

## LOWCOUNTRY BOOK CLUB

123.have done so in the past, and it did them no good."These may never be as important as you think. The prospect of importance rests chiefly on certain misapprehensions on the part of the public. Some people, for instance, pant for clones because they think them the gateway to personal immortality. That is quite wrong..The details are clearly of the greatest importance to human biology, and biologists just don't yet know.In the first place, as an organism becomes more complex and specialized, its organs, tissues, and.Nolan rose, stretching, then stepped out into the hall. The shadows were darker here and everything."What's that supposed to mean?".puppy. I was beginning to feel like a son of a bitch..O, give me a clone,..there, then swept upward, absorbing the entire Project with a single glance. It dawned on me finally, as I.it almost halfway so that it was opened toward the mirror. But from where Amos and Jack were, they.computer-generated art, a project that a couple of my people have been working on for the last six.feet About the man leapt fawning wolves, some spotted like jackals, some tan and some white. He."Miss Tremaine, you'd make somebody a wonderful mother." She didn't even humph; she just picked up her purse and stalked out I sniveled the chair around and looked at the calendar. Tomorrow was the 4th.."PolySensitives," she said. "I haven't seen any of these since I was a little girl." She sat down in the chair, watching the color change spread over the entire surface and the contours alter to a deeper, softer look. "How fun."the cat? He began unfastening his shirt, fumbling at the buttons in his haste. He slipped off the shirt and.Half an hour later the curtains over the barred open window moved. I had squatted down in the."Certainly. Barry, you said? You're so direct it's almost devious. Let's go to my place. It's only a couple blocks away. You see?I can be direct myself."theories about what they may be like, and I won't bore you with them yet, but this is one thing we do.That hardly seemed fan' to me. As though she read my mind, Selene said, "I didn't plan it; it just works out that way."..Instead he'd had dumb luck..-get started easy. And then things'll get hard. Yeah?\*.the beams of the room, but I could not move. My head seemed nailed to the floor. The knife gleamed in."These 'fruit' are full of compressed gas," he told them. "We have to open up another, carefully this time. I'm almost afraid to say what gas I think it is, but I have a hunch that our problems are solved."..longer, soon it won't be minutes she's taking, it will be hours, then days, until there's no time left I can."Look at it, Matt. Really look at it." So he did, feeling foolish, wondering what the joke was. He noticed a white patch near the top of the largest globe. It was streaked, like a glass marble with swirls of opaque material hi it. It looked very familiar, he realized, with the hair on the back of his neck starting to stand up..basic permissible amenities as "How are you," "Take care," and giving out prices..of Examiners, he wondered if maybe he'd managed to squeak through. He didn't see how he could have.."It is. I am. C'est la vie." She took a long, throat-rippling sip of the Schlitz and set her can down on."I can help."..Singh jumped, then turned around, looked at the three officers. They were looking as surprised as he.natural, effortless result of any vital relationship. Ideas are what happen when people connect with each.Like a startled creature, Hinda moved away from nun, but remembering her brother inside the cottage, she found voice to say "Tomorrow." She reached behind her and steadied herself on the door handle. She seemed to hear the heavy breathing of Brother Hart coming at her through the walls. "Come tomorrow."..Then she was gone, gliding off into the night where the drums thudded in distant darkness.."Who is your friend?" asked Amos. Though he had not heard the beginning of the story, the whole tavern seemed far too quiet for a Saturday night.."I thought you'd write something about me." "Would you like me to do that?" "It's too late now." "Not at all."..Who is Ireina Khokolovna?" he asked..It was late when I finally got home. All evening I'd dreaded having to face Debbie with the bad news. But when I looked in the bedroom, she was sound asleep..man was entitled to see his own son, and in a few months they'd be out of this miserable sweatbox.heard the name..With rare exceptions."..should leave?"..but odder yet that, despite them, she looked like herself and not Amanda. Energy ran like a restless, self-willed thing under her skin. She could not even sit without that coiled-spring tension.."He always has an alibi, huh?"..Cygnum, leaving the dancer staring open-mouthed after us..The next glimpse is that of a running figure who advances into the screen and disappears. Now the men.they knew exactly what it would be; maybe they only provided for a likely range of possibilities. Song.settling for a smaller package, and it was equally as clear that the Company had no intention of coming.Jain are sitting across the aisle from me. It's a long Sight and there's been a lull in the usually boisterous.?David T. J. Doughan.to evidence, experience, or reason at all and are, therefore, completely arbitrary. There is considerable.jowls to match, and a big blunt nose. You only had to take one look at his hands to know he'd never done a lick of work in his life.."Yes. What do I tell Amanda when she asks how I always know when something is broken? You don't want me to say anything about you, but I don't want to lie to her."..I know a psychiatrist who spends her weekends here in Aventine. Perhaps she can help."..Right".Detweiler left his room that afternoon for the first time since I'd been there. He went north on Las Palmas, dropped a large Manila envelope in the mailbox (the story he'd been working on, I guess), and bought groceries at the supermarket on Highland. Did that mean he wasn't planning to move? I had a sudden pang in my belly. What if he was staying because of his friendship with me? I felt more like a son of a bitch every minute..46.The North Wind was silent a whole minute. Then he asked, "Why should I? The wizard built my cave.Barry nodded. He didn't understand what Ed was saying in any very specific way, but he knew he.We know his name. Patient researchers, using advanced scanning techniques, followed his letters.cook it, but we have nothing to bum and couldn't risk it with the high oxygen count, anyway."..She smiled. "You're very gallant. Oh, look."..Counting Chromosomes," F&SF, June 1968.]273."Look at it this way, Matt. No matter how we stretch our supplies, they won't take us through the next four years. We either find a way of getting what we need from what's around us, or we all die. And if we find a way to do it, then what does it matter how many of us there are? At the most, this will push our deadline a few weeks or a month closer, the day we have

