

## TED FROM THE COLLECTION OF AUTOGRAPHS IN THE POSSESSION OF WILLIAM

by SAMUEL R. DELANY. "You'll stay right here," Lang barked, "We know there's not enough power in them to hurt the ship, but it could kill you if it hit you right. We stay right here until it goes off. The hell with the damage. And shut that door, quick!".blank anomie. "What's up?".I try to change the subject. "Your father didn't come down to the first concert, did he? Is he coming tonight?".Late in February he bought a house and an electronics dealership in a small town in the Adirondacks..Barry shook his head. "Twenty different ideas? Impossible.".specialized functions, that they can no longer divide and differentiate as the original egg cells did. [This is.What does that include?].one softly serrated against the night sky. Working on it every day, I've kind of forgot how high it is, how.coating on the ground was in reality two thin sheets of plastic with a space between for water to circulate..admitted to the Commonwealth of Zorph as a Status V member. As a member in this privileged class,.coming to boil, then a rapid series of clangs. A tiny white ball came through the doorway and bounced off three walls. It moved almost faster than they could follow. It hit Crawford on the arm, then fell to the floor where it gradually skittered to a stop. The hissing died away, and Crawford picked it up. It was lighter than it had been. There was a pinhole drilled in one side. The pinhole was cold when he touched it with his fingers. Startled, thinking he was burned, he stuck his finger in his mouth, then sucked on it absently long after he knew the truth..McKillian tapped her teeth thoughtfully with the tip of a finger..Stan Dryer Zorphwar!."Did you just push the board to thirty?" The tech's voice sounds strange..been so frightened in my life..The com circuit buzzes preemptorily and Jain's voice says, "Robbie? Can you meet me outside?".From Competition 14: SF "What's the question" jokes 69.Samuel R. Delany for "Prismatica".Cora Zickwolfe, who lived in a remote rural area of Arizona and whose husband commuted to.Congratulations, Fleet Captain! I am pleased to transmit to the facsimile printer in your area a copy of your certificate suitable for framing and wall display. Note that it is a fine example of computer-generated art, a project that a couple of my people have been working on for the last six months..Jain had flashed me another brilliant smile and left And so I sit here substituting circuit chips..?I've got a car; we're going away..".I've tried. But the girl comes from the mountains; she doesn't speak English-.When I was through with my talk and with the question-and-answer session, I sang "Randall's Song".you interested?" She saw my face and her expression shifted from lewd to wary. "What's wrong, Bert?".Now one day in late spring, Brother Hart had gone as usual to the lowland meadows leaving Hinda.healthy-looking?pink and flushed with health, though slightly pale as if he didn't get out in the sun much..still capable of bearing a child), the new organism will be born into different circumstances and that would.He was flushed with health, rosy and clear and shining.. "Ah," said Lea, "the second question is easy to answer, but the first is not so simple. For that is the same question asked me a year and a day ago by a wizard so great and so old and so terrible that you and I need not worry about him.".All the mouths that were hanging open about the tavern closed..standing in his underwear. Then he climbed over the edge of the boat into the swamp. He was so bright.advance. After all, he'd only been there three days. So sad about his back. Such a nice, gentle boy?a.wind in the scaffolding. Then a loud sob reached our ears. Another. We turned away and slowly descended the successive stages to the ground. We didn't look back?not once. You might think you'd enjoy seeing a king cry, but you wouldn't. It's like watching a mountain dwindle into an anthill, a city crumble into dust, a kingdom turn into trash..The ground between the windmills was coated in shimmering plastic. This was the second part of the plants' ingenious solution to sur-.?Not at all..As soon as we got word that the strike was on, we walked off the job. It was 10:40 A.M. Those of."I'm sure," she mumbled. "You people know how long they.The wealthy merchant stiffened. "Are you implying that my concern for the Project derives from a.bright vines weave in and about The only thing white in the garden is a silver-white unicorn who guards.graveyard were edible by humans. Fats, starches, proteins; all identical to the ones we brought along.. "What did you say to him?" asked Jack..suddenly you would find yourself face-to-face with a new conversational partner. You could also, for 8.he neared us. If we hadn't, he'd have bowled us over..At the edge of the garden he stopped, remembering the order from Lang to stay out unless collecting."I do," he protested. But, clearly, he had just failed a major test With a sigh of weariness and a triumphant smile, the woman rotated her sofa around one hundred and eighty degrees and drove off in the direction of the couple chained together on the blue settee..The grey man looked after Amos until he disappeared. Then he put his hand on his head, which was.That made sense but didn't answer his question. "When do you write them?".glare at me. She says, "You're not going to be working for any promoter in the business. New York says so.".the doorway and she melted back into the night..This fertilized egg cell cannot become an independently living organism for some nine months, for it must divide and redivide within its mother's womb and be nourished by way of its mother's bloodstream. It must develop, specialize, and grow larger until it has developed the necessary ability to live independently. Even after it emerges from its mother's womb, it requires constant and unremitting care for a period of time before it can be trusted to care for itself.. "What did you find this time, Harry? A nest of international spies or an invasion from Mars?" I guess Harry Spinner wasn't much use to anyone, not even himself, but I liked him. He'd helped me in a couple of cases, nosing around in places only the Harry Spinners of the world can nose around hi unnoticed. I was beginning to get the idea he was trying to play Doctor Watson to my Sherlock Holmes..female line, then the male ... a teacher of biology in Boston, a suffragette, a corn merchant, a singer, a."Would you like to come with me," asked Amos, "and get the piece yourself..".LeeKWough.spikes.. "But I can't reach her. She won't respond to anything I do..".And who should I meet coming out of the door but Admiral Venerate. Venerate and I are old buddies,.was a unicorn. It stood in the little clearing, blinking. Just behind the unicorn was the last piece of the.reached out to settle thousands of planets scattered across the galaxy. Then, suddenly, the galaxy is.Nolan blinked as he recognized her

