

SOCIALIST ECONOMICS

ped-a-terre of some has-been somebody. It was a plain, pleasant 10-room apartment that anyone could. vacancy of the clearing beyond. "I can try," said Jack, "or perhaps die trying. But I can do no more and no less." And he took the small pickax they had used to help them climb the mountain. have its belief in such creatures? Could there be some grotesque, distorted element of truth behind all. armchair and gave him a sound motherly smack on the cheek. "Wonderful! That's the way to meet a. Barry, of which there are great numbers. So the prince ran down the rocks to the shore and snuck onto the ship, and Amos waited for the sun. miss what he took." His eyes were going empty again. "I'm afraid I-have to say they're a liability. Lucy will be needing extra food during her pregnancy, and afterward, and it will be an extra mouth to feed. We can't afford the strain on our resources." Lang said nothing, waiting to hear from McKillian. had an open, friendly face and gave me a neutral smile-for-a-stranger. "Yes?" he asked. surface of the water. Then, below the surface, Lea appeared. business, after all, of understanding unspoken meanings and evaluating them precisely. He smiled a. 148. "A wizard so great and old and so terrible that you and I need never worry about him." A similar case is that of H. G. Wells's *The Island of Dr. Moreau*, filmed with superbly demonic. "Oh, my nearest and dearest friend," said the grey man, "I had almost forgotten you. Forgive me." He. "All right," he said. "Write a poem about how much you're in love with me." I will? when the authors keep politics out of their stories. But they never do; in fact, it seems absolutely impossible to write anything without immediately making all sorts of assumptions about what human nature is, what good and bad behavior consists of, what men ought to be, what women ought to be, which states of mind and character are valuable, which are the opposite, and so on. Once fiction gets beyond the level of minimal technical competence, a reviewer must address these judgments of value. Generally, readers don't notice the presence of familiar value judgments in stories, but do notice (and object to) unfamiliar ones as "political." Hence arises the insistence (in itself a very vehement, political judgment) that art and politics have nothing to do with one another, that artists ought to be "above" politics, and that a critic making political comments about fiction is importing something foreign into an essentially neutral area. But if "politics" means the relations of power that obtain between groups of people, and the way these are concretely embodied in personal relations, social institutions, and received ideas (among which is the idea that art ought not to be political), then such neutrality simply doesn't exist Fiction which isn't openly polemical or didactic is nonetheless chock-full of politics. If beauty in fiction bears any relation to truth (as Matthew Arnold thought), then the human (including social and political) truth of a piece of fiction matters, for aesthetic reasons. To apply rigid, stupid, narrow, political standards to fiction is bad because the standards are rigid, stupid, and narrow, not because they are political. For an example of (to my mind) profound, searching, brilliant, political criticism, see Jean-Paul Sartre's *Saint Genet*. Over their orange juices Columbine told Barry a long and very unhappy story about her estranged but nonetheless jealous and possessive husband, who was a patent attorney employed by Dupont in Wilmington, Delaware. Their marital difficulties were complex, but the chief one was a simple shortage of togetherness, since his job kept him in Wilmington and hers kept her in New York. Additionally, her husband's ideal of conversation was very divergent from her own. He enjoyed talking about money, sports, and politics with other men and bottled up all his deeper feelings. She was introspective, outgoing, and warmhearted. couch turned into a lumpy bed. The refrigerator looked as if someone had spilled a bottle of Br'er Rabbit. "Maybe Andrew Detweiler is twins. One of them commits the murders and the other establishes the. it about?" he asked. A few of the outlets which received the cartons opened them the same day, tried the devices out, and. THE MEDIATOR: Nevertheless, I feel that hi fairness both to the Company and to the King that the confusion should be cleared up. DICK'S We Can Wholesale It For You, Remember?. often end up with the most sophisticated, flawed, or least-accessible works of great writers. Plato have been pointing out, aesthetic and moral matters are usually not susceptible of such "hard" proof. ?Jeremy Hole. It isn't the realists who find life dreadful. It's the romancers. After all, which group is trying to escape. Nolan blinked as he recognized her standing there and staring up at him. There was no mistaking the. When another two weeks went by without the Board of Examiners saying boo, he couldn't stand the suspense any longer and went down to Center St. to fill out a form that asked basically where did he stand. A clerk coded the form and fed it into the computer. The computer instructed Barry to fill out another form, giving more details. Fortunately he'd brought the data the computer wanted, so he was able to fill out the second form on the spot After a wait of less than ten minutes, his number lighted up on the board and he was told to go to Window 28. production of *Star Wars*, featuring Mark Hamill as Obi-wan Kenobi. give you a terrible headache." "It will work as long as the silver-white unicorn guards the fragment of the mirror," said Amos, "and the grey man doesn't have his hands on it. Now dive." for me to risk seeming preoccupied or impatient. I kept smiling, though inside I felt as Selene looked. meter, but she made it. sidewalk, which wasn't possible, doe to a cold wave that persisted through most of January. He left a. "Cast off!" cried the sailors. I scooted up in bed and leaned against the headboard. Janke snorted into the pillow and opened one eye, pinning me with it "I dkta't mean to wake you," I said. Number of the Beast, and all the other accoutrements of the Apocalypse. She couldn't explain: he would. Hidalgo, the woman who owned the tavern and took no man's jabbering seriously, was leaning her. O, what fun we will have when we're prone. Hinda's eyes followed nun down the path until she counted even ' the shadows of trees as his own. When she was certain he was gone, she opened the cottage door and went in. The cottage was suddenly close and dark, filled with the musk of deer. sible, you being an examiner and all... but I wish I knew yon in a personal way. Truly. You're a very heavy individual." She took a deep breath and plunged in, only to collide with Ralston as he came out, dragging Song. Except for a dazed expression and a few cuts, Song seemed to be all right. Crawford and McKillian joined them as they lay her on

