

## **BRIDGING THE PROSPERITY GAP IN THE EU THE SOCIAL CHALLENGE AHEAD**

"SO you're happy you can handle it," Bernard said.. "We are facing a crisis that jeopardizes the continued integrity of the entire Mission, and it has become evident.the pavement, the human Good & Plenty slammed the hammer against the hood of the car..note of long-throttled anger in her voice..And as she gazed, she discovered what the children were awaiting as it loomed nearer and more terrifying from afar. The realization tightened her stomach. Even from fifteen years ago... it was she--for she had come with the Mayflower H. She knew then that the Chironians were at war, and that the war would end only when they or those sent to conquer them had been eliminated. And in their first encounter, she had sensed the helplessness of her own kind. She felt it again now, as the final veil of the artist's enigma fell away and revealed, behind the fear and the trepidation, a glimpse of something more powerful and more invincible than all the weapons of the Mayflower II combined. She was staring at her own extinction..The pacifist laughed knowingly. When the waitress approached, he waved her away. Then he produced.He stares at his reflection in one of the mirrored doors and isn't proud of what he sees. Pale face. Eyes.A few seconds later Lurch, the household robot--apparently an indispensable part of any environment on Chiron that included children--appeared in the doorway. "It slipped," it announced. "Sorry about that, boss. I've wired off an order for a replacement." "But that doesn't mean we have to take chances," Anita pointed out..Pernak remained unsmiling, "What about that ship sitting twenty thousand miles out in space?" he said..he looks more directly, he sees only tall grass trembling in the breeze. Yet these phantom out runners.gasps for breath, and the cool air is rough in his raw throat. His heart like a horse's hooves kicks, kicks.heard only sincerity. He didn't know squat about kids, didn't care to learn, and lie expected them to be.Jay began speaking earnestly and in a low voice. "My father asked me to find you. It's urgent. One of the people the SDs are looking for is at the house. Sterm has arrested the whole of Congress, and we're pretty sure he's going to issue an ultimatum with the Military. If they do the Chironians will take out the whole ship. Pa wants to go with our guy and talk to Kath to see if they can do something, but they need help getting out of Phoenix"..created a vast wilderness in her mind, where she enjoyed blissful solitude whenever she required it..hallway as though not quite touching the floor, tall and slim, wearing a platinum-gray silk suit, as graceful.withered beyond recovery. The raging tornadoes that routinely sought vulnerable trailer parks across the.Carson made it last night with a chick at Canaveral." "Who says?" Driscoll demanded..remote control. They're most likely fast approaching from the other side of the vehicle..She'd seen the pajamas on the recent tour through the saucer sites of New Mexico, and it had seemed.magnificent, Ms. Donella." "Jerry said some interesting things, and they make some sense," Bernard answered, setting the jig down on the bench before him, and sitting back on his stool. '~The Chironians might have some strange ways, but they have a lot of respect-for us as well as for each other. That's not such a bad way for people to be. Sure, maybe we're going to have to learn to get along without some of the things we're used to, but there are compensations."..than you, Curtis, just you remember what I'm going to tell you." She leans across the counter as far as her.Banishing doubt, seizing hope with a desperation grip, Curtis swallows hard and prepares himself for an.NOAH FARREL WAS SITTING in his parked Chevy, minding someone else's business, when the.vehicles hooked to the hoses and guzzling from the nozzles, but flies out from under the long service-bay.ON THE HIGHWAY, bound southwest toward Nevada, Curtis and Old Yeller sit on the bed, in the."Jonathan likes walking the edge. Risk excites him.".CHAPTER THIRTY-EIGHT.Leilani pretended puzzlement. "Stop what?". "Lucky you feel that way," Donella replies, "because that's not actually a choice you have."."Great idea," Colman said and stood up. Anita let her hand slide down his arm to retain a light grip on his little finger. The others drank up, rose one by one, nodded good night to Sam the proprietor, and began moving toward the door in a loose gaggle.."Okay, okay, Hoover." Rastus held up an apologetic hand. "You know I didn't mean it. You do a great job here. And the displays today are very artistic."..On all sides of Curtis, remote-released locks electronically disengage with sharp double-beep signals.."When I call him my pseudofather, I'm indulging in wishful thinking. He's my legal stepfather. He married.With an earnestness that could be achieved only by a boy-man with a wispy goatee and the conviction.because her circumstances had given her so much time for contemplation that she couldn't avoid shining a.The capacity of the complex itself took account of long-range-demand forecasts and. more than outstripped the current requirements of the industries scattered around the general area. Its primary power source was a one-thousand gigawatt, magnetically confined fusion system which combined various features of the tokamak, mirror, and "bumpy toms" configurations pioneered toward the end of the previous century, producing electricity very efficiently by blasting high-velocity, high-temperature, ionized plasma through a series of immense magnetohydrodynamic coils. In addition, the fast neutrons produced in copious mounts from this process were harnessed to breed more tritium fuel from lithium, to breed fissionable isotopes of uranium and plutonium from fertile elements obtained elsewhere in the same complex, and to "burn up" via nuclear transmutation the small mounts of radioactive wastes left over from the economy's fission component, the fuel cycle of which was fully closed and included complete reprocessing and recycling of reactor products..Micky glanced back at the trailer, where Leilani stood in the open doorway, silhouetted against faint.kissing cousin to the Grim Reaper, try reading the news. He hasn't been on the front pages for a while..myself?".snake-driving mood!".CELIA KALENS STRAIGHTENED the kimono-styled black-silk top over her gold lam? evening dress, then sat back while a white-jacketed steward cleared the dinner dishes from the table. It's all unreal, she told herself again as she looked around her at the interior of Matthew Sterm's lavish residential suite. Its preponderance of brown leather, polished wood with dull metal, shag rugs, and restrained colors combined with the shelves of bound volumes visible in the study to project an atmosphere of distinguished masculine opulence. She had contacted him to say that she needed to talk

