

IN STRANGE ORBITS VOLUME 1

"That's a good question," said Amos. "What do you keep?" He watches the men running, sees them launch the boat. As they pull away, he is able to keep the focus near enough to see and hear them. One calls, "My God, who's at the helm?" Another, a bearded man with a face gone tallow-pale, replies, "Never mind?row!" They are staring down into the sea. After a moment one looks up, then another. The Mary Celeste, with three of the four sails on her foremast set, is gliding away, slowly, now faster; now she is gone..They started forward again toward the fires. It was so dark and the cave was so big that even with the light they could not see the ceiling or the far wall. The fires themselves burned in huge scooped out basins of stone. They had been put there for a warning, because just beyond them the floor of the cave dropped away and there was rolling darkness beyond them.."Have you ever been to the Miss America Pageant on 42nd St.?" she asked him, drying her eyes..endorsement, or preferably two, to which Michelle replied (quite seriously) that unfortunately she did not.off. I know I'm a fine one to talk; I won't be cooped up in here. But the colony needs it We've all felt it..anywhere else..Though he minded, he hadn't the gumption to say so. "I don't remember. Not a lot. They're really..When the cops finally got there, I told them all I knew-except I didn't mention the Detweiler boy. I..interested in doing it yourself. The co-op teacher monitors your studies, sometimes makes suggestions,..half to pick up my final check, some subordinate I've never seen before gives me the envelope..The gale blows itself out on the morning of the 26th. The sun is bright, the sea almost dead calm..trade gin, and now the cheap rum.."Any kind, really.."..some of the most beautiful photography that has ever graced a science fiction film..occur at all.* [* I used to inform people of the endings of television plays (before the endings happened)..Organizer outlined what we were striking for, and I paid strict attention so I could tell Ike. It adds up to a..He had walked a long time, and even through his dark glasses he could make out the green and red..results were erased. But assuming that I did, that's the reason. I never got any practice. The basic."All right, but including the two you've already written."..Guilt and her pain tore at me. I chased through my head for something to comfort her. "Mandy, I?"..It will work as long as the silver-white unicorn guards the fragment of the mirror," said Amos, "and..change places with Ben. With my old buddy to talk to, time went by fast..That afternoon I played gin with the Detweiler boy. He was genuinely glad to see me, like a friendly puppy. I was beginning to feel nice a son of a bitch..cut well, but there's another specialized animal that eats that type of plastic. It's recycled into the system..I blow you into little pieces and scatter them over the whole wide world.."..finger in..The couple rose in unison and greeted her with cries of "Maggie!" and "Son of a gun!" It was.."Why do I say what I think? It's easiest."..standing in his underwear. Then he climbed over the edge of the boat into the swamp. He was so bright..hundred."..?Harvey Abramson..The technique has been tried on different animals. You begin with an unfertilized egg cell and treat it..It took me a second to realize what he meant "You mean stamp collecting? Not much."..?A six-pack of Schlitz," he said, quite off the top of his head..22."I suppose you're right. But sometimes I get the feeling that he's using us guys for some purpose of his..could govern beside any man. He said I was proud, and that my pride was good. But then he saw how I..24..Mama Dolores took over Robbie's schedule while Nolan made his daily rounds in the fields.."And what is that?"..her ears. But he touched no more than her hand..He surmounted the second stage. The third. Ike and I stayed right behind him. The fourth. The fifth..?Barry N. Malzberg..the side..Amos himself was well aware how long he would have hesitated had the question been asked of him. As the seconds passed, he began to fear for Jack's life, and wished he had had a chance to figure some other way to get the mirror out One minute passed; perhaps they could have tricked the girl into bringing it up herself. Two minutes; they could have tied a string to the leg of a frog and sent him down to do the searching. Three minutes; there was not a bubble on the water, and Amos surprised himself by deciding the only thing to do was to jump in and at least try to save the prince. But there was a splash of water at his feet..4 Damon Knight..The image as it swells hypnotically toward him is clear and sharp, without tremor or atmospheric distortion. It is summer in the northern hemisphere: Utopia is wide and dark. The planet fills the screen, and now he turns northward, over the cratered desert still hundreds of miles distant A dust storm, like a yellow veil, obscures the curved neck of Thoth-Nepenthes; then he is beyond it, drifting down to die..book in my direction; I recognize the cover..On his other forearm there was a crudely executed rose with his name underneath: Marvin Kolodny,..there was dried blood all over his face and hands from the nosebleed he'd only recently gotten under..just arrived a day or two before, paddling a crude catamaran downriver from somewhere out of the..The minute she saw me, Debbie's face fell. When we voted the Union hi last month, she had a fit, and..Barrow St being right in the middle of one of the city's worst slums, Barry had been prepared (he'd thought) for a lesser degree of stateliness and bon ton than that achieved by Partyland, but even so the dismal actuality of Intensity Five went beyond anything he could have imagined. A cavernous one-room basement apartment with bare walls, crackly linoleum over a concrete floor, and radiators that hissed and gurgled ominously without generating a great deal of heat The furniture consisted of metal folding chairs, most of them folded and stacked, a refreshment stand that sold orange juice and coffee, and a great many freestanding, brimful metal ashtrays. Having already forked out twenty-five dollars upstairs as his membership fee,..writer, you know..For one of the two was Amos, wearing the top half of the costume of the Prince of the Far Rainbow, minus a little green patch from the sleeve and a strip from the crimson cape; he had stood [behind some bushes so the grey man could not see his less colorful I pants. The other was Prince Jack himself, wearing the bottom of the F costume, minus the white leather boot; he had stood behind a low-I hanging branch so the grey man had not been able to see him from | the waist up..She shakes her head. "Just my pa." I guess I look curious because she looks away and adds, "My mother died of tetanus right after I was born. It was a freak thing."..Tin Columbine Brown," she said, as though that offered an explanation..elongated, the wide mouth accentuating the ugliness of her face. How could he

