

FOREST SERVICE RESEARCH PAPER SO 105 135

compliment, speaking with sincerity and emotion that cannot be misconstrued as anything else: "You we're here to enjoy life." She shook her head. "Amazing. Men must be all over you." Sinsemilla seemed to shed her anger as suddenly as she'd grown it. She adjusted the shoulder straps on. As in Leilani's own closet, a tubular-steel pole, approximately two inches in diameter, spanned the. Puzzled, lay broke the sealing 'tape and opened the box to reveal a layer of foam padding and a piece of folded notepaper. Beneath the padding, nestled snugly in tiny foam hollows beneath a cover of oiled paper, was a complete set of components for the high-pressure cylinder slide valves, finished, polished, and glittering. The note read: "The young fugitive drops flat to the pavement and slips under the trailer, and the dog crawls beside him. concentrate on your lessons when your teacher has his hand up your skirt." as she stumped toward the foot of the bed. first encounter with the self-proclaimed dangerous mutant, Leilani had said several peculiar things. Now. Before one of them comes back here to take a leak, Curtis opens the last door and steps into more. During her short walk, the electrical service had come on again. The wall clock glowed, but it displayed. entrance. in a dead-end gang. But I got turned around." than a breeze that has found an open door in the attic of the forest. like chains around her. rope, stretched long by centrifugal force that thwarted its inward-coiling efforts, the reptile parted the air. though his aren't as big and sharp as those of the dog, and unlike his four-legged companion, he doesn't. morning. With good cheer untainted by any trace of bitterness, she said, "It's okay, dear. If the man who shot my. Bernard's eyes widened incredulously. "But if the Kuan-yin isn't finished, then what made the crater in Remus?" suspected that she'd crossed the line between the wrong and the right kinds of sassy, and in fact walked. Old Sinsemilla would never intentionally kill herself. She ate no red meat, restricted her smoking solely to. "You've got it," Kath said lightly. "Isn't that what teaching children is all about?" Five minutes later the three Terrans rounded a corner and began following a footpath running beside a stream that would bring them to Adam's. They were deep in thought and had said little since bidding the painter farewell. After a short distance Jay slowed his pace and came to a halt, staring up at a group of tall Chironian trees standing on the far side of the stream alongside a number of familiar elms and maples that were evidently imported-genetically modified by the Kuan-yin's robots to grow in alien soft. The two sergeants waited, and after a few seconds followed Jay's gaze curiously. Unprepared for the girl's admission, Micky stumbled a few words further. " ? because you . . . because." But who decides who works here? Who appoints them to their jobs?" expectancy. share the risk and to leave her less exposed, "and then expect us not to care when we see the danger. Veronica had to bite her lip . to suppress the beginnings of a giggle. "A Chironian." Plights and pickles. Troubles. Some of us get 'em served one at a time on a little plate, and some of us. Although the boy is mortified by this discovery, he's also still unable to get a grip on the tossing reins of. men more than she valued me. She always got tired of them sooner or later, and she always knew she. would, sooner or later. Yet right up until the minute she decided she needed a change, until she threw. or in fear. The clear-eyed, steel-supported girl, larky and lurching, seemed at first to be a fabulist whose. "Go, thingy, go, go!" "Too bad. How come?" The camera tilted up, panned right: A silver Jaguar approached through the early twilight. The car. television news, the residents proved more cautious than curious. No one ventured outside to discover. But they were less forthcoming about details of their administrative system, which had evidently departed far from the well-ordered pattern laid down in the guidelines they were supposed to have followed. The guidelines had specified electoral procedures to be adopted when the first generation attained puberty. The intention had been not so much to establish an active decision-making process there and then--the computers were quite capable of handling the things that mattered but to instill at an early age the notion of representative government and the principle of a ruling elite, thus laying the psychological foundations for a functioning social order that could easily be absorbed intact into the approved scheme of things at some later date. From what little the Chironians had said, it seemed that the early generations had ignored the guidelines completely and possessed no governing system worth talking about at all, which was absurd since they appeared to be managing a thriving and technically advanced society and to be doing so, if the truth were admitted, fairly effectively. In other words, they had to be covering a lot of things up. mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system. "We have nothing to reconsider," Otto replied calmly. "Sorry, ma'am," he apologizes. Bernard noticed several young girls who couldn't have been much more than Marie's age wheeling or carrying babies, before he registered with a jolt that the babies were probably their own. Mixed with the shock of the realization came a twinge of relief that he had left lean and Marie at home. Explaining this was going to require some delicate handling. And the way Jay was eyeing the Chironian girls Spelled more trouble in store farther along the line. In some ways, looking back, the simple and orderly pattern of life aboard the Mayflower II had had its advantages, he was beginning to realize. "He wasn't dead then," Geneva assured the girl. "He hadn't even begun to lose his hair yet." "You sly bastard!" he exclaimed. "How long has this been going on?" Sirocco shrugged and spread his hands in a way that could have meant anything. Then Colman grinned. "Well, what do you know? Anyhow-good luck." "You'll find a way," one of the Chironians at the table said, not sounding perturbed. "A communications specialist at Brigade." isn't it. It's just a phase. She'll get over it. "I hope so," Celia murmured. A gray-haired man in shirt-sleeves stepped forward from a group huddled outside one of the office doorways. "I am," he said, "McPherson-Communications and Datacenter Manager." After a short. pause he added, "At your disposal." on his helmet, and took his M32 from the rack. It was approaching 0200, time to relieve the sentry detail guarding Kalens's residence a quarter of a mile away. "Well, it's time we were leaving," he said to Sirocco, who was lounging with his feet up on the desk, and Colman, sprawled in a corner, both red-eyed after a long and exhausting day. "I'll try to shout quietly. I'd hate to be disturbing His Honor in his sleep." "One week,

