

## DI TE PIACERE RUSSO

played yesterday afternoon. Please send along whatever certificate you have to indicate my Fleet Captain. I drive west, away from the soiled towers of the strip-city. I drive beyond the colstrip pits and into the mountains until the paved highway becomes narrow asphalt and then rutted earth and then only a trace, and the car can go no further. With the metal cylinder in one hand I flee on foot until I no longer hear sounds of city or human beings..Honuft This corner of hell, where die drums dinned and the shadows leaped and capered before nickering fires?..A: Against the Fall of Night."A temp."..them the gateway to personal immortality. That is quite wrong.."Hold it," Crawford said. "I just wanted to know if you had any ideas." He was secretly pleased at the argument; it got them both thinking along the right lines, moved them from the deadly apathy they must guard against..every other feeling was something awful. He knew it was irrational, but he couldn't help it. The whole idea of having to have a license to talk to someone was as ridiculous as having to have a license to have sex with them. Right? Right! But ridiculous or not, the law was the law, and when you break it, you're guilty of breaking the law..She says, "Hurry," and cuts off..and the door opened..I grabbed her wrist. "Never mind me. How's Amanda?"..out a deck of cards.."I wondered from the start why you were along, Crawford." She was pacing slowly back and forth in.."Good." As though of its own volition her coat slipped off her shoulders onto the back of the folding..Jain soars to the climax. I shove the slides all the way forward The crowd is on its feet; I have never..In the afternoon:.."The most unique collection of architecture in the world."..to hide me if I come with you."..falls over the edge into the first rows of spectators..They sailed all that night and all the next day, and toward evening they pulled in to a rocky shore.."About a day," Crawford said. "You have to destroy them to get out of them. The plastic strips don't..The back of his shirt was churning. The scream continued, hurting my ears. Rips appeared in the shirt.."What sort of help does he need?" asked Amos. "A doctor?"..I push the tracks to fifteen..part of this body as you are. Hamstring me and we'll just both be cripples."..Neither of them bothered to answer that. The radio hi the nose sputtered, then clanged for their..bought groceries at the supermarket on Highland. Did that mean he wasn't planning to move? I had a..Since then he has published poetry (The Right Way to Figure Plumbing), an anthology, Bad Moon..it?" he said..But as it was, he suspected nothing..had the press, I believe." She spun once more and finished in a deep curtsy, then straightened and began..Is it simply that I'm screwing up on my own hook, or is it because we're exploring a place no performance has ever been? I don't have..his device was sharp and bright When he varied the inputs to the components in a certain way, the bright..are used only as signaling devices; when you know that somebody wants to talk to you, you focus your.."Now," said Jack, rubbing his wrists, "I can look at myself again and see why I am Prince of the Far Rainbow."..become much more fluent these past months."..I raised my brows. "That's dedication."..science fiction, mysteries, biographies, philosophy, several by Colin Wilson..Multiples..She frowned. "You mean quit running together?" "I mean quit everything: running, swimming, practicing. . .\*\* "Quit practicing?" Her face set. "I can't afford to stop practicing. Gordy, it's time she doesn't use. She hasn't missed it before, and if I'm careful not to let her catch me out again, she'll never miss it" I shook my head. "You're breaking an agreement" "I'm not taking over, though. You know that's just a paranoid fantasy. I use only enough time for practice and no more." I sighed. "You seem to have all the best of it" She snorted. "I wonder. Do you have any idea what it's like being locked up in her head for six months, continuously aware but able to do nothing? If I couldn't get out for a run once in a while, I'd not only get flabby, I'd go mad." She bounced out of the chair and came over to lace her fingers together behind my neck. "What about you? It's three months until January. How can I give up seeing you for three whole months?"..clones will disappear..The crowd roars back. The filling begins. I cut in four more low-level tracks..Not to worry, he advised himself. The worst is over. You've got your license. How you got it doesn't matter.."I love you."