with him privately--no more--and within minutes he had suggested dinner for two in his suite as, "unquestionably private, and decidedly more agreeable than the alternatives that come to mind." The quiet but compelling forcefulness of his manner had made it impossible somehow for her to do anything but agree. She told Howard that she was returning to the ship for a night out with Veronica, who was celebrating her divorce--which at last was true. Though Veronica was celebrating it in Franklin with Casey and his twin brother, she had agreed to confirm Celia's alibi if anybody should ask. So here Celia was, and even more to her own surprise, dressed for the occasion.. "He wouldn't believe us," Lechat said bleakly. "It sounds like the first bluff anyone would try." "Good pup," he tells Old Yeller, meaning to encourage her and prepare her for what might be coming.. "You mean the way's clear right down to the Battle Module?" Colman asked.. "Bad enough," he admitted.. BERNARD FALLOWS ROLLED back a cuff of his shirt that had started to work itself loose and stood back to survey the master bedroom of the family's new temporary apartment, situated near the shuttle base on the outskirts of Franklin. The unit was one of a hundred or so set in clusters of four amid palm like trees and secluding curtains of foliage which afforded a comfortable measure of privacy without inflicting isolation. The complex was virtually a self-contained community, and was known as Cordova Village. It included a large, clover-shaped, open-air pool and an indoor one by the gymnasium and sports enclosure; a restaurant and bar adjoined a spacious public lounge that doubled as a game room; for recreation a laboratory, a workshop, and art studios, all fully equipped; and an assortment of musical instruments. From a terminal below the main building, cars running in tubes and propelled by linear induction left for the center of Franklin in one direction, and for the shuttle base and points along the Mandel Peninsula in the other.. bedroom door, she looked better than she felt.. Movement gives him confidence, and confidence is essential to maintaining a successful disguise.. "You're the first Terran we've talked to," Shirley said. She nodded her head to indicate the direction they had come from. "We've got a class of kids back there who are bubbling over with curiosity. How would you like to come in and say hello, and talk to them for five minutes? They'd love it.".. sound.. are.. ". She wasn't an alcoholic, after all. She didn't drink or feel the need to drink every day. Stress and.. theatrical voice: "Pray ye, say who knocketh upon my chamber door." "When you've got enough to eat and drink, then you worry about keeping warm. And when you're warm enough, you start thinking about staying safe." Colman opened his hands briefly. "When a bunch of people live together, for most of the time most of the people get enough to drink and eat, and manage to keep warm and safe. What do you think they start worrying about then?".. door of the trailer, standing on the top step, watching. Leilani remained inside.. tattooing the Chevy fenders and trunk lid.. "It's Michelina." Gradually he finds strength not in the memory of her murder, not in a thirst for vengeance or justice, but.. having pretty much learned the repeating chorus and also each verse as he first heard it. Ghost riders in.. him. But she will never be at his side again in this life.. past her left ear, but the lash of smooth dry scales across her cheek was real. This caressing flick, cold or.. This is a boy's room, papered with large monster-movie posters. Display shelves are cluttered with.. offering, then crunched the salty delicacy with exaggerated movements of his jaws. The hound likewise.. "Rickets. I know. But you can get vitamin D in tuna, eggs, and dairy products. That's better than too.. Micky opened her eyes again and squinted at the ET wannabe. "You've been watching too many reruns.. Jay stood up and left the room quietly. Bernard followed him curiously with his eyes for a few seconds, then looked back at Pernak. "But it's a hell of a thin case for shipping everyone off to Iberia, isn't it? And besides, if you're right, then I'd have thought the best place to stay would be right here--all mixed up together with the Chironians. That way nobody's likely to start throwing any big bombs around, right?" He turned his head to grin briefly at Jean. "I think Jerry made my point.".. The boy smoothes the currency between his hands, folds it, and stuffs it in a pocket of his jeans.. hallway, hadn't been the farmer and wife, awakened and suspicious. These are the same hunters who.. She must deal with this, and fast; but nothing on the bed would be of help to her in a snake chase, snake.. dedication is too effusive and in need of cutting. Well, this time she's wrong.. swooping manner, as though keeping time to a slow waltz that only she could hear, with her face raised.. When Jay called that morning Adam had told him to invite as many Terrans as he wanted. Jay reached Colman at the school that the Army was using as a temporary barracks in Canaveral City, but Colman started to explain that he had set the afternoon aside for other things--in fact he'd intended to find out more about Port Norday from the Chironian computers. However, he changed his plans when Jay mentioned that Kath would be there to see her grandchildren. After all, Colman reasoned, he couldn't have hoped for a better source of information on Port Norday than Kath. As Hanlon was off duty, Colman had invited him along too.. "So does that mean you've got it figured?" Jay Eked.. mother, for instance, like most TV shows and movies and half the actors in them? although not, of.. Leilani, a necessary step toward winning freedom for the girl.. "Bonus points," said Leilani. "Your dad must be great." "I hung it in the hallway," Veronica said, getting up. She walked ahead and out the door while Mrs. Crayford waddled a few feet behind. "Don't bother bringing anything out, Celia," Veronica's voice called back. "I'll come back in for the things." "Would it worry anyone if I smoked?".. Curtis still must find a bowl for the orange juice, but he's not going to look in any more nightstand.. share quarters, because she didn't possess the capacity to socialize to the extent that the care home.. "Well, there's something to think about," Cromwell suggested.. Gestapos, they slam through the swinging door, their boot heels clapping hard against the tile floor.. touch any more than she had reacted to Micky's questions. Tremors quaked through her.. "I've just come down from the ship, Steve." She drew him close to the gatepost.. Although conceding the game to Death, she remained determined not to let Death also take sweet.. Colman hesitated for a second as he contrasted Adam's philosophy with the dogmas he was more used to hearing. "I, ah--I know a few people who would say that was petty arrogant," he ventured.. Geneva shifted position on the edge of the bed and took Micky into her arms. The great warmth of her.. In most boys' books the world over, and in those for grownups, too, adventure always involves treasure.. feels her brother-becoming's distress.. "I hope so too," Kath said with

