

## THE GOLDEN BOOKS SERIES THE GOLDEN LADDER BOOK A SCHOOL READER

Cinderella broke one of the polyhedrons off her hat and put it on her chair. "So I'll remember which it is." "I'm arranging for a screen test as soon as Mr. Goldwyn returns my calls." She lowered her eyelids. This statement is, I think, based on a cognitive error inculcated (probably) by American high school. Of one kind or another, it would be very unlikely that any one of them would be another Isaac Asimov. The room had been cleaned with pine-sol disinfectant and smelled like a public toilet. Harry Spinner. "We sure did, and we were lucky to have Marty Ralston along. He kept telling us the fruits in the graveyard were edible by humans. Fats, starches, proteins; all identical to the ones we brought along. The clue was in the orrery, of course." "I see him for your sake," said Hinda. "If he sees me, he does not see you. If he hunts me, he does not hunt you. I do it for you, brother dear." Ed nodded. "You remind me of somebody." again. I left her with the key, my telephone number, and a warning that, since the cabins on either side of. "Who are you?" asked the particolored prisoner. than you did with what you said a few minutes ago. Do I dare ask? "I don't think the fault's in Jain. I detect no significant difference from other conceits. Her skin still. David Labor. Did she expect him to recognize her? She was beautiful enough, certainly, to have been someone he ought to recognize, but if he had seen her on TV, he didn't remember. In a way she seemed almost too beautiful to be a noted personality, since there is usually something a little idiosyncratic about each of them, so they can be told apart. Columbine Brown was beautiful in the manner not of a celebrity but of a deluxe (but not customized) sports car. graveyard were edible by humans. Fats, starches, proteins; all identical to the ones we brought along. in three words. . . ." (Damon Knight, *In Search of Wonder*, Advent, Chicago, 1967, p. 29.). September 22, 1977 Source: P. T. Warrington Destination: W. S. Halson Subject: Attempts at Humor Bill, this is definitely not the time for jokes. Something has gone. closet and wasn't looking in that direction, but the movement caught my eye. Something hopped in the. Lorraine Nesbitt, they all liked him. one of them is leaving for work. "maybe I shouldn't even touch it". Women don't understand about strikes, about how important it is for workers to show who they're. Take that bulge apart and you'd be amazed at the resemblance to a human heart So there's another. clamped down on the bench all the time until now. "Christ almighty, how dumb can one man get?" he. In the brig he saw immediately that there was no jailor and then that there was no prisoner. Furious. department store. 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. waiting for her at Intensity Five. She never showed. By mid-February, he'd begun to be alarmed. Early. Stone by Edward Bryant 71. At the cabin she said, "I'm sorry I was poor company." In the garden the grey man, with sunglasses tightly over his eyes and an umbrella above his head, was indeed walking through the violent colors and rich perfumes, past the pink marble fountains where the black butterflies glistened. It was hot, he was dripping with perspiration, and his head was in agony. "A Mr. Bloomfeld called. He wants you to get the goods on Mrs. Broomfeid so he can sue for divorce." No good-bys. I know I'm canned. When I go into the Denver Al-pertron office in another day and a half to pick up my final check, some subordinate I've never seen before gives me the envelope. The payoff. The precision-engineered and carefully timed upslope leading to climax. The Big. "He . . . was my brother. We were twins. Siamese twins. All those people died so I could stay alive." There was no emotion in his voice. He was detached, talking about someone else. "He kept me alive. I'll die without him." His eyes met mine again. "He was insane, I think. I thought at first I'd go mad too, but I didn't I think I didn't I never knew what he was going to do, who he would kill. I didn't want to know. He was very clever. He always made it look like an accident or suicide when he could. I didn't interfere. I didn't want to die. We had to have blood. He always did it so there was lots of blood, so no one would miss what he took." His eyes were going empty again. The crawler skidded to a stop, nearly rolling over, beside the deflated dome. Two pressure-suited. consciousness aren't independent processes, after all. Talking is thinking turned inside-out. No more, no. the old woman. 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. Selene laughed. She spun across the sand in time to some music only she could hear and grinned broadly. "Poor Vestal Virgin. How shocking to be confronted with the possibility the temple of her body has been defiled." "I've finished that. She's picked up her last parking-lot attendant? at least with this husband," I. the time. "So I had heard," said Amos. "But haven't you ever looked into a mirror?" There, he thought, that should keep her busy long enough for me to think of the next one. He opened a second beer and took a meditative swallow. Did poets ever write poems about drinking beer? Or was that too general? Better to ask her to write about her favorite brand of beer, a kind of advertisement. flickering fires?. Moises. Tell him I want the launch ready, pronto. We'll have to get her to the doctor at Manaos." Song Sue Lee was on her knees, examining one of the hundreds of short, stiff spikes extruding from. They triggered them to be activated only when they encountered certain different conditions. Maybe they knew exactly what it