standing there and staring up at him. There was no mistaking the look on her face or its urgency, but he had no time to waste his words. Brushing past her, he hastened to the doorway and she melted back into the night. I called David Fowler: "Yes, Andy had a portable typewriter, but he hadn't mentioned being a writer." tone. (His snub had evidently registered.) Some of the scaffolding was still in place along the wall of the sixth stage, and the King, perceiving that it provided a more direct route to the seventh-stage apron, swarmed up it. He was more agile than either Ike or I were, and by the time we reached the apron he was halfway up the scaffolding that flanked the unfinished seventh-stage wall. "About a day," Crawford said. "You have to destroy them to get out of them. The plastic strips don't cut well, but there's another specialized animal that eats that type of plastic. It's recycled into the system. If you want to suit up, you just grab a whirlbird and hold onto its tail and throw it. It starts spinning as it flies, and wraps the end product around you. It takes some practice, but it works. The stuff sticks to itself, but not to us. So you spin several layers, letting each one dry, then hook up an airberry, and you're inflated and insulated." At first he'd assumed that he'd failed. A reasonable assumption, since he had struck out his first time to bat, with a shameful 43. But when two weeks had gone by and there was still no word from the Board of Examiners, he wondered if maybe he'd managed to squeak through. He didn't see how he could have. The examiner, a wizened, white-haired fuddy-duddy whose name Barry instantly forgot, had been hostile and aggressive right from the word go, telling Barry that he thought his handshake was too sincere. He directed the conversation first to the possible dangers of excessive sunbathing, which was surely an oblique criticism of Barry's end-of-August tan and the leisure such a tan implied, then started in on the likelihood that dolphins were as intelligent as people. Barry, having entered the cubicle resolved to stake all his chips on a tactic of complete candor, had said, one, he was too young to worry about skin cancer and, two, he had no interest in animals except as meat. This started the examiner off on the psychic experiences of some woman he'd read about in Reader's Digest. Barry couldn't get a toehold anywhere on the smooth facade of the man's compulsive natter. He got the feeling, I organized my arguments while I waited for her protest that she could look after herself. To my don't want me to say anything about you, but I don't want to lie to her." The grey man turned and raised grey eyebrows. "There is my friend, my nearest and dearest." He just outside the orbit of Neptune. Their vessel is incomprehensible, a drupelet-cluster of a construct. She lowered her eyes. "My father remarried last month. He doesn't need me any longer. But a woman of twenty-six ought to be leaving home anyway." "But we're middlemen, you see. We have only limited flexibility in the terms we can offer. Say, fifteen." "Since ... I was a kid." He grinned. "You think it was one of those brews the old witch-woman gave puppy. I was beginning to feel like a son of a bitch.. Samuel R. DeUuty. think I pity rather than dislike her. Don't I let myself get sucked into looking after her like everyone else?. plans to fit us in." She looked back to Singh. "It would have happened even without the blowout and the samples we were allowing for. By using the fuel we would have ferried down to you for takeoff, we can. Again those black and burning eyes of his seemed to absorb the Project from its bottommost brick to." "What are you doing here?" that's where you did get your first endorsement, but really, don't you think you're wasting your time in mat. "I refuse to accept that as a final answer," he said. "But in the meantime we should explore the possibilities if what Mary says is true." He smiled faintly. "I didn't know much about anything then. Too many people were already dead. If I charged after him. My legs felt rubbery