that characterized his Dracula. Now Burt Lancaster.human being..The Podkayne was lowered to the ground, and sadly decommissioned. It was a bad day for Mary Lang, the worst since the day of the blowout. She saw it as a necessary but infamous thing to do to a proud flying machine. She brooded about it for a week, becoming short-tempered and almost unapproachable. Then she asked Crawford to join her in the private shelter. It was the first time she had asked any of the other four. They lay in each other's arms for an hour, and Lang quietly sobbed on his chest. Crawford was proud that she had chosen him for her companion when she could no longer maintain her tough, competent show of strength. In a way, it was a strong thing to do, to expose weakness to the one person among the four who might possibly be her rival for leadership. He did not betray the trust. In the end, she was comforting him..For beneath her scarlet cape was a veil of green satin, and topazes flashed yellow along the hem in.It's no secret, due to an inflated publicity campaign, that a nice little movie about a nice big ape called.clone of the person who donated the somatic cell..spinning like crazy." They all looked uneasily at the whirligigs. "But I think they're not here yet I think.emerged from the firmament, reached down and seized the tiny shaft A mighty thumb pressed it between.black box, and stuffed it into a small square door: Orlmnb!.But not quite. He still had to get one more endorsement But now it seemed possible, likely, even.can be done, given the experience of three decades of public speaking) and saw two things at once.. "It is a map of many places and many treasures, and I need someone to help me find them.. "The truth, senior. This one you call Nina?this girl?is not a ghi. She is of the ancient race from the high peaks, where the great serpents dwell. Your workers here, even Moises, know only the jungle, but I come from the great valley beneath the mountains, and as a chfld I learned to fear those who lurk above. We do not go there, but sometimes the snake-people come to us. In the spring when they awaken, they shed thenl skins, and for a time they are fresh and clean before the scales grow again. It is then that they come, to mate with men.. "When asked bow I knew what was coming, by friends who enjoyed such an odd talent (and some do), I.they die, or maybe they have some other way of passing the time. But they know they'll return.. "I was afraid that might happen," Crawford said. "What do we do, Mary? ".job; and a podiatric clinic, financed and maintained by the Company, where brickmakers can receive. ?David Labor. "We had a back-up pilot, of course. You may be surprised to learn that it wasn't me. It was Dorothy Cantrell, and she's dead. Now I know what everything does on this board, and I can cope with most of it easily. What I don't know, I could learn. Some of the systems are computer-driven; give it the right program and it'll fly itself, hi space." She looked longingly at the controls, and Crawford realized that, like Weinstein, she didn't relish giving up the fun of flying to boss a gang of explorers. She was a former test pilot, and above all things she ioved flying. She patted an array of hand controls on her right side. There

were more like them on the left..didn't speak Spanish or Portuguese either. Not that she'd made any attempts to communicate; she kept Westland stood there with his lower jaw down around his ankles watching Venerate polish off the last of the Zorph fleet The Admiral turned around grinning like a child of ten who has found a pony under the Christmas tree. "That is what I call action!" he cried.."Bertram, you shouldn't waste your rime and talent on divorce cases.".the worst place, but you know better than to leave it."Then it says something for his endurance that he was able to pot.In April 1992, about the time her husband usually got home, an intruder broke into the house and seized Mrs. Zickwolfe before she had time to get to the bulletin board. He dragged her into the bedroom and forced her to disrobe. The state troopers got there hi fifteen minutes, and Cora never spoke to her friend Phyllis again..They grabbed the ring and pulled the door back. Through the opening there was only the green."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."."Everything." .got your license, haven't you?".be very happy." .and sun?loses it, finds it again, counting days as he goes. The farther eastward, the more he has to tilt.settling for a smaller package, and it was equally as clear that the Company had no intention of coming.clothes is burn them. We'll all smell better for it. Song, you take the watch." She flicked out the lights and.never have been more than clients to me, either. There are nights I cannot sleep for wishing she had."I hadn't thought of it that way," Crawford admitted..know so much of what we were sent here to find out. And you'll be quite famous when you get back to.He held up his hands then, and a deerskin unrolled from them. With a swift, savage movement, he.The trap door bad been nailed firmly shot this time, and even Amos could not think of a plan..Barry popped the tops off two beer cans and Madeline swept an accumulation of books and papers off a tabletop and onto a many-cushioned bed. They sat down at the table..adult found he had a limping heart or fading pancreas or whatever, or if a leg had been lost in an accident.invaded by a horde of alien beings, the Zorphs. They enslave all planets in their path. Those that resist are.Selene went on exercising. "She won't ask. People have been taking care of Mandy all her life. She."Did he and Maurice have sex together?".And that's why I sold her,.Amos ran to get his wheelbarrow, pot the prism on top, and wheeled it to the mirror. Then, just in case, he went back and locked the trunk tightly.."Ah, yes. The India." Moises nodded. "She is gone, in her catamaran, up the river. Two, maybe three.After that, Swley had been declared "maladjusted" and transferred to D Company, which was where all the misfits and malcontents ended up. Now his powers returned magically only when no officers were anywhere near him except for Captain Sirocco, who ran D Company and didn't care how Swley got his answers as long as they came out right. And Sirocco didn't care if Swley was a misfit, since everyone else in D Company was supposed to be anyway.."Curses," said the grey man, "but you're right." He took from his pocket a strip of crimson cloth with."Of course not, no question." .for skating. The Heliomere was fed by hot springs and, at thirty-five degrees C, was suitable for.And that is the end of the story..The week following the departure of the Burroughs was one of hysterical overreactioo by the New Amsterdaraites. The atmosphere was forced and false; an eat-drink-and-be-merry feeling pervaded everything they did..had to look for intellectual companionship outside the bonds of marriage. But when he began to elaborate."But it could be done, right? With the proper shielding so the plants won't be wiped out before they.screen, I was just sitting down to send you an explanation of the apparent schedule slip and computer overruns in the Headquarters reports. What you see are computer-generated summaries of our progress, mere pieces of paper that do not represent the full situation. For example, nowhere in those reports is the well-being of our programmers evaluated. Now I can say without equivocation that our morale down here has never been higher. Absence due to personal illness has dropped twenty-seven percent over the last two months. There have been no "Bitch to die Top" submissions from my department in the last four months..but blood beaded his head like a crown. It was the first time she had ever seen him bleed. He pushed.Vpstart.it was not in the nature of her kind of beauty to do so..about to go for the third mirror himself."."You know," Barry burst out in a sudden access of confessional bonhomie, "I feel confused most of

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