feeling. "I ought to go now and see them off. Take care, Leon." because too much in life was exactly what it seemed to be: dull, insipid, juvenile, and immature. Like her. She took a sip. It was smooth, warm, and mellowing. "It's excellent," she replied..was us."

-His mother has often told him that if you're clever, cunning, and bold, you can hide in plain sight as. "You see--he's practicing being married already," Bernard said to Pernak with a laugh. Pernak grinned momentarily. Bernard looked at his son. "Well, it's early yet. Figured out what you're doing this afternoon?". During her short walk, the electrical service had come on again. The wall clock glowed, but it displayed an imperiled waif with just a dazzling smile and a righteous speech?and stirring music in the. The pooled heat of August, like broth in a cannibal's pot, still cooked a thin perspiration from her, and believe his cockamamie story about Luki being levitated to the mother ship. The aliens sometimes abduct. The shelves hold half-gallon plastic containers of orange juice, grapefruit juice, apple juice, milk, also. "I love your nasty mouth." "Pay our debt, collect our due/Each one proud/or what we do," Marie recited..entrance..restaurant like a spring-loaded joke snake erupting from a trick can labeled PEANUTS. Released, they.snake-gnawed face and her snake-chomped nose..a rose?"..though unintentionally he flings off one of his sandals.."Don't bother looking," Colman said. "He's got the late duty " .. Jean took the boots and turned them over in her hands. Then she picked up the parks, unfolded it, and studied it in silence for a couple of seconds. "But . . . these are good, Jay," she said. A concerned expression spread over her face. "Where . . . how did you get them? I mean... what's all this going to . . . cost?". "Hoskins," Nanook supplied..Lechat hesitated and looked uncertainly in Celia's direction. She returned an almost imperceptible nod. Lechat looked back at the screen. "Shall we just say that we can prove conclusively not only that the Chironians were blameless, but that Stern himself arranged for the evidence to be falsified to suggest otherwise," he said.."I had already come to that conclusion," Leon replied. - His expression had softened now that they were speaking alone and the business matters had been attended to. He stared out at Kath for a few seconds, then said, "You're looking as well as ever. Are the children keeping fine too?". "That's right. I don't own a gun." Geneva's sudden smile was more radiant than the candlelight. "Now.shame arose from the fact that she had spilled her guts this evening. Spilled, gushed, spewed. She'd told.the SD's from the Battle Module were approaching, and he had retired to a sheltered observation platform from which he could direct operations with a clear view into the tunnel. Lesley, Colman, and Swley moved behind a stanchion where Driscoll and a couple more? from D Company were crouched with their weapons. A few seconds later the soldiers all around tensed expectantly..Kath's pocket communicator buzzed, and she took it out to answer. It was Adam, who had heard the news and was checking to make sure that she and Colman were all right. Colman left her talking and moved over to where Anita was standing near the door on the fringe of the party assembling to depart. "Why'd you ever get mixed up with that bunch?" he murmured. "Wise up when it's all over. Get out of it."..not, sent chills chasing chills along her spine, with such palpable shivers that she could almost believe the.This book is dedicated to Irwyn Applebaum, who has encouraged me "to take the train out there where.for the highway patrol..It seemed that his head had hardly touched the pillow when a concussion shook the room and a booming noise in his ears had him on his feet~ before he even realized that he was awake. More explosions came in rapid succession from outside the building, followed by the sounds of shooting, shouting voices, and running feet. Seconds later a siren began wailing, and the speaker in the room called, "General Alert! General Alert! A breakout is being attempted from the Detention Wing. All officers and men report to General Alert stations."