

THE GLASS UNIVERSE

out what was happening here in the graveyard, there was no need to explore alternative ways of getting strong. Above, there seemed no way to go any higher. our asses, that's scrubbed, too?" I was appalled. This kind of thinking had been going on behind her Madonna's serenity? "You can't." Robbie?" It comes into my left ear, on the in-house com circuit reserved for performer and me. could almost smell the smoke from my sizzling nerve endings. And this time when I pushed her onto the features or faces or even separate bodies. There are simply too many people to comprehend. The crowd. -7. G. Saltier. Straight up, it sped, impervious to the wind, seeming to gather momentum with every cubit it traveled. I do for a living." You may reapply for another examination at any time. An examination score in or above the eighth. Neither of them bothered to answer that. The radio hi the nose sputtered, then clanged for their. "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?" and it was thought it could be put to use one last time before we let it go, to warm the floor of the dome. "Well?" Sometimes the repetition of what we have just said will suggest a new meaning or possibilities of meaning we did not at first suppose to be there. We think we have understood our words, then learn that we have not, since their essential meaning only dawns on us the second tune round. to see how well I had learned my lessons, asked me three questions. I answered all three, and these. 53. And I can say objectively that I've got better legs than anyone except, possibly, Miss Wyoming." "My God!" I could see her feet and, by rolling onto my back, look up at her rising above me toward the beams of the room, but I could not move. My head seemed nailed to the floor. The knife gleamed in her hand. "Selene," I called. "I can't reach her. Help me." sample. You'd better take a look. If the drill hits whatever made the other one explode, it might go off." could be eliminated. that you people are doing important work in other areas and should not be forced to produce a program. New York Harbor, November 4, 1872? a cold, blustery day. A two-masted ship rides at anchor; on her stern is lettered: Mary Celeste. Smith advances the time control. A flicker of darkness, light again, and the ship is gone. He turns back again until he finds it standing out under light canvas past Sandy Hook. Manipulating time and space controls at once, he follows it eastward through a nickering of storm and sun? loses it, finds it again, counting days as he goes. The farther eastward, the more he has to tilt the device downward, while the image of the ship tilts correspondingly away from him. Because of the angle, he can no longer keep the ship in view from a distance but must track it closely. November 21 and 22, violent storms: the ship is dashed upward by waves, falls again, visible only intermittently; it takes him five hours to pass through two days of real time. The 23rd is calmer, but on the 24th another storm blows up. Smith rubs his eyes, loses the ship, finds it again after a ten-minute search. she'd dredged up somewhere, most of 'em published before the First World War. I read a complete set. In the brig he saw immediately that there was no jailor and then that there was no prisoner. Furious, he rushed into the cell and began to tear apart the bundle of blankets in the corner. And out of the blankets rolled the jailor, bound and gagged and dressed in the colorful costume of the Prince of the Far Rainbow. For it was the jailor's clothes that Jack had worn when he had gone with Amos to the mountain. Sanders, almost two hours had passed. Harry hadn't answered my knock, and so I let myself in with a wing. I'm afraid that your ass and mine would have been in the sling but for a stroke of incredible luck. "We won't question it," said Jack, "we'll just open it." GutS, LESTER DEL REY. aimed at a deep shadow box across the room; at the back of the box was a card ruled with black, green. By the time I filled Lucas McGowan in on all the details (I got the impression he was less concerned. mellower and mellower and wishing she were here. Then, in February, when the world had once again. man flung out his cape, grabbed Amos by the hand, and ran out into the street. He watches the men running, sees them launch the boat As they pull away, he is able to keep the. "What is it a map of?" Amos asked. He knew you should ask as many questions as possible when. into his palanquin and clapped his hands. We stared after it as the four black bearers bore it away. Friday morning I sat at my desk trying to put the pieces together. Trouble was, I only had two pieces. II. Novelist and critic Joanna Russ teaches English at the University of Washington. When our starting book reviewer, Algis Budrys, tires, our favorite relief reviewer is Ms. Russ. Here she offers a fascinating article (in response to some critical letters) which tells why critics are such snobs and are so vitriolic, among many other things. rve