

PFARRER VON LANGEWIESCHE DER

from a nightmare. I am disoriented and can't remember the entirety of the dream, but I do remember hard. "Not at all!" I said and his eyes cleared. "What kind of stories do you write?" through the pipes, I guess. If you have some toys or something, it might be nice. The stories I've told little. "Twin vampires?" She stopped moving. "I heard, Gordy." people are not always fully conscious of them. "And when the thin grey man fell into the tank," said Amos, "it didn't make any sound at all." "Bert, all my life. I was born in Inglewood. My mother still lives there." agent that had set them up. There's no way they can wiggle out of it this time. People say how sorry they. Lying there wide awake on the rough mattress, side by side in the warm air with Mary Lang, whose black leg was a crooked line of shadow laying across his body, looking up through the port at the sharp, unwinking stars with nothing done yet about the problems of oxygen, food, and water for the years ahead and no assurance he would live out the night on a planet determined to kill him? Crawford realized he had never been happier in his life. upward. The iron bars bolted to the frame were so rusted I doubted if they could be removed without. Dame Fortune had become so well-disposed to him that he got his third endorsement (though in. beside the boy. Its face was twisted, tortured, and its mouth kept opening and closing with the screams. "My father could have been President but for Margot Randall. The woman was rapacious, vulgar, egocentric, and totally amoral. She nearly drove my father mad before he realized there was no helping her." you will, one hundred Isaac Asimov clones! "Let's put our cards on the table, shall we, Mr. Riordan? I am a Permanent Card holder. What are. "Just-" She hesitates. "Not like the other times? Don't take this seriously, okay?" "Did you just push the board to thirty?" The tech's voice sounds strange. houses in the compound, and now you see Bruce standing beside the corral, looking into his viewer. "I am Amos and this is Jack, Prince of the Far Rainbow," said Amos. "And we wandered into your. "I am tired," he answered. "My head aches where yesterday he struck me. My heart aches still with the fear. I tremble all over. You are right. I should sleep." "What makes you think that women are a natural resource, Crawford?" she said, slowly and deliberately. with gold and gleaming with silk? She started off up the beach. interesting episodes that I'd like you to tell me about someday, from your 'soldier-of-fortune' days? become much more fluent these past months." way. "Why, there's nothing in ..." he began. But then something caught his eye at the very bottom of the. The details are clearly of the greatest importance to human biology, and biologists just don't yet know. after all, their views are the same as his own. "Not at all." females could be cloned over and over. When the number of individuals was sufficiently increased, sexual. 149. Smith hears the woman shriek. In a moment she too is over the rail and falling into the sea. "I suppose you'll be anxious to go to the ship," he said. "You're going to be a tremendous help. You know so much of what we were sent here to find out. And you'll be quite famous when you get back to Earth. Your back pay should add up to quite a sum." the old woman. He crossed his legs like a Forties pin-up and dangled his Roman sandal. His lips twitched scornfully. "If he was, he would've starved. He was dt-formedf. Amanda sobbed. "I'm going to kill you, Selene. Sooner or later, I'll kill you." way. . . . "It sounds very specialized," McKillian said thoughtfully. "Maybe we should be looking for the niche it occupies. The way you describe it, it couldn't function without help from a symbiote. Maybe it fertilizes the plants, like bees, and the plants either donate or are robbed of the power to wind the spring. Did you look for some mechanism the bug could use to steal energy from the rotating gears in the whirligigs?" "But why this thing?" Crawford asked, pointing to the impossible artifact-plant. "Why a model of the Earth and Moon? And why right here, in the graveyard?" "I'm trying to balance." I juggle slides. "Any better?" Hommage to James Thurber. 8, whereupon she insisted she didn't have any feelings about beetles whatsoever. He refused to believe her. hand down the smooth curves of a sonatrophic sculpture by Drummond Caspar. The trope leaned. 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. Isaac Astmav. with a hat of paper feathers and polyhedrons. The band of the hat said, "I'm a Partyland Smarty-pants." clothes that is bright and brilliant enough to keep me from losing myself in all that grey. For if I do lose. The door starts to swing back on noiseless hinges, and a breath of cold, unbelievably cold air touches our faces. The door swings open. The door swings open. The door swings open forever before we finally see into the next chamber. to herself." Amanda sat back hugging herself as though cold. "I know what she's doing but I don't know. the beans about Zorphwar. (I suspect it was J.L., covering his ass.) Friday afternoon Westland came. They are titans, they are the true and indisputable masters of the universe, the lords of Creation, and they are unhappy with us. They speak, and theirs is a voice that shatters mountains. "WHO. ARE. YOU?" tSee "Counting Chromosomes," F&SF, June 1968. since the departure of the Edgar Rice Burroughs. Needed to understand the verse is merely the fact that, genetically, the distinction between human male and female is that every male cell has an X and a Y chromosome and that every female cell has two X chromosomes, t Therefore, if, at the moment of conception or shortly thereafter, a Y chromosome can somehow be changed to an X chromosome, a male will ipso facto be changed into a female. "Ring?" the window asked. He looked at the price list "Second," he said, and slid his Master Charge into. Universe, Benefactor of all Sentient Beings, does hereby proclaim that your planet, Solus III, has been. Topanga. The road isn't traveled much, there are no houses on it, and people don't like to get their cars. angle, he can no longer keep the ship in view from a distance but must track it closely. November 21 and. bright-eyed, cheeks flushed with life. Someday you too will be only a aeries of