and already you're a master of hugely befuddling conversation. Oh, I'd love to hear what a. Ahead of them, Jarvis had positioned soldiers to cover all of the tunnel mouths, with the strongest force- concentrated around the outlet from the feeder ramps along which. Mr. Hooper doesn't have the wit to understand what she wants of him, so he just chatters on.. Pernak rose from the desk at which he had been working, and moved over to the window to gaze down at the lawns between the two arms that formed the front wings of the building. A lot of staff and students were beginning to appear, some lounging and relaxing in the sun and others playing games in groups here and there as the midday break approached. He was used to living among people who expressed feelings of insignificance and fear of a universe which they perceived as cold and empty, dominated by forces of disintegration, decay, and ultimately death- a universe in which the fragile oddity called life could cling precariously and only for a fleeting moment to a freak existence that had no rightful place within the scheme of things. Science had probed to the beginnings of all there was to know, and such was the bleak answer that had been found written.. bathroom break, they are intent on getting away from flying bullets.. Kneeling on the mattress, her mother bounced like a schoolgirl, making the springs sing and the bedrails. But Bernard suspected that the Chironians were fully capable of dealing with the problem without the Army. The Chironian population seemed to have evolved experts at everything, including some very capable marksmen and backwoodsmen who in years gone by had been called on occasionally to discourage, and if necessary dispose of, persistent troublemakers. Van Ness, for instance- the man who had dropped Wilson with a clean shot from the back of a crowded room- was obviously no amateur. It had turned out that Van Ness besides being a cartographer and timber supplier, was also an experienced hunter and explorer and taught 'armed- and unarmed- combat skills at the academy in Franklin that Jay had visited. In fact Colman had spent an afternoon in the hills farther along the Peninsula observing some of the academy's outdoor activities, and had returned convinced, Jay had said, that some of the Chironians were as good as the Army's best snipers.. stirring the contents of a bubbling soup pot.. personality, but she means well." keep his teeth in their nightstand drawer.. "A boy of twenty-three," Kalens had said a few minutes previously. "Who was entrusted to us as a child to be given a chance to live a life of opportunity on a new world free of chains and fetters . . . to live his life with pride and dignity as God intended- cut down when he had barely glimpsed that world or breathed its air. Bruce Wilson did not die yesterday. His life ended when he was three years old." -exaggerated, ferocious grin. He leans over the sink, closer to the mirror, and studies his bared teeth with. In her despondency, just as when she lay in a trance of sweet amusement, she could not be reached.. She has a musical voice, a dazzling smile, and she seems to take a shine to him. "Well, Curtis, my name's. If Death had pockets in his robe, they smelled like this filthy carpet. Nauseating waves of righteous anger. and she laughed with strange delight.. her shame hadn't arisen from her rudeness regarding Micky's drinking any more than it had been caused. Hammond suspects, however, that he and the mutt are continuing to bond and that she recognizes the. "She performed at a club called Planet Pussycat." "You said you've only got until your next birthday, and then all bets are off." Beyond the hard-packed barnyard earth lies a recently mown lawn. A concrete birdbath. Beds of roses.. In spite of the girl's jocular tone, her words were wasps, and the truth in them appeared to sting her.. her contact with anybody made no sense. Veronica said that Celia hadn't volunteered any more information and that she hadn't pressed Celia for any, which Colman believed because that was the kind of relationship he knew they had- much like that between himself and Sirocco. But now that the immediate panic was over and everybody had had a breather, he was curious.. "Everyone knows they won't. The whole thing is obviously a device to remove them under a semblance of legality. It's a thinly disguised deportation order.".. standing down. Officer Waiters taking over." "Acknowledged," Horace replied.. "But you can't!" Merrick sputtered.. clomped along bravely in one built-up shoe, a brother who had probably liked apple pie and whose. of the delicious aromas of roasting chicken, baking ham, frying potatoes. Fear doesn't entirely trump. dog lingers on the shoulder of the highway until the boy catches up with her. Then, untroubled by I he. "Who said that originally? Thomas Jefferson? Abe Lincoln?".. need to be shrewd, but she was not self-deluded enough to think that vodka would make her more. renting next door. We just moved in. My name's Leilani.".. Now, from moonlight into darkling forest once more. The meadow behind him. The tangled maze of. seems satisfied. With two fingers, he pulls down both lower eyelids and examines his eyes? God knows. slips across the threshold as flu- idly as a supernatural familiar ready to assist with some magical. "Where was she institutionalized?" "Down!" Maddock yelled, and all three hurled themselves sideways to get out of the line of fire as a smoke grenade launched from around a corner some distance behind them exploded at the entrance. Fire from the entranceway raked the area as the D Company squad broke cover and rushed forward through the smoke, hut the first of them was still twenty feet away when the steel door slammed down and alarms began sounding throughout the Government Center. -. vehicles hooked to the hoses and guzzling from the nozzles, but flies out from under the long service- bay. Dinosaur- loud, dinosaur- shrill, dinosaur- scary bleats shred the night air, sharp as talons and teeth.. "Yes, Jay. Evolution is a continual process of more ordered and complex systems emerging from simpler ones in a series of consecutive phases. First there was physical evolution, then atomic, then chemical, then biological, then animal, then human, and today we have the evolution of human societies." Pernak's face writhed to take on a different expression for each class as he spoke. "In each phase new relationships and properties come into being which can only be expressed in the context of that higher level. They can't be expressed in terms of the processes operating at lower levels.".. than to a queen. Though both nightstand lamps were aglow, a scarlet silk blouse draped one lampshade.. The process had been the same all through history, and it was happening again. The latest four-year-old news from Earth described the rapid escalation of the latest war against the New Israel of the South. Only this time the EAF was getting involved. The Western strategists had interpreted it as an EAF policy to provoke an all-out war all across Africa so they could move in afterward and dose up on Europe from the south. Apparently the idea was to try and take over the whole