have coupled with this. an introduction service on the day they came in the mail. With his last gasp of self-confidence Barry. What was marvelous was the afternoon with Amanda clinging to my arm and greeting each new offering with a sigh of pleasure or gasp of delicious dismay. In the course of it she stopped calling me Mr. Gordon, too, and began saying Matthew. I would have preferred Matt, but when I brought that up she dropped her eyes and said: meandered on home. programmers and technical writers is in place. The schedule for putting together a production package is. the edge of the table. It caught mm square across the hump on his back. He bounced and fell forward on. I see her stagger slightly. I don't think I am feeding her too much too fast, but mute another pair of. "Then it's good I am going to get it for you," said Amos, "because even with your sunglasses, it would give you a terrible headache." Jane Yolen's classic fantasy tales have been appearing in F&SF since 1976. She is the author. you really get into it, don't you? bushes so the grey man could not see his less colorful I pants. The other was Prince Jack himself. "This would be a nice night for a fire. Shall I build one?" I asked. "clone" is Greek, exactly as it stands, provided you spell it in Greek letters, and it means "twig." [See. Amos and Jack climbed long and hard through the evening. When darkness fell, at first they thought. rags. When he had dressed and was about to go with the grey man to lunch, his sleeve brushed the grey. that, and Lang was wondering if it was too often. The place was crowded, and the kids were nervous. "When I couldn't get her to answer my knock last night, I went around to the window and looked in. She was lying there with blood all over." She began to sniffle. Johnny got up and put his arms around her. He looked at me, grinned, and shrugged. clever man, Amos knew there were some situations in which it was a waste of wit to try and figure a way. "About as far as you can get without comin* out the other side. Did you know most of the people never heard of television or movies. or were they made to do it by whatever built them? Do you see what I'm talking about? I've felt funny. cleaning brushes. When he sat, the split in his shorts opened and exposed half his butt, which was also. the bright image races toward you, trees hurling themselves into red darkness and vanishing, then the. where just a few hundred yards away a mountain rose high and higher into the clear twilight. I dropped in at the office for a while Friday morning and checked the first-of-the-month bills. Miss. And that was all there was to it- he had passed his exam with a score just five points short of the crucial eighth percentile. Which was a tremendous accomplishment but also rather frustrating in a way, since it meant he'd come that close to not having to bother scouting out two more endorsements. Stitl, with another three months in which to continue his quest and an introduction to Intensity Five, Barry had every reason to be optimistic. She simpered. "Oh, Johnny! Come on in. This detective was asking about Andrew Detweiler in." I don't know. It's just a feeling- that's all. "A good theory, but meanwhile be had the immediate problem of what in particular to talk about. "Have you heard about the giant department store in Japan?" he asked her. "It covers sixteen acres." THE ORGANIZER: If the Project's real purpose is to provide a. THE MEDIATOR: Nevertheless, I feel that hi fairness both to the Company and to the King that the confusion should be cleared up. arises from sexual reproduction (except where self-fertilization is possible) has two parents. so high that the North Wind lives in a cave there. The second piece of the mirror is on the highest peak of. I've got to admit, though, that before I yelled my nay I had a bad moment. I'm still not sure I did right. The end result will be that though my clones, or some of them, might turn out to be valuable citizens. Isn't that amazing," said Hidalga. "That's the most amazing thing I ever heard of." Robert Bloch. dissemination of such information. The grey man took the third piece of mirror to his cabin, but he was too ill to fit the fragments together. So he put the last piece on top of the trunk, swallowed several aspirins, and lay down. 205. "Who was Detweiler visiting?" I asked as I lit the cigarette. The lighter felt cool and expensive in my. They flew every day, they had the feel for it. They were tops." She slumped back into her chair. "I. Her face took on the intent, yet mesmerized look of a quiz show contestant "Ask, ask." I'm not used to this much open space; it scares me a little, though I'm not going to admit that to Jain. After about two hours, in which Detweiler grew progressively more ill, I excused myself to go to the. There was a weary sadness in his eyes. "Yes," he said. "Name it." 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. had to be out there, watch it with his own eyes. It didn't matter if he never lived to tell about it, he must. anything like you knew him. The telemetry shows nothing like the normal brain wave. Now I've got to. He smiled at her. "No, thanks. But what you said is right I have no hankering to take charge of anything. But I do have some knowledge that might prove useful." "I do hope you aren't going to say it was me, not with a chair adapted to Selene right beside you." He grinned and shuffled the cards. "North Carolina. Back in the Blue Ridge." 2. A poem in the form of a Christmas-shopping list. about forty-five, looked like a constipated librarian, and was the best secretary I'd ever had. She'd been. Thank you, Barry. I know you mean that, and I'm flattered Well, then?" He took his pipe from his. "I hadn't thought of it that way," Crawford admitted. "That's right," said Jack. "And nearer than you think is a great, grey, dull, tangled, boggy, and baleful. behind. She was blunt about what she thought and not at all hesitant about disagreeing with me. Still, them. I will? when the authors keep politics out of their stories. But they never do; in fact, it seems absolutely impossible to write anything without immediately making all sorts of assumptions about what human nature is, what good and bad behavior consists of, what men ought to be, what women ought to be, which states of mind and character are valuable, which are the opposite, and so on. Once fiction gets beyond the level of minimal technical competence, a reviewer must address these judgments of value. Generally, readers don't notice the presence of familiar value judgments in stories, but do notice (and object to) unfamiliar ones as "political." Hence arises the insistence (in itself a very vehement, political judgment) that art and politics have nothing to do with one another, that artists ought to be "above" politics, and that a critic making political comments about fiction is importing something foreign into an essentially neutral area. But if "politics" means the relations of power that obtain between groups of people, and the way these are concretely embodied in personal relations,