the bunk.. "But we're middlemen, you see. We have only limited flexibility in the terms we can offer. Say, fifteen. September 22, 1977 Source: P. T. Warrington Destination: W. S. Halson Subject: Attempts at." . . . Mr. Zirul has committed so many other failures of technique that a whole course in fiction writing could be erected above his hapless corpse." (William Atheling, Jr. [James Blish], *The Issue at Hand*, Advent, Chicago, 1964, p. 83.) It turned out that they were safe from that imagined danger. There were spores in the air now, but you really get into it, don't you? Q: What's da pardpf a song dad isn'd da woids?. Selene moved around the room, touching the chairs, working her bare feet through the carpet. "In a cage! Like a freak! I don't want to be a freak anymore. It's over. I want it to be over. Please." . . . such a green monkey he'd had to retreat into his insular existence. Practically everyone I had talked to. "Okay, keep spread out on both sides, everybody. Jim, can you and Edie head him off before he." Ever think of making a new seat for your pants out of part of that flak-jacket? Colman asked after a pause. "You're probably gonna need it." "It turns," Lang said quietly. "That's why Song noticed it She came by here one day and it was in a different position than it had been." I shook it "Bert Mallory." The apartment couldn't have been more different from the one across the hatl. It was comfortable and cluttered, and dominated by a drafting table surrounded by jars of brushes and boxes of paint tubes. Architecturally, however, it was almost identical. The terrace was covered with potted plants rather than naked muscles. David Fowler sat on the stool at the drafting table and began cleaning brushes. When he sat, the split in his shorts opened and exposed half his butt, which was also freckled. But I got the impression he wasn't exhibiting himself; he was just completely indifferent.. endorsement. Fair enough? 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? Isaac Asimov for "Clone, Clone of My Own". not imagine anyone else writing it. pockets with pearls. When he had hauled up a cauldron full of gold from the well in the middle of the. Yet cloning would not be totally useless, either. There would be the purely theoretical advantage of. Song straightened up, moving stiffly. They had all worked hard to empty out the collapsed dome and peel back the whole, bulky mess to reveal the ground it had covered. She was tired and stepped out of character for a moment to snap at Mary Lang. John Varley. an introduction service on the day they came in the mail. With his last gasp of self-confidence Barry. Tomorrow I'm going back to Center St. and take the exam again. been so frightened in my life.. It turned out that they were safe from that imagined danger. There were spores in the air now, but they were not dangerous to the colonists. The plants attacked only certain kinds of plastics, and then only in certain stages of their lives. Since they were still changing, it bore watching, but the airlocks and suits were secure. The crew was enjoying the luxury of sleeping without their suits. "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." Sure enough they found themselves on the edge of a round, silvery pool. Across from them, large. We flew over and spent most of the day glubbing around in the Pacific with a bunch of kids fifteen years younger than I and five years younger than Janice. I'd been on these jaunts with Janice before and enjoyed them so much I'd bought my own wetsuit But I didn't enjoy it nearly as much as I did Saturday night and all of Sunday. I had put away the report I was writing on Lucas McGowan's hyperactive wife. (She had a definite. this. For a small fee, these folks'll put a video tape gadget in my tombstone. It's got everything? stereo. "What sort of deal?" . . . running. Edward Bryatt. Eighty. I engage five more tracks. Five to go. The crowd's getting damn near all of her. And, of course, the opposite's true. Moses (Robert), have such a rough time. "It will work as long as the silver-white unicorn guards the fragment of the mirror," said Amos, "and. be long. "The gate's going to be a lot bigger than last night," Jain had said. "Can you handle it?" The grey man looked back the other way and nearly took off his sunglasses. Then he decided it was. imputation that such decisions are arbitrary. For another, if it were possible to do criticism according to. It was so dark in there with the curtains drawn that I couldn't see a thing. I left the closet and opened. I was dismayed by the effect the question had on her. I forced heartiness into my voice. "Then let's. about the page are not our real, live selves, and their exploits are dictated more by the exigencies of our. butterflies glisten on the rims of pink marble fountains, and the only thing white in it is a silver-white. grabbed her shoulders and held her off at arm's length to look at her. small painting of a boy and girl, she in a soft white dress, and he in jeans and tee shirt. They looked about. February. That's where she's gone DOW? to Arizona, to wait for it. This is the third time she's taken. (high) than that of facial tissues (low). what? . . . of the ultimate in computer games . . . "So we'll put that one in the Fairy Godmother file and forget about it. If it happens, fine. But we'd better plan on the assumption that it won't. As you may know, the E.R.B.-Podkayne are the only ships in existence that can reach Mars and land on it. One other pair is in the congressional funding stage. Winey talked to Earth and thinks there'll be a speedup in the preliminary paperwork and the thing'll start building in a year. The launch was scheduled for five years from now, but it might get as much as a year boost. It's a rescue mission now, easier to sell. But the design will need modification, if only to include five more seats to bring us all back. You can bet on there being more modifications when we send in our

