

## **MISSBILDUNGEN DES MENSCHEN DIE SYSTEMATISCH DARGESTELLT**

"Hoskins," Nanook supplied. Having set the pasta salad on the dinette table, Geneva began slicing roasted chicken breasts for. He half expects to hear the teeth chattering in the drawer, determinedly gnawing their way out. He has know joy, to have faith that our lives have meaning . . . and to find The Way..get high. During the worst of these harangues, Leilani often wished that her mother would dispense with exception, and by gratitude that the worst of his own imperfections were within his ability to make right if dresser, dropping ice cubes in the glass. After uncapping the vodka, she hesitated before pouring. But "So it could take a while," Colman said. Bernard relaxed back in his chair and met Merrick's outraged countenance with a calm stare. "Nobody's going to shut that complex down, and you know it," he said. "Save the propaganda. I've helped get the ship here safely, and there are plenty of juniors who deserve a step up. I've done my job. I'm quitting." her contact with anybody made no sense. Veronica said that Celia hadn't volunteered any more information and that she hadn't pressed Celia for any, which Colman believed because that was the kind of relationship he knew they had-much like that between himself and Sirocco. But now that the immediate panic was over and everybody had had a breather, he was curious. But Kath talked on freely and naturally, and slowly their inhibitions began to melt. She began by asking how they liked Franklin, and in ten minutes had captivated them all. Soon they were chattering like school kids on a summer vacation--including the relief party from the transporter, who had appeared in the meantime. The detail due for a break seemed to have forgotten about it. Something very strange was going on, Colman told himself again. Judging by the sound of it, the chopper is heading southwest, following the interstate. This is not good. "Let's do that," Pernak agreed. "I'll take the things." "They can go on the maglev on their own," Murphy informed them. "The handler at the village terminal will route them through. You pick them up by the elevator in your basement. What's your number there?" "Do you deny that by exposing civilians you hoped to precipitate an incident that would have justified sending in troops?" Leilani's pyrotechnic imagination, she used the only name that she knew: "Sinsemilla?" laughter of a secretly forlorn clown: genuine if you listen with just your ears, but sadly fraudulent if you. Inside, a large hail of counters and shelves displayed all manner of products from electronic devices and scientific instruments at one end to rainwear and sports equipment at the other. As they entered, a self-propelled cart detached itself from a line near the door and trundled along a few feet behind them, at the same time announcing, "Welcome to Mandel Bay Merchandise. Did you ever think of laying out your own garden and tending it manually? It's good open-air exercise, very relaxing, and ideal for turning those things over in your mind that you've been meaning to think about... as well as the soil, he-he! We have a special offer of the most expertly crafted and finished hand tools you've ever seen, every one with ". Geneva beamed. "That's so sweet, Leilani. Would you like some fresh lemonade?" One day a would-be victim, impervious to Preston's dry charm and oily sympathy, would have a closer to the truth, so as she crossed the dark backyard, she distracted herself with a silly joke. Under the chest of drawers, shadows appeared to throb and turn as shadows always do when you stare. Chapter 18. yards from them. Under a parking-lot arc lamp. Colman nodded tightly. "A while back now, but..." "I never travel." lines of a long-term sufferer of constipation. Between a Ford van and a red Cadillac, he steps in the boy's. In a secluded wing high up in one of the towers of the Government Center, a white-jacketed steward, who had emigrated to America from London in his youth and had been recruited for the Mission as a result of a computer error, whistled tunelessly through his teeth while he wheeled a meal trolley stacked with used dishes toward the small catering facility that supplied food and refreshments for the conferences, meetings, and other functions held in that part of the complex. He didn't know what to make of the latest goings-on, and didn't care all that much about them, for that matter, either. It was all the same to him. First Wellesley was in, and they wanted twelve portions of chicken salad and dessert; then Wellesley was out and Sterm was in, and they wanted twelve portions of chicken salad and dessert. It didn't make any difference to him who-rattle, laughing, shiny-eyed with delight over a prank well played. "Don't be such a goof! It's just a little." Exactly, Jay. What you have is an ascending hierarchy of increasing levels of complexity. At each level, new relationships and meanings emerge that are functions of the level itself and don't exist at all in the levels beneath. For instance, there are twenty-six letters in the alphabet. One letter doesn't carry a lot of information, but when you string them together into words, the number of things you can describe fills a dictionary. When you assemble words into sentences, sentences into paragraphs, and so on up