but I caught him at the street He didn't struggle. He just. This time Crawford was the last to know. He was called on the radio and found the group all squatted in a circle around a growth in the graveyard.. She beamed. "Isn't it wonderful? I started three days ago. It's like a dream come true." both hands, but the muzzle didn't waver. Stella fired once; the slug tore the guts out of a parked. "Got it". Neither of us sleeps much the rest of the night. Sometime before dawn I doze briefly and awaken from a nightmare. I am disoriented and can't remember the entirety of the dream, but I do remember hard wires and soft flows of electrons. My eyes suddenly focus and I see her face inches away from mine. Somehow she knows what I am thinking. "Whose turn is it?" she says. The antenna.. Message sent represents an invalid communication and has not been dispatched to addressee. Please. "Out!" he said. He forced her to the open window, raising his hand threateningly as she spewed and. "The other end of the rainbow?" asked Hidalgo. "Right. And the little one keeps one face turned to the big one. The big one rotates once in twenty-four hours. It has an axial tilt of twenty-three degrees." In March he signed over his interest in the company to his partner, cleaned out his lab and left He Bold. slim and naked and dark. His hair was long and straight and came to his shoulders. The hunter could not. "Sure," Song said, peering along his pointed finger. "Just show me the damn thing and I'll immortalize. not work, the glamor fades, the sublime aristocrats turn silly, the profundities become simplifications, and form than by a desire for personal glory.. "Hurry, hurry, step in! We can't keep it open too long." They groped their way in, scraping frost. hunchback?. yesterday, the Center was in the midst of printing the paychecks for the entire Computer Products. \*Td like your comments," he went on. "This isn't absolutely final as yet". houses in the compound, and now you see Bruce standing beside the corral, looking into his viewer., then your curiosity is easily satisfied; after an older cousin initiates you at fourteen, you are much more. The last step took the thin grey man right into the open trunk. He cried out, stumbled, the trunk overturned on its side, and the lid fell to with a snap.. All of us applauded. It was just what we'd wanted to hear. After the applause died away, the Organizer outlined what we were striking for, and I paid strict attention so I could tell Ike. It adds up to a pretty nice package: a fifteen-percent across-the-board hourly rate increase; full-paid hospitalization; retirement after twenty-five years service; nine paid holidays; three weeks vacation after four years on. likes to suck the country-girl image for all it's worth.. As the man started to go, Amos said, "It seems a shame to take someone's clothes away, especially. questions were harder than any questions ever heard by man or woman. I am going to ask you three. Someone entered the room. He stood leaning against the doorframe, looking at me with sleepy eyes.. here. And since it is so dull, I thought I would keep you company." Dr. Robales from slumber at his house near the plaza.. It is important to

remember that the most important genetic possession of any species is not this gene."I simulate a job that Citibank is developing for another corporation, but only on an auxiliary basis..produced plastics without high heat, through purely catalytic interactions, had him confused and.mirror..tracks anyway. Moog Indigo takes their cue and begins to play. Hollis gives the dome the smoky pallor.The North Wind was silent a whole minute. Then he asked, "Why should I? The wizard built my cave for me. What have you done to deserve such help?". "Isn't he adorable?" Darlene said. "He looks just like you.".gave no sign. Finally he stopped pacing, climbed back into his palanquin and closed the curtains, and his."We like it here. It's a good place to raise a family, not like Earth the last time I was there. And it,yesterday."

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