known the question would come, though I hadn't known who'd articulate it? her or me. My hesitation stretches much longer in my head than it does in realtime. So much passion, Rob. . . . It seems to build. Would you kill for me? "Yes," I say. "Curses," said the grey man, "but you're right." He took from his pocket a strip of crimson cloth with orange design, went to the trunk and lowered it through a small round hole in the top. As the last of it dropped from sight, the thing in the box went: Mlpbgm!. Bill Buddy: As stated on Page 12 of the Zorphwar Handbook, any Captain completing six. state of apathy. She had not moved for the last hour. on their terrace. The only thing to connect the deaths of Harry Spinner and Maurice Milian was a lot of. "Hey, everybody!" Jain raises her voice, cutting stridently through everyone else's conversations. "Get this. For a small fee, these folks'll put a video tape gadget in my tombstone. It's got everything? stereo sound and color. All I've got to do is go in before I die and cut the tape." respond immediately to Central Processing with date and time of initial tribute delivery. when I was sitting at my desk reading the Times. I do so and the tech is satisfied with the results. "That ought to do it," he says. "I'll get back to you later." He breaks off the circuit. All checks are done; there's nothing now on the circuits but a background scratch like insects climbing over old newspapers. She will not allow me to be exhausted /or long. She laughed. "Wonderful. So that's what you want us to do? Dig down there and warm the ice with our pink little hands? It won't work, I tell you." 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?" "Be quiet and help me," said the thin grey man, "or I

shall put you in the trunk with my nearest and. "Mine's Barry," he said. "Do you drink beer?" 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. Doris McElfresh. I hesitate, then say, "Sure, I'm almost done with the board." "Coffee?" "There's still something missing from our picture," Song had told them the night before, when she. Reluctantly at first, then with the glad, uncloseted feeling of shaking himself loose over a dance floor, Barry told Cinderella of his ups and downs during the past six months. 154. "Then what must I do to make this stubborn animal let me by? Tell me quickly because I am in a hurry and have a headache." "Bingo!" "You must obey the edict of the Sreen," the Intermediaries have told us repeatedly, "there is no in then- bedding. But as she stood by the window brushing out her long dark hair, an unfamiliar sound. printing it although writing book reviews (except for places like the New York Times) is underpaid, primitive. Now it is only a cluster of round cells, and the bee is different, more like a wasp. His year's. My curiosity reared up again. The gossip columnists speculated a great deal about how Amanda and Tin surprised there's any problem what to do. Your dancing has already won critical acclaim." He moved out into the clearing, more boldly now. Then suddenly he stopped. He saw a strange shape hanging by the cottage door. It was a deerskin, a fine buck's hide, hung by the antlers and the legs dangling down. Hinda could not answer. She could not even look at him. His nakedness shamed her more than his words. She put their food on the table and they ate their meal in silence. Then they slept like beasts and without dreams. Hook. Manipulating time and space controls at once, he follows it eastward through a nickering of storm. "You." She points at me. "Here." She indicates the rock face. The words are simple commands given. Unfortunately the polys were not always fun. The terrestrial and extraterrestrial psychosensitive, gentle but firm. "Yeah," I say. "Sorry. Just . . . trying to make up for previous lag-time." "You run and get back in your cell," said Amos, "and when I have given you enough time, I shall return and eat my eggs and sausages." 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. After the meeting a bunch of us stopped in The Fig Leaf for a few beers. I was still there when Ike. precautions," he told her, gravely. "Right now I've got to rest And I want to see Robbie." anthologies with something like a very good and very big issue of the magazine. Thus we offer a. about his handshake. There was nothing phoney about his handshake, and he knew it. jabbering seriously. Paramount once Loew's, now Downtown Cinema (or something) at the west end got good openings. "Well, that all sounds pretty ho-hum to me up against this," Song said. "Do you . . . do you realize . . . what are we talking about here? Evolution, or . . . or engineering? Is it the plants themselves that did this, or were they made to do it by whatever built them? Do you see what I'm talking about? I've felt funny about those wheels for a long time. I just won't believe they'd evolve naturally." would come from. Somebody broke it up just in time. "Nothing. Just routine." Obviously he thought I was a police detective. No point in changing his mind. "I mean it." seventeen hundred; a double, a round four thousand. Jason said he could arrange an introduction at that. The old woman hesitated. "You will not be offended if I speak?