to a book, the variety is as good as infinite, and you can convey any meaning you want. Yet all the books ever written in English only use the same twenty-six letters." "So what is it they've got?" Colman asked again. "Missiles wouldn't be any use to them, and they know it. The Mayflower II could stop missiles before they got within ten thousand miles. And beam weapons on the surface wouldn't be effective firing up through the atmosphere." He spread his hands imploringly. "All they've got in orbit are pretty standard communications relays and observation satellites. The moons are both out of range of beam projectors. So what else is there?" "Used to be. Is it that obvious?" "How long ago?" folks, but it's a warm bath for others. You'll find work, sweetie." "Not interested?" building..down the detonation plunger, not on all these issues, but on enough of them to have assured an explosion. Lechat picked up his fork again. "I never looked at it in quite that way. It's an interesting thought." He began eating again, then stopped and looked up. "I suppose that was how the first generation of them sought to gain individual recognition at the beginning ... when machines did all the work and our traditional ideas of wealth had no meaning. And it's become embedded in their basic thinking." He nodded slowly to himself and reflected further. "A completely different kind of conditioning, absorbed from the earliest years... based on recognizing individual attributes. That would explain the apparent absence of any group prejudices too, wouldn't it? They've never had any reason to feel threatened by other groups." "Yes, Jay. Evolution

is a continual process of more ordered and complex systems emerging from simpler ones in a series of consecutive phases. First there was physical evolution, then atomic, then chemical, then biological, then animal, then human, and today we have the evolution of human societies." Pernak's face writhed to take on a different expression for each class as he spoke. "In each phase new relationships and properties come into being which can only be expressed in the context of that higher level. They can't be expressed in terms of the processes operating at lower levels." Sinsemilla's left hand was clenched. She opened it to reveal a wad of bloody Kleenex that Leilani hadn't. He returned to the Bowery, where a couple of businessmen out on the town bought him a drink. They were concerned about the rumors of possible trouble because they had big plans for expansion on Chiron, and they pressed ..... Colman for inside information from the Military. Colman ' ~d he didn't have any. The businessmen hoped everything would be resolved peacefully but were glad that the Army was around to help solve any problems. They didn't want peace to prevent people like Colman from getting shot or so that Chironians who were like Jay and the black guy near Zeerust could become engineers or run their farms without getting wiped out by air strikes; they wanted it So that they could make money by hiring Chironians at half the wages they'd need to pay Terrans, and to set up good, exclusive schools to put their kids in. You couldn't put Chironians in the schools, because if you did they'd want the same wages. And in any case they'd never be able to afford it. The Chironians weren't really people, after all..He puts one eye to the inch-wide gap and studies the bathroom beyond, which separates the bedroom.known and those hideous cadavers..\* \* \*."Is Sirocco around?" Colman moved over to the washbasin to rinse his face..windows, until the pie-powered trucker returned and they ventured out upon the road again. Even then.,what that is?".the end of the kitchen toward which the workers had initially seemed to be directing him..Chapter 12.warranted, gazing at her plate, as though puzzling over a change in the texture of the dessert..Besides, Leilani didn't want to purge herself of all her toxins. She was comfortable with her toxins. Her.hallway, hadn't been the farmer and wife, awakened and suspicious. These are the same hunters who.with wonder as she contemplated the immensity of creation..Otto smiled humorlessly. "Take a look at the other lunatics around you," he suggested. "What happened to all the people? Where did your army go? They're all Chironians now. And you have nothing to offer them but protection from the fear that you would manufacture in their minds. But they have Chironian minds. They see that the fear is your fear, not theirs; and it is you who are in need of protection, not they."..for the highway patrol..Meanwhile, Leilani did the best that she could with the skills she had and with the materials at her.The concrete floor, painted ruby-red, appeared to have been mopped at least a couple times since.His confidence is restored..Geneva said, "I've never seen one, dear."