to be self-supporting." 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."/ like them," she insisted. Then, "My name's Cinderella. What's yours?".condensed it out until the air we exhausted was dry as a bone."you will if you stay here long enough?they know genetics. They really know it We have a thousand.a big project about to begin just east of here. From what I gather, it's a tomb of some kind, and it's.Take that bulge apart and you'd be amazed at the resemblance to a human heart So there's another significant fact; this place started out with whirligigs, but later modified itself to use human heart pumps from the genetic information taken from the bodies of the men and women we buried," She paused to let that sink in, then went on with a slightly bemused smile..Now she lay on the bunk, her feet sprawled carelessly in front of her. She slowly shook her head back and forth..fruits and nutrients here.."It's a deal." "That\*\*! exactly what I said," Amos told her, and they were both very happy, for they were both clever enough to know that when a husband and wife agree, it means a long and happy marriage is ahead..So Amos took off the prince's clothes and the sailor took them to the brig and returned with Amos'.She looked miffed. "Don't flatter yourself, young man. I may have inveigled you into my apartment,."If we don't make it home from this," I say at length, "if they never hear from us back on Earth, never."He was here with us all evening. We had dinner and played Scrabble. I think he was real sick, but.general criteria are satisfied, we take on whatever seems to be pleasing our writers at the time. That's the.Detweiler's flush of health was wearing off that afternoon. He wasn't ill, just beginning to feel like the.hardest ice any man or woman had ever seen. This block is ten degrees colder. Can you chop through."Right, right."Lorraine Nesbitt, they all liked him..we offer with some hesitation this tale of first contact between lowly Human and mighty Sreen..put them on sale at prices ranging from \$49.95 to \$125. By the following day the word was beginning to.anything like you knew him. The telemetry shows nothing like the normal brain wave. Now I've got to.18."You want a cigarette?"."I forget where I read about it," the usher said. "In some magazine or other. Well, mix in, enjoy yourself, and if you want to order anything, there's a console that rolls out from this end table/' He demonstrated..Selene was already fastening her diess. I groped halfheartedly for my clothes..THE ORGANIZER: The purpose of the Project has no bearing.climbed onto his back, huddling between his shoulder blades, its hand on his shoulders. Detweiler stood.as a luxury, and about as useful as the nipples on a man's chest. But I was wrong. All the NASA people were wrong. The Astronaut Corps fought like crazy to keep you off this trip. Time enough for that on later flights. We were blinded by our loyalty to the test-pilot philosophy of space flight. We wanted as few scientists as possible and as many astronauts as we could manage. We don't like to think of ourselves as ferry-boat pilots. I think we demonstrated during Apollo that we could handle science jobs as well as anyone. We saw you as a kind of insult, a slap in the face by the scientists in Houston to show us how low our stock has fallen."and sand had drifted in rippled waves through the opening. The stern of the ship was nearly buried..attention. Crawford looked over at Lang, who made no move to go answer it He stood up and swarmed.210.eyes head-on. Their expression seemed oddly out of character with the monologue she'd just delivered..where you do fall down is in Notional Content and Originality. There you could do better."when he was so sure he'd be picked for the ground team. You know Winey, always the instinct to be the.?Darnel P. Dern.explain)! is one of the ghastly facts of American education. Some defenses against this experience take the form of asserting there's no such thing as great art; some, that whatever moves one intensely is great art. Both are ways of asserting the primacy and authenticity of one's own experience, and that's fine. But whatever you (or I) like intensely isn't, just because of that, great anything, and the literary canon, although incomplete and biased, is not merely an insider's snobbish conspiracy to make outsiders feel rotten. (Although it is certainly used that way far too often.)selves on report." She laughed and beckoned them over to her. They linked arms and stood staring up at the sky..and pointed at him. She was suited except for her helmet, which contained her radio. He knew he was in."We were suiting up when you got here. It takes about half an boor; so we couldn't get out hi time to meet you."The jailor fingered his key again, then said, "Nothing of interest at all."can also take place), and it is also very common in the plant world..wheelhouse. Minutes later he was back with a bright costume: the sleeves were green silk with blue and.But not quite. He still had to get one more endorsement But now it seemed possible, likely, even.Every single cell in your body, in other words, has the genetic equipment of every other cell and of the original fertilized egg. Since genes control the chemical functioning of a cell, why is it, then, that your skin cell can't do the work of a heart cell; that your liver cell can't do the work of a kidney cell; that any cell can't do the work of a fertilized egg cell and produce a new organism?."Um hmmm." She stretched, dug her knuckles fiercely into her eyes, and smoothed her hair back from her face. She was dressed in a loose-fitting bottoms of a ship suit, a gray piece of dirty cloth that badly needed washing, as did all their clothes. For a moment, as he watched her shadow stretch and stand up, be wasn't interested in the Burroughs. He forced his mind away from her.."I stole it from my worse and worst enemy."general inefficiency down to the detailed operation of the Computer Center. Someone immediately spilled.He was buttoning his shin. That must have been the delay: he wouldn't want anyone to see him with.myself, you will never have your mirror."three years ago."they would have to stop, but the clear stars made a mist over the jagged rocks, and a little later the moon.by ROBERT BLOCK

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