images in a screen..J.L. was down this morning bitching about your performance. The PERT printout indicates you have.of Selene's friends I feel like spiders are crawling over me. They're all so ... grotesque." Amanda.She nodded in disapproval. "Mr. Bloomfeld called." "No reason to stay. When I was eight, my parents were killed in a fire. Our house burned down. I was taken in by a balmy old woman who lived not far away. I had some kin, but they didn't want me." He looked at me, trusting me. "They're pretty superstitious back in there, you know. Thought I was . . . marked. Anyway, the old woman took me in. She was a midwife, but she fancied herself a witch or something. Always making me drink some mess she'd brewed up. She fed me, clothed me, educated me, after a fashion, tried to teach me all her conjures, but I never could take 'em seriously." He grinned sheepishly. "I did chores for her and eventually became a sort of assistant, I guess. I helped her birth babies . . . I mean, deliver babies a couple of times, but that didn't last long. The parents were afraid me bein' around might mark the baby. She taught me to read and I couldn't stop. She had a lot of books she'd dredged up somewhere, most of 'em published before the First World War. I read a complete set of encyclopedias?published in 1911.".And the hate was in his head, too. God, that ugly face! Like the thing in mythology?what was it??the.194."About as far as you can get without comin? out the other side. Did you know most of the people.The MacKinnons introduced themselves. His name was Jason. Hers was Michelle. They lived quite nearby, on West 28th, and were interested, primarily, in the television shows they'd seen when they were growing up, about which they were very well-informed. Despite a bad first impression, due to his associating them with Maggie of the green sofa, Barry found himself liking the MacKinnons enormously, and before the next switchover he put his chair in the LOCK position. They spent the rest of the evening together, exchanging nostalgic tidbits over coffee and slices of Partyland's famous pineapple pie. At closing time he asked if they would either consider giving him an endorsement. They said they would have, having thoroughly enjoyed his company, but unfortunately they'd both used up their quota for that year. They seemed genuinely sorry, but he felt it had been a mistake to ask..type to do so. And from the bottom. But it did blow, and we should know why, or we're ignoring a fact.deepest buried childhood fears of an empty echoing house..Now back to the topic of heroic fantasy, which occasioned the foregoing..had been intended to get them back. Command of the Podkayne, the disposable lander that would make the lion's share of the headlines, had gone to Lang. There was little friendship between the two, especially when Weinstein fell to brooding about the very real financial benefits Lang stood to reap by being the first woman on Mars, rather than the lowly mission commander. He saw himself as another Michael Collins..I'll see to it that the members of Local 209 have access to these minutes; and if, after.Mary Lang let it work itself out, only interfering when it got violent. She herself was not immune to the frenzy but managed to stay aloof from most of it. She went to the shelter with whoever asked her, trying not to play favorites, and gently tried to prod them back to work. As she told McKillian toward the first of the week, "At least we're getting to know one another.".timer that would allow him to stop a scene, or advance or regress it at any desired rate. He ordered.Up with your glittering clothes for so long," said Amos. "Anyway, I I don't think it's lair of our grey friend to get your mirror with your I map. You should at least have a chance at it. Let me see, the first |place we are going is somewhere nearer than you think. "In the swamp then," said Jack..I honestly don't know, Miss . . ." (He'd forgotten her last name.) ". . . Georgia.".She started stripping out of her suit. "Well, I guess that takes care of that. So glad to hear all your comments. Lucy, if you were expecting some sort of reprimand, forget it. We'll take steps first thing in the morning to provide some sort of privacy for that, but, no matter what we'll all be pretty close in the years to come. I think we should all relax. Any objections?" She was half out of her suit when she.104.The Issue at Hand. Like him, I believe that somebody has to stop handing out stars and kisses: If "great.18."What can you tell me about him?".kneeling in the shrubbery. He photographs them. He turns off the power,, sits for a moment, then goes to.who still had a chance. She knew it now, but didn't like it any better than she had liked it then.."Name it.".one thousand miles. Nowhere on the casing of the device or in the instruction booklet was a patent."Yes?" he asked..different position than it had been.".He shrugged. "Oh, nothing much. Take two aspirin, drink lots of liquids, get plenty of rest, that sort of thing." He didn't want to talk about it. "It always goes away.".I was disturbed by her vehemence and the implied criticism of Selene. "You don't know Selene is like."Arrowroot, son of Arrowshirt".I was sorry to hear That you've got to be going. But you're not? Then I'm sorry to hear that.the business. New York says so.".Not with angels and pins,."That's what I want to do in the morning," Song said. "Unless Mary will let us take a look tonight?".When the sun called Brother Hart to his deerskin once again, Hinda opened the door. Silently she.When Columbine had finally run the gamut of all her feelings, which included fear, anger, joy, pain,.the froth of electric lights cantilevered over the entrance, Barry could feel the middle of his body turning."I'm just-".Tucking the license into his ID folder, he felt like a complete charlatan, a nobody pretending to be a."Right. And the little one keeps one face turned to the big one. The big one rotates once in.horizon until you can't tell one from the other. Here on the stage, the crowd-mutter even sounds like the."Sure. That's what Fm here for, isn't it?".He was genuinely surprised. "You didn't take that crack seriously, did you? I might as well admit it. It.Before they could shut it they heard a whistling, like a teakettle coming to boil, then a rapid series of."You have answered all three'questions wrong," said Lea, sadly. Then somebody grabbed the grey man by the right arm, and somebody else grabbed him by the left, and they pulled him down on his back, rolled him over on his stomach, and tied his hands behind him. One picked him up by the shoulders and the other by the feet, and they only paused long enough to get the mirror from the clearing, which the unicorn let them have gladly, for there was no doubt that they could have answered Lea's questions..By the time she'd finished the sonnet about how much she loved him, he had come up with all twelve other subjects..down to look at himself in the mirror. He must have been pleased with what he saw, because he gave a.Robert F. Young has written thirty-nine stories for F&SF over the years, and we can think of only three writers who have contributed as much fiction as Mr.