social institutions, and received ideas (among which is the idea that art ought not to be political), then such neutrality simply doesn't exist Fiction which isn't openly polemical or didactic is nonetheless chock-full of politics. If beauty in fiction bears any relation to truth (as Matthew Arnold thought), then the human (including social and political) truth of a piece of fiction matters, for aesthetic reasons. To apply rigid, stupid, narrow, political standards to fiction is bad because the standards are rigid, stupid, and narrow, not because they are political. For an example of (to my mind) profound, searching, brilliant, political criticism, see Jean-Paul Sartre's Saint Genet..She was quiet for a long time, then shuffled her feet awkwardly. She glanced at him, then at Song and Ralston. They were waiting, and she had to blush and smile slowly at them.. "But doesn't that idea"?Barry nodded at the tattoo-"conflict with your having this particular job? Aren't you part of the U. S. Government yourself?". "No. They said he'd been dead over an hour. What did Desmond tell you?". "If he didn't bring it up, I would, but I had a feeling he would want his usual alibi this time.. "Oh, my nearest and dearest friend," said the grey man, "I had almost forgotten you. Forgive me." He.33.In the sky the clouds swirled and bumped each other, trying to upset the rain..With the tip of his thin grey sword he cut Amos' ropes, thrusting him into the jewel garden and closing.come, to mate with men..part delight, part fear..an old wound, crusted but clean. The slash on the right was new, and from it blood still dripped..Earth and Moon? And why right here, in the graveyard?". "Well have to get cutting tools from the ship," he told his crew. "They're probably in there. What a.gone to Lang. There was little friendship between the two, especially when Weinstein fell to brooding.I shook it "Bert Mallory." The apartment couldn't have been more different from the one across the hatl. It was comfortable and cluttered, and dominated by a drafting table surrounded by jars of brushes and boxes of paint tubes. Architecturally, however, it was almost identical. The terrace was covered with potted plants rather than naked muscles. David Fowler sat on the stool at the drafting table and began cleaning brushes. When he sat, the split in his shorts opened and exposed half his butt, which was also freckled. But I got the impression he wasn't exhibiting himself; he was just completely indifferent.. "You're right. What do we do first?".driving..science fiction, mysteries, biographies, philosophy, several by Colin Wilson..played a few notes of Bach, or maybe Vivaldi or Telemann. All those old Baroques sound alike to me.. "I?ll just get it quickly without any fuss," said the grey man. But when he stepped forward, the unicorn."Not once you understand what this graveyard is and why it became what it did," Song said. She was sitting cross-legged on the floor nursing her youngest, Ethan..space flight. We wanted as few scientists as possible and as many astronauts as we could manage. We.order of business?".Nolan rose, stretching, then stepped out into the hall. The shadows were darker here and everything was still.. "Now before you play," I said, "you must understand that we did not wish it known we were working on a proposed naval system. Thus, we have pretended that we are fighting a space war of the future against the mythical race of Zorphs. The weapons you will be using will not have the standard Navy nomenclature, but you'll have no trouble recognizing what they really are."*.She came to him then, almost as though the stirring had been a silent summons, came like a brown shadow gliding out of the night Soundlessly she entered, and swiftly she shed her single garment as she moved across the room to stand staring down at him on the bed. Then, as she sank upon his nakedness and encircled his thighs, the stirring in his loins became a throbbing and the pounding in his head drowned out the drums..publicity. I understand they're trying to work out a heat-shield parachute system from one of the drop.glove compartment He removed the gun and slipped out of the car. He went down the hill into the brush.

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