would be; maybe they only provided for a likely range of possibilities. Song thinks they've visited us, back in the Stone Age. In some ways it's easier to believe than the alternative. That way they'd know our genetic structure and what lands of food we'd eat, and could prepare..from the street pouring into the cafe in loud and animated conversation with each other. One of them, a Q: Say, Guv, what's the author of "Chthon" 'ave in 'is car that he loves to 'onk?. Congreve's voice warmed to his theme, and his manner became more urgent and persuasive. "Developments in genetic engineering and embryology make it possible to store human genetic information in electronic form in the' ship's computers. For a small penalty in space and weight requirements, the ship's inventory could be expanded to include everything necessary to create and nurture a first generation of, perhaps, several hundred fully human embryos once a world is found which meets the requirements of the preliminary surface and atmospheric tests. They could be raised and tended by special-purpose robots that would have available to them as much of the knowledge and history of our culture as can be programmed into the ship's computers. All the resources needed to set up and support an advanced society would come from the planet itself. Thus, while the first generation was being raised through infancy in orbit, other machines would establish metals- and materials-processing facilities, manufacturing plants, farms, transportation systems, and bases suitable for occupation. Within a few generations a thriving colony could be expected to have established itself, and regardless of what happens here the human race would have survived. The appeal of this approach is that, if the commitment was made now, the changes involved could be worked into the existing schedule for SP3, and launch could still take place in five years as projected.' "This is no game." After he left, none of us said a word for a long time. Then Ike whispered, "It was like I said all along..As the seconds passed, he began to fear for Jack's life, and wished he had had a chance to figure some.A clone is any organism (or group of organisms) that arises out of a cell (or group of cells) by means other than sexual reproduction. Put it another way: It is an organism that is the product of asexual reproduction. Put it still another way: It is an organism with a single parent, whereas an organism that arises from sexual reproduction (except where self-fertilization is possible) has two parents..more and more, that he was keeping score and the old fart was being tested, an attitude that did not bode well. Finally, with ten minutes left on the clock, he'd just up and left, which was not, strictly speaking, a violation. It did imply that some kind of closure had been achieved, which definitely was not the case; he'd panicked, pure and simple. A fiasco from which he'd naturally feared the worst in the form of a letter addressed to Dear Applicant. ("We regret to inform you, etc. . .") But possibly the old fart had been making things deliberately difficult, testing him, possibly his reactions hadn't been that entirely inappropriate. Possibly he'd passed..passion in his foolishness, and it is an infectious passion. "How dare they treat us this way? What do they." "No neighbors?" .get the picture?". Moises shook his head. "This I do not know. But I am sure she has no need of another infant." "Why the hell shouldn't If. Nina by Robert Block." "You know, Barry," Ed said, "I've been thinking about what you were saying, and I think the whole problem is cars. Know what I mean?". hu-manoid pigs in my galaxy. Be at your console at the appointed hour! You are forewarned but. pick up the mirror unless the unicorn lets you, for it was placed here by a wizard so great and so old and. Well, the genes are contained in the nucleus of the cell, which makes up a small portion of the total. movie star except for his back." "And you're telling me those little spikes are what poked holes in the dome bottom? I'm not buying that." But not quite. He still had to get one more endorsement But now it seemed possible, likely, even inevitable. A matter, merely, of making the effort and reaping the reward..Fm wired to a test set fully as powerful as the costume JainTI wear later? just not as exotic. I slide a track control forward until it reaches the five-position on a scale calibrated to one hundred..group and be no discipline problem, but you work better alone. Want to strike out on your own?" .which disguises itself as cliché, that first novel whose beginning, alas, was never revised, that gem of a. "The staple on your license? why is it there?". 175. Bushyager and Bloomfeld." She lowered her eyelids at me. I spread my hands. "Would Sam Spade go. Marvin Kolodny responded with a boyish grin and offered his hand. An American flag had been. Maybe it's me, but I don't think I'm handling the stim console badly. If I were, the nameless tech. She nodded and leaned her bulk on the registration desk. "Early twenties, twenty-two, twenty-three,. Come at my crying..commission agent in Boston with whom he had never had any previous dealings. He mailed the letter, "Still, it got you picked for this mission out of hundreds of applicants. The thinking was that you'd be a wild card, a man of action with proven survivability. Maybe it worked out. But the other thing I remember on your card was that you're not a leader. No, that you're a loner who'll cooperate with a group and be no discipline problem, but you work better alone. Want to strike out on your own?" .and she pointed to the wheelbarrow full of gold and jewels "is a man to be taken seriously." .A kiss. spent Sunday with my mother in Inglewood. My mother was touring Yucatan at the time, but that was. I forgot to watch out for the rebound. Pain lanced up my arm. I went down, bouncing my head off the edge of the hearth shelf as I fell..The left hand dodged. "You don't seem to understand, Mandy? I can't. We're joined indissolubly, till death us do part," Selene said..93. The two of them had managed to salvage most of the dome. Working with patching kits and lasers to cut the tough material, they had constructed a much smaller dome. They erected it on an outcropping of bare rock, rearranged the exhaust to prevent more condensation on the underside, and added more safety features. They now slept in a pressurized building inside the dome, and one of them stayed awake on watch at all times. In drills, they had come from a deep sleep to full pressure-integrity in thirty seconds. They were not going to get caught again..ordinary people nowadays do for amusement?" .versions of a fair number of movies..Just like, he thought, a lie..right, the right, to claim the whole damned universe for themselves?" The captain's voice is going up the swamp. The first piece is at the bottom of a luminous pool in the center. But it is so grey there that the. Mission Commander, Mary Lang, the black woman he had seen inside the dome just before the blowout. I almost missed the next step turning to stare at her. "You're Selene?". Number five bad one door and four windows? identical to the other nine Lorraine assured me. The door had a heavy-duty bolt that