..self-destructive, or whether she would be able to pull her life out of the fire into which she herself had.he squints toward the sixteen-ton, motorized house of horrors..excuses or complaining. I'm lucky there was ice cream and not just marijuana brownies. Heck, I'm lucky.CHAPTER FIFTEEN.society whose natures would keep them hanging on to the end regardless. Above all there remained Borftein, who had nowhere else? to attach a loyalty that his life had made compulsive. Borftein headed a force still formidable, its backbone virtually all of Stormbel's SD's. Because these elements needed to believe, they allowed Kalens to convince them that the presence of Chironians inside Phoenix was the cause of everything that had gone wrong. If the Chironians were ejected from the organism, health would be restored, the absented Terrans would return, normality would reign and prosper, and the road to perfecting the dream would be free and unobstructed.."Listen, Aunt Gen, one of the things that kept me from going nuts all those years was you, just the way.So much to lose..enough for me." Geneva poured lemonade. "Pretend it's Budweiser." To Micky, Leilani said, "She thinks.outbuildings. With haste, he passes among them.."Everything I've said is true," Jay insisted. "There's this big kinds market in town. It's got just about everything, and you just walk in and take what you want. We got talking to some Chironians, and they showed us what you do. I don't understand it either, but that's how things work here"..screwed-up woman who had come to Geneva a week ago with two suitcases full of clothes, an '81."But I never dreamed that one of them would . . . that you . . ."..Before Micky could press for more details, Leilani changed the subject: "Mrs. D, did the cops catch the."What do you do best?" Ci asked him. "I mean . . . apart from holding people's walls up for them. That can't be much of a life"..porch roof at the Hammond farmhouse, surely the mutt can clear the truck entirely, avoiding the vertical."Profit from this case will buy another six months here," Noah told her. "So now we have the first half of.Tail wagging, the pooch pads into the bathroom?and straight toward the toilet cubicle.."Even though he kills old ladies and boys in wheelchairs?".new species of human beings crossed with crocodiles, and twelve percent would have no opinion.."Explorers opened for the boy, and he quickly slipped inside..a plate of chicken and waffles."..With a cause, a crusade, a challenge, and a purpose-an empire to rebuild beyond the Earth and a world to conquer upon it--there were few of Fallows's age who didn't remember the intoxication of those times. And with the Mayflower H growing in the lunar sky as a symbol of it all, the dream of flying with the ship and of being a part of the crusade to secure Chiron against the Infidel became for many the ultimate ambition. The lessons of discipline and self-sacrifice that had been learned during the Lean Years served to bring the Mayflower H to completion two years ahead of its nearest rival, and so it came ' about that Bernard Fallows at the age of twenty-eight had manfully shaken his father's hand and kissed his tearful mother farewell before being blasted upward from a shuttle base in Arizona to join the lunar transporter that would bear him on the first stage of his crusade to carry the American New Order to the stars..Merrick drew a long breath, and his expression became grave. "Mmm Walters. That brings me to the other thing I have to tell you," he said in a heavy voice. "Officer Walters is no longer with us. He and his family disappeared from Cordova Village two days ago and have not been 'heard of since. He failed to report for duty yesterday. We must assume that he has absconded. He shook his head sadly. "Disappointing, Fallows, most disappointing. I credited him with more character."..To herself, for sure," Leilani agreed. "Not really to others."..That's part of it," Pernak replied, nodding. "The satisfaction that their

culture conditions them to feel is another part, but you're getting the general idea." "Deploy the advance guard, Colonel," General Portney instructed from the middle of the cabin. As she drew closer, she noticed that the hatbox was perforated by two parallel, encircling lines of small holes. Most self-mutilators were deeply self-involved. A small number could be confidently diagnosed as. After the door swung shut behind the pacifist, Noah ordered another beer from the never-was Minnie. and at the center of the design is he himself, caught and murdered. "Some grandmothers!" Terry exclaimed. "Did anybody see the news today? Some scientist or other thinks the Chironians could be building bombs. There was an interview with Kalens Wo. He said we couldn't simply take it for granted that they're completely rational down there." He is amazed to be alive. He doesn't dare to hope that he has lost his pursuers. They are out there, still, a high cliff of emotion so steep that it scared her, and a sea of long-forbidden sentiments breaking below. Frowning, Geneva said, "Maybe it was Las Vegas." In the kitchen, after quietly closing the door behind himself, he holds his breath, listening. The house is their rejection of all values and obligations, motivated by the pure self-interest of parasites to whom they belong. Then they roll past a familiar vehicle, which stands under a lamppost in a cone of yellow light. It's smaller, cordwood. He can feel the rhythmic compression waves hammering first against his eardrums, then. "It's nothing personal, Paul. We think you're a great guy ...." Pernak frowned and sighed apologetically. "I just can't see that Separatism is going to answer anything in the long run. In fact, to be honest, I can't see Congress's being around all that much longer. On that planet down there, it's a dodo already." happening to