report on the blowout. So we'd better add another six months to the schedule." "The oxygen problem is about the same. Two years at the outside..because our reactor will run out of power in two years. We'll need another power source, and maybe." "You. Just for a little while." She pulls my hands close and lays them on her body..A bloody death occurred in Detweiler's general vicinity every thud day..recognize you if I saw you walking quietly down the street toward me when you were off duty." "Two weeks of research left them knowing no more. They had to abandon the matthews for the time..on first encounter, Morris is an extremely bright and able young man. Single-handed, he programmed the..Detweiler moaned and came to. He rose from the couch, still groggy. He saw the thing, and a look of..slouch. Lorraine played dismally but she didn't seem to mind..Science: Clone, Clone of My Own..she grinned. "We split when we were six. I told Mandy about it when we were seven, after we'd learned..program and it'll fly itself, hi space." She looked longingly at the controls, and Crawford realized that, like..to avoid the brig. So could you point it out to me? I don't want to wander into it by accident." "Q: When did you get that awful sunburn?..slowly turning. His back is to you; you know you are safe, and you sit up. A jay passes with a whirl of." "You are witnessing a demonstration of die Zorphwar Naval Bat-tie Simulation System," I said to Westland. "A valuable training aid, ft is a product of the research staff of the Megalo Corporation Programming Services Department". Organizer?" he asked Zeke in a sort of whisper..unicorn who guards the third piece of the mirror." "Steven Utley for "Upstart"..fragment of the mirror. It is a long, dangerous, and treacherous climb. Shall I expect you back for..158..you'll have plenty of time after dinner." And Brace: "Aw, okay. All cut's in free." And once more they have not found you; your secret place is yours alone..And the song ends, one last diminishing chord, but her body continues to move. For her there is still music..nervous at this vandalism, but had no other choice. They kept looking nervously at the graveyard as they..swivel chair groaned a protest..for the power switch with his other hand. He never touched it. As he moved the device, the ghost images..part of being a garbage man. Some poets go to a great deal of trouble to disguise their treacheries; my..there Imp and soulless till the morning when Brother Hart donned it once again and raced off to the..for the upkeep on their property. They were all over Aventine, from a few apartments down near the..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..feelings; he was very open about things like that." "Then they were on a ship, and all the boards were grey from having gone so long without paint. The grey man took Amos into his cabin and they sat down on opposite sides of a table..It was late when I finally got home. All evening I'd dreaded having to face Debbie with the bad news..brief quotations in a review, without permission in writing from the publisher..Darlene's eyes fluttered open; she'd heard..For beneath her scarlet cape was a veil of green satin, and topazes flashed yellow along the hem in." "Could be," Swley agreed noncommittally..I smiled and spoke some platitudes about the vast technical expertise available at the Megalo Corporation and their ability to respond quickly to any technical challenge..asked. 'I see myself, just as I should, the Prince of the Far Rainbow,' said I. Then the wizard grew furious. "Thank you, Dr. Kolodny," Barry said, lingering in the doorway of the cubicle. "Thanks terrifically."..members of Local 209 stand to benefit from the Project as much as the rest of the..All in all, I didn't find anything. Except for the books and the deck of cards, there was nothing of Andrew Detweiler personally in the whole apartment. I hadn't thought it possible for anyone to lead such a turnip existence..51-52)." "Yes, describe yourself to me." "The clue was in the orrery, of course." "Stone." "Look who's talking!" Nolan laughed "They don't call her Mama for nothing-she's had ten kids of her..anyone. He had his three endorsements?one from a poet who'd published twenty-two books?and he..five hours to pass through two days of real time. The 23rd is calmer, but on the 24th another storm blows." "I've come to help you," she said. "You have gotten two thirds of the broken mirror. Now you must get the last piece."

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