..For beneath her scarlet cape was a veil of green satin, and topazes flashed yellow along the hem in the lightning that still flickered from the mirror. Now she threw the veil back from her shoulders..He watches the men running, sees them launch the boat As they pull away, he is able to keep the..o'clock in the morning. So can you tell me what I must be sure to avoid because it would be so silly and..running..The owner-manager of the court was one of those creatures peculiar to Hollywood. She must have been a starlet in the Twenties or Thirties, but success had eluded her. So she had tried to freeze herself in time. She still expected, at any moment, a call from The Studio. But her flesh hadn't cooperated. Her hair was the color of tarnished copper, and the fire-engine-red lipstick was painted far past her thin lips. Her watery eyes peered at me through a Lone Ranger mask of Maybelline on a plaster-white face. Her dress had obviously been copied from the wardrobe of Norma Shearer.."Damn it, leave me alone!".. . . and I guess if you kept changing the batteries it would run forever. And it's nearly polystyrene..TV..into his palanquin and clapped his hands. We stared after it as the four black bearers bore it away..Something came around the end of the couch. It wasn't a cat. I thought it was a monkey, and then a..book?" he asked craftily.."Don't mention it." He opened the door for me and then closed it behind me. I sighed and walked across to 408. I rang the bell. It didn't play anything, just went bing-bong..Hinda stood at the door and raised her hand to shade her eyes. The last she saw of him was the flash.."You liked him, didn't you?"..I asked, but I didn't get any answers."..except hi the cramped sleeping quarters. Song Sue Lee was at the radio giving her report to the Edgar..Mama Dolores put her hand to her mouth. "I forget?the little one, he is alone?".."Only that isn't above us," said Jack. "It's below."..Lang sat back down and patted the ground around her, ground that was covered in a multiple layer..John Varley's first story for F&Sf was "Picnic on Nearside" in 1974. Since then, he has earned a reputation as one of sfs most exciting new storytellers through such work as "Retrograde Summer/\* "The Black Hole Passes," "In the Bowl" (Best from F&SF, 22nd series) and his first novel, Titan. This story was another Nebula award nominee..proud flying machine. She brooded about it for a week,

becoming short-tempered and almost.-Michael Bishop.wrong with the Megalo Banking Network, a program bug that appears to have taken roughly ten percent out of every account in the six major banks on the system. The funds have been transferred to some unknown account. This place is, needless to say, Panic City, with vice-presidents screaming for action all over the place..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..The assumption here is that matters not subject to cut-and-dried "hard" proof don't bear any relation.you will if you stay here long enough?they know genetics. They really know it We have a thousand.would.."Good-by," Barry shouted after him, but Ed was already either comatose or out of earshot. "And thanks again!".to wander, and she stood up and gazed into the valley below them. It was as barren as anything that.Everyone halted and put the trunk down on the sidewalk..254.There would be practical uses, too. A prize bull or a champion egg-laying hen could be cloned, and.I frowned. "If you know I'm taking her to lunch, how is it she doesn't know what you're doing?". "You must have quite an artists' colony here," Amanda said, looking over the collection. She ran a hand down the smooth curves of a sonatrophic sculpture by Drummond Caspar. The trope leaned toward the sound of her voice..bounces off the great portal, spins across the polished floor, lies crushed and unmoving..without return address. The owner of the post office box turned it in marked "not here"; it went to the.formless doubts..with another three months in which to continue his quest and an introduction to Intensity Five, Barry had.infidelties forced him to divorce her.".The day before, Monday, the 25th, a girl had miscarried and hemorrhaged. She had bled to death."Exactly." She squinted across the vast tasteful expanse of Party-land, then stood up and waved. "I think I've recognized someone," she said excitedly, preening her paper feathers with her free hand. Far away, someone waved back..the terrace was a bronzed hunk of beef stretched out nude trying to get bronzer. The hunk opened his."The nature of the beast," he mutters, almost sadly, and smacks the palm of his gloved hand against the portal. "Sreen!" he yells. "Come out, Sreen!".begun to gather on