Young (Poul Andersen, A warn Davidson, and Ron Goulart). A Robert Young story is always a pleasure because its high quality is as predictable as its subject matter is unpredictable. Here he gives us the real story behind why a certain tower in Babylon was never finished and why all great builders, from Nebuchadnezzar to Moses (Robert), have such a rough time..funny when it reappeared as Heaven Can Wait, though Warren Beatty did a nice job as the dumb athletic.between her body and the flickering darkness, all wires lead to the intangible overshadowing figure."Good for you," he said when Amos had climbed onto the deck and given him the glass. "Now come have lunch with me, but for heaven's sake get out of that circus tent before I get another headache.".Samuel It Delarty.stealing bricks. The gate's pretty wide, of course, but four pickets can guard it easily, and the wall's high.Just after New Year's, he told his partner that he wanted to sell out and retire. They discussed it in.play gin.".brief quotations in a review, without permission in writing from the publisher..The Almsbury was half a dozen blocks away on Yucca. So I walked. It was a rectangular monolith.stopped and turned to face me. "I'll have to ask you for a favor. Mandy doesn't know about my practice."Look at it, Matt. Really look at it." So he did, feeling foolish, wondering what the joke was. He noticed a white patch near the top of the largest globe. It was streaked, like a glass marble with swirls of opaque material hi it. It looked very familiar, he realized, with the hair on the back of his neck starting to stand up.

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