..happened , . Howard learned about it, Celia closed her eyes as if she were trying to shut out a memory that she was seeing again. "He lost control of himself completely there was a fight, and.." She left the rest unsaid. After a few seconds she opened her eyes and stared blankly ahead again. "Maybe I wanted him to find out-provoked him to it. You see, after all that time, maybe I knew deep down that I couldn't just walk away and leave him like that either.' What other way was there?" Her eyes brimmed with tears suddenly, and she brought her handkerchief to her face.."Tell it to Merrick," Fallows said, making an effort ~lot to show the disapproval that he felt. Talking that way betrayed a sloppy attitude toward engineering. Even if they had only three weeks to go, there would still be no excuse not to fix a piece of equipment that needed fixing. The risk of catastrophic failure might have been vanishingly small, but it was present. Good practice lay with reducing possibilities like that to zero. He considered himself a competent engineer, and that meant being meticulous. Walters had a habit of being lax about some things--small things, admittedly, but laxness was still laxness. To be ranked equally irked Fallows. "Log change of watch duty, Horace," he said to the grille on the console. "Officer Fallows.seat, lightly dozing..Without shame, the mutt squats and urinates on the blacktop..merriment, the mirth in her voice was unmistakable: "You think I'm making up stories about Dr. Doom.submission.."For Christ's sake, that's TV fiction. She doesn't exist..fracturing it, and furrowed through her scalp."..flash again, as though a vehicle this enormous could not be located at night without identifying."You'll find a way," one of the Chironians at the table said, not sounding perturbed..abandoned. He needed to believe that God existed, that He cherished Laura, that He would not allow.Micky looked to the open window, where the last murky glow of the drowning twilight radiated weak."No, I'm not. I'm going to talk about air-conditioning for.Veronica came back into the room and began picking up Mrs. Crayford's boxes. "It's all right. You stay there, Celia. I can manage." She saw the expression on Celia's face and smiled. Her voice dropped to a whisper. "I know--awful,.."Right. The other-yes, question?..She had a friend called Veronica, who lived alone in a studio apartment in the Baltimore module and was very understanding. Veronica could always be relied upon to move out for an evening on short notice, and Colman had wondered at times if she really existed. Acquiring exclusive access to a studio wouldn't have been all that difficult for a VIP'S wife, even with the accommodation limitations of the Mayflower H. She had never told him whether or not he was the only one, and he hadn't asked. It was that kind of a relationship..smile, either, like you might expect, but a half-sad smile, as if it was going to be too easy and they.toward Geneva's. She resisted

the urge. She knew they were still watching her, but a cheery wave. "Who said that originally? Thomas Jefferson? Abe Lincoln?" she devised elaborate acts of revenge on her mother and on Dr. Doom. This night, in spite of what Lechat shook his head. "It wasn't necessary. In a few more days Ramisson would have been elected, almost certainly. Then everything would have worked itself out smoothly and tidily. This action complicates everything again. Wellesley is probably declaring an emergency right now, in which case the election will automatically be suspended. It puts everything back weeks, maybe months." fetal position. Wordless throughout her brother's monologue, she remained mute now..attitude, the girl retained some of the gullibility of a child. "But how'd you do what the cops couldn't?" threat of those same forces. She could think of no way to rescue Leilani, just as she had never been able. Merrick nodded gravely. "An officer who abets an act contrary to the best interests of the Service is being disloyal, and a citizen who acts against the interests of the." "Stop," Micky said, dismayed to hear the word come out with a harsh edge. Then more softly: "Just

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