his forehead. "Young man," he said, "you sound positively paganistic. Don't you want.'When Westland came charging back into my office an hoar later, he found the Admiral hammering at."I am Jack, the Prince of the Far Rainbow, and I am a prisoner here.". "No one is paying you to find this Detweiler person, are they?".Someone sat up beside him. He froze, but it was too late. She nibbed her eyes and peered into the darkness.."I just want to point out that instead of an expedition, we are now a colony. Not in the usual sense of planning to stay here forever, but all our planning will have to be geared to that fiction. What we're faced with is not a simple matter of stretching supplies until rescue comes. Stopgap measures are not likely to do us much good. Hie answers that will save us are the long-term ones, the sort of answers a colony would be looking for. About two years from now we're going to have to be in a position to survive with some sort of lifestyle that could support us forever. We'll have to fit into this environment.half set of chromosomes, does not require union with a sperm cell to supply the other half set. Instead,.balloon. When the arena's full, the body heat from the audience keeps the dome aloft, and the arena crew turns off the blowers..Caution, an old habit, claimed him. He circled the clearing, never once making a sound. He approached the cottage from the side, and Hinda's singing led him on. When he reached the window, he peered in..into the infrared. He spent most of August, when he should have been on vacation, trying various."Just for the afternoon." a year. They are prized as wives, for they never nag their husbands.".She turned. "For my sake? Matthew, please don't lie to me again." There were tears in her voice..There was only one incident: a wealthy merchant came around in a big pink palanquin, got out and began pacing up and down. He didn't say anything?just kept looking up at that half-finished seventh stage and shaking his head. If he was aware of me, or of Zeke or Ben or Eli, the other three pickets, he gave no sign. Finally he stopped pacing, climbed back into his palanquin and closed the curtains, and his bearers bore him away..brushed against Crawford in the dark and they murmured apologies. Then they all bedded down in their.90.red ruby that had fallen from the closet and not been put back. On the side of the trunk that now sat in the comer was a small triangular door that Amos had not seen. The grey man pulled it open, tossed in the ruby, and slammed it quickly: Orghmftbfe..As if she had broken a spell, the man spoke at hist "I am but a.Smith's hair got whiter and thinner. Before the 1992 Crash, he made heavy contributions to the.Song Sue Lee was on her knees, examining one of the hundreds of short, stiff spikes extruding from.come from the great valley beneath the mountains, and as a child I learned to fear those who lurk above..He gestured her back. Nina's smile faded and she made a sound in her throat, a little gasp of entreaty. Her hands reached out?.Well, Til get them, he insisted, hoping to impress the other voice with the authenticity and vitality of his self-confidence. But the other voice wasn't impressed, and so instead of going straight from Center St. to the nearest speakeasy to celebrate, he took the subway home and spent the evening watching first a fascinating documentary on calcium structures and then Celebrity Circus, with Willy Marx. Willy had four guests: a famous prostitute, a tax accountant who had just.Rising, and three remarkable novels, The Genocides (1964), Camp Concentration (1968) and 334.. "That's none of your business!" Nolan reddened. "Besides, it's all over now.".4. A poem about a rabbit (there was a porcelain rabbit on one of the shelves) suitable to be sung to a baby.. "Who is your friend?" asked Amos. Though he had not heard the beginning of the story, the whole.butterflies glisten on the rims of pink marble fountains, and the only thing white in it is a silver-white.PLANNED FREEDOM IS THE.Of my own flesh and bone."You know ... I wish ... Of course, I know it's not permis-ever really talked together, not seriously, but you certainly ought to have a license.".So in fact he hadn't passed the exam. Or maybe he had. He'd never find out..Some of the scaffolding was still in place along the wall of the sixth stage, and the King, perceiving.Standing just outside the airlock was Mary Lang. She turned as they came out, and did not seem surprised..particularly substantial-looking beings, mere wisps of translucent flesh through which their bluish skeletal

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