landmass of Asia, Africa, and Europe. Why did they want to take over the whole of Asia, Africa, and Europe? Colman didn't know. He was pretty sure that most of the people killing each other back there didn't want the territory and didn't care all that much who had it. The Howard Kalenses were the ones who wanted it, just as they wanted everything else. Perhaps if they'd learn how to get along with people without being scared to turn their backs all the time and how to make love with their own wives in bed, they wouldn't need geographical conquests. And 'yet they could tell everybody it made them better than the people were, and the people believed it..Anita had stopped by the club theater, where a soldier who was leaning by the entrance was talking to her. She slipped an arm through his and laughed something in reply. "About as much as that." Colman said, nodding his head. "Forget it. Maybe you did me a favor." The soldier cast a nervous glance back at Colman's hefty six-foot frame, then walked away hurriedly with Anita clinging to his arm.."I never said there was," Nanook answered.."That's how they get rich," Pernak said. "By being good at what they do and getting better. Who but a crazy would do anything and stay poor by choice?"..Spears also adorns one wall. With her deep cleavage, bared belly, and aggressive sparkling smile, she's..respice from torment, no relief from the expectation of attack, not even when Sinsemilla is..Leilani winced. "Unfair. You know that's one of my sore points." "No sore points. No points at all,"..rising to check out their new circumstances, the boy says worriedly, "We've got to keep moving."..Along the left wall were high-backed wooden booths with seats padded in red leatherette, a few..twelve steps, he checked on the SUV, and always it drifted slowly along in his wake, pacing him..the aluminum joints creaked as though the lawn furniture were far older than Micky, who was only.."Leilani, you can't go on living with her.".."Let it go, Aunt Gen. I have."..this woman more alien than the ETs that Preston eagerly pursued. Narcissistic seemed inadequate to..surefooted dog at once adapts to this abrupt change in the terrain, but because Curtis is not fully attuned..And then the three Special Duty troopers leaving the Bowery stopped to see what was going on, giving Padawski the excuse that he needed. "Let's get out of here," he said. The trio swaggered toward the door and Hanlon moved in, then stepped aside. Padawski stopped in the doorway and half turned to throw a malevolent look back at Colman. "Some other time. Next time you won't be so lucky." They left. Outside, the three SD troopers turned away and moved slowly off..page to last."..had three and only three possible permutations. It explained why leptons were "white" and did not react to the strong force: There was only one possible permutation of UUU or EEE. And it explained why the electrical charges on quarks and leptons were equal: They were carried by the same tweedles. Also, further studies of "tweedledynamics" enabled the first speculations about what had put the match to the Big Bang..hesitancy and trots at the boy's side.."Well, it sure doesn't pay any money." Colman turned his head toward Hanlon. "What do you say, Bret?"..In their initial meeting, she acknowledged that she would have preferred a large detective agency or a..Leaning across the dinette table, whispering dramatically to Leilani, Geneva said, "I located the bastard..Listening as though to the voice of another, Micky was surprised to hear herself speaking of these things..with." Micky tried to keep her wetter emotions bottled in the cellar of her heart, safe storage that she'd..Or maybe the dog's sudden anxiety has nothing to do with the contents of the mirrored wardrobe. She..resulting in splashed upholstery and wet fur. In the console between the seats were molded-plastic

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