*" "Anywhere," he replied. "Implicitly." over, and, then, the next minute I'm terrified of dying." He said, "Research begins." "Ever see a claustrophobe deliberately walk into a closet and shut the door? If I don't fight it this way?" Her fingers dig into my arms. Her face is fierce. "This has got to be better than what I do on stage." She swings away from me. "Shit!" she says. "Damn it all to hell." She stands immovable, staring down the mountain for several minutes. When she turns back toward me, her eyes are softer and there's a fey tone in her voice. "If I die?" She laughs. "When I die. I want my ashes here." Fill me like the mountains. Billy of all the nice things you people were going to bring! There's going to be no living with him, let me. JAIN SNOW. something. after the initial tragedy. He and his ship were here now only to explore. So Darlene went down the hall to their bedroom for a siesta, and. "Just a minute till my ear stops ringing," The husky voice tickled my ear. "When I blew the wizard here a year ago," said the North Wind from above them, "he left it right there, but the snow and ice have frozen over it." Robert F. Young. dioxide, and quite a bit of oxygen into the atmosphere. Not much, but maybe more than it seems, considering the low concentrations that are naturally available. We've altered the biome. Does anyone know where the exhaust air from the dome was expelled?" pretty stereotyped." It was impossible to answer with ice in my chest. I could only stare back while she hunted around for. away at its creeping pace, and hurried off to find Song. "Thank you, Winey, for the encouraging words. You always did know what it takes to buck a person up. By the way, that other mission, the one where you were going to ride a meteorite down here to save our asses, that's scrubbed, too?" intensity of the demand so well (having spent my twenties reading Eddison and Tolkien; I even adapted. down the cobbled street toward Mariner's Tavern to play jackstraws with Billy Belay, the sailor with a. He grinned. "Haven't you heard? We can spot each other a mile away. Would you like some. 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. She comes off the stage crying. I touch her arm as she walks past my console. Jam stops and rubs. Source: W.S. Halson. that mountain. It is so windy there, and the grey man is so thin, he would be blown away before he was. because when you notice the red numbers jumping in the console to your left, it is as if the whole house. Samuel R. Delany for "Prismatica". There would be practical uses, too. A prize bull or a champion egg-laying hen could be cloned, and sensitized to her tongue, rough as a cat's. Not long afterward I left. I didn't want to be hung-over on my first spell of picket duty. It was a cool. "No. They said he'd been dead over an hour. What did Desmond tell you?" "Have you considered a divorce?" Marvin Kolodny asked. THE ORGANIZER: Very well. But keep in mind that the typical member of Local 209 is. 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..grey man could guess for himself. So he untied the jailor and called the sailors and made plans for Amos'.That ended the subject for her. She was quiet the remaining ride home. She reached for my hand.Of the feminine sex.Larchemont is a middle-class neighborhood huddled in between the old wealth around the country.Sitting on the floor huddled in a blanket was Martin Ralston, the chemist His shirt was bloody, and.'When Westland came charging back into my office an hoar later, he found the Admiral hammering at my console keys and shouting bis best Navy profanity at the Zorphs who had just zapped him for fifteen-hundred energy units..Isn't he the one who was killed in an accident last night?".?Wes and Lynn Pederson."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.".I helped her to her feet and into her cape. With a hand under her elbow, I guided her out of the Beta.I stare across the stage and she's looking back at me. Her eyes flash emerald in the wave from Hollis'.I was sitting there, wondering how in hell I would find him, when the phone rang again. Miss Tremaine stopped typing and lifted the receiver without breaking rhythm. "Mr. Mallory's office," she said crisply, really letting the caller know he'd hooked onto an efficient organization. She put her hand over the mouthpiece and looked at me. "It's for you?an obscene phone call." She didn't bat an eyelash or twitch a muscle..sure you have things under control. J.L. is, by the way, interested in access to Zorphwar on his own.simple. A fiasco from which he'd naturally feared the worst in the form of a letter addressed to Dear.that was their reunion Nolan found fulfillment Of course there was none of the avid hunger of Nina's.wanted company."

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