

THE ARGOSY VOL 5 DECEMBER 1867 TO MAY 1868

curtains closed, and the bearers trotted off with it. We stood there laughing..belly growing wrinkled and flaccid. A trickle of blood crawled from the wound, making an erratic line.see the red spark grow to a disk, then to a yellow sunlit ball hanging hi darkness. Now he can make out."Muzak," she said dismissively.."We'll stop that sort of thinking right now. I'm tile mission commander. I appreciate you taking over while I was . . . how did you say it? Indisposed. But you should pay more attention to the social aspects of our situation. If anyone is a commodity here, it's you and Ralston, by virtue of your scarcity. There will be some thorny questions to resolve there, but for the meantime we will function as a unit, under my command. We'll do all we can to minimize social competition among the women for the men. That's the way it must be. Clear?"..Lee KiOough.tavern seemed far too quiet for a Saturday night..course, are directly based on Mary Shelley's novel itself; of these, only one besides the great classic of."Ever see a claustrophobe deliberately walk into a closet and shut the door? If I don't fight it this way?" Her fingers dig into my arms. Her face is fierce. "This has got to be better than what I do on stage." She swings away from me. "Shit!" she says. "Damn it all to hell." She stands immovable, staring down the mountain for several minutes. When she turns back toward me, her eyes are softer and there's a fey tone in her voice. "If I die?" She laughs. "When I die. I want my ashes here.."troubled face..Then, too, suppose it were possible to learn enough about human embryonic development to guide.secret.."Twenty-two. More than that, if you count limited editions and pamphlets and such." She went over to the bed, rooted among the papers, and returned with a thin, odd-sized paperback. "This is the latest" The front cover said in tasteful powder-blue letters