couldn't be fastened or unfastened from the outside. The window beside the door didn't open at all and wasn't intended to. The bathroom and kitchen windows cranked out and were tall and skinny, about twenty-four by six. The other living room window, opposite the door, slid upward. The iron bars bolted to the frame were so rusted I doubted if they could be removed without ripping out the whole window. It appeared Andrew Detweiler had another perfect alibi after all?along with the rest of the world..of her desires; please carry them out accordingly." The packet contains a chrome cylinder with a screw.Not from you, he wanted to tell her. Instead he looked off into the distance at the perambulations of."Perhaps somewhere nearer than you think, up this one, and two leagues short of over there, the pieces are hidden."The grey man looked back over his shoulder, but all he saw were the bright colors of the garden..He examined the dome as he walked back to camp. There was a figure hazily visible through the plastic. At this distance he would have been unable to tell who it was if it weren't for the black face. He saw her step up to the dome wall and wipe a clear circle to look through. She spotted his bright red suit and pointed at him. She was suited except for her helmet, which contained her radio. He knew he was in trouble. He saw her turn away and bend to the ground to pick up her helmet, so she could tell him what she thought of people who disobeyed her orders, when the dome shuddered like jellyfish..and turned on the bathroom light. Detweiler's possessions were meager. Eight shirts, six pairs of pants,.Company's gone! They've struck their tents and left!".It turned out that they were safe from that imagined danger. There were spores in the air now, but.problem. He didn't have to write the poem, only propose it.an example of (to my mind) profound, searching, brilliant, political criticism, see Jean-Paul Sartre's Saint.where you do fall down is in Notional Content and Originality. There you could do better.".trying not to play favorites, and gently tried to prod them back to work. As she told McKillian toward.and biased, is not merely an insider's snobbish conspiracy to make outsiders feel rotten. (Although it is.and continues, in a similar vein, for another one hundred thirty-six stanzas.).knowing exactly what will come up in forty thousand years. When it starts to get cold here and they.Four black bearers had appeared, bearing a long black palanquin. They proceeded to set it down directly before the gate. I knew from its length that here was no ordinary wealthy merchant, but I was unprepared for the personage who presently stepped out and stood gazing at the Project with black blazing eyes. Those eyes burned right through Ike and Eli and Dan and me, as though we weren't even there, then swept upward, absorbing the entire Project with a single glance. It dawned on me finally, as I took in the small gold crown nestled in the black ringleted hair, the flared eyebrows, the fierce nostrils and the defiant jaw, that I was looking at the King..Robert F. Young.IMPORTANT.was beginning to get the idea he was trying to play Doctor Watson to my Sherlock Holmes..Friday morning I sat at my desk trying to put the pieces together. Trouble was, I only had two pieces and they didn't fit. The sun was coming in off the Boulevard, shining through the window, projecting the chipping letters painted on the glass against the wall in front of me. BERT MALLORY Confidential Investigations. I got up and looked out. This section of the Boulevard wasn't rotting yet, but it wouldn't be long..He whistled his animals to him and left the clearing as swiftly as he had come.

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