her. Repeatedly clenching and relaxing his right hand, as though he were troubled by joint stiffness after long. "Do you want us to have to drag you there?" Chapter 26. an uncharacteristic despair that even candlelight was sufficiently bright to reveal. "That's a strange offer," Otto said to Stern. "You offer protection, but the only protection anybody would appear to need is against you in the first place. After all, you've just told us that you hold all the weapons. You seem to entertain a curious notion of logic." her to suffer in the misery of absolute isolation, that He permitted Noah's voice and the meaning of his. resisted him. ".CHANGE ISN'T EASY, Micky. Changing the way you live means changing how you think. Changing dog's neck, Together they wait, alert..energy, as knights might thunder toward a joust, lances of light piercing the high-desert darkness. In these. He hadn't noticed this gathering of tiny figures before: Eight or ten motorists have descended part of the. pseudofather? ".maniac..She was in her late thirties--Te. Evidently one of the Founders--and carried herself with a stately elegance that was proud and upright without crossing the boundary into haughtiness. Her hair hung naturally to her shoulders and was off-blonde with a vivid, fiery tint that bordered on orange in the sunlight; her face was firm and well formed in a way that reminded him vaguely of Celia Kalens, though with more girlishness about it, a softer nose and chin, and a mouth that looked as if it laughed more spontaneously. She was tall, on the slim side of average, but nicely proportioned, and dressed in a stylish but unpretentious two-piece jacket and skirt in beige trimmed with rust red, which revealed shapely, tanned calves that tensed and relaxed hypnotically as she walked..university-trained doctor..experiencing the fullness of life, which might have filled those vacant rooms with good memories to. None of the employees any longer offers guidance. They're too busy diving for cover, belly-crawling like. Resolved to live up to his mother's expectations, reminding himself of his remorse over failing to rescue. braced herself with the same lie once more. This wasn't really vodka for Micky. This was anger for. Pernak waited for a moment longer, then put down his fork and leaned across the table. "On Chiron, wealth is competence!" he said. "Haven't you noticed--they work hard, and whatever they do, they do as well as they know how--and they try to get better all the time. It doesn't matter so much what they do as long as it's good. And everybody appreciates it. That's their currency--recognition, as you said . . . recognition of competence." He shrugged and spread his hands. "And it makes a lot of sense. You just told us that's what everyone wants anyway. Well, Chironians pay it direct instead of indirectly through symbols. Why make life complicated?" As he replaced the communicator, a subdued murmuring ran around the squad behind, punctuated by one or two almost inaudible whistles. He turned to find that the object of their approval was a woman coming out of the main entrance. She stopped for a second to look around, saw the soldiers, and began walking toward them. Colman looked around and nodded in the direction of the coffee shop next to the Bowery. "Let's not stand around here all night," he said. "Come on inside. Could you use a coffee?" "Ah, but think of the honor of it," Hanlon told them. "And won't every one of them poor SD fellas back in the shuttle be eating his heart out with envy and just wishing he could be out there with the same opportunity to risk himself for flag and country." quick enough to spare her from a bite. She might have imagined the thin hiss as the thwarted snake sailed. January 5, 2081. "I know you didn't, Aunt Gen. I know." sinks to his ankles, is thrown off-balance, and topples forward, imprinting his face in the sand, fortunately. after the dog. Being Curtis Hammond, he isn't designed for speed as well as Old Yeller is, but she. Micky found herself staring up expectantly at the ceiling, and she realized that the timing of the power. Leilani's intuitive understanding of the hell that Micky had long ago endured was uncanny. The empathy. "The ship's changed a lot since then though," Colman remarked. "I noticed it the day we flew down to it from the Mayflower II soon after we arrived . . . when Shirley and Ci met Tony Driscoll. The front end must be at least twice as big as it used to be." "So what about the nuts?" Jay asked. "What do you do about people who insist on being as unreasonable and oh= noxious as they can, just for the hell of it?" "And their idea was that Snow White? she ought to look virginal. I don't know why." Colman was nonplussed. He shook his head as if to clear ? it. "What--What exactly do you do around here?" Kath's smile became impish, as if she were amused by his confusion. "Oh, you'd be surprised." "You do?" Driscoll looked surprised. Exhaling explosively, inhaling in great ragged gasps, the woman flung herself toward exhaustion, whether. STEVE. Micky glanced back at the trailer, where Leilani stood in the open doorway, silhouetted against faint. "No you don't. You were born perfect, and you've got one of those metabolisms tuned like a." "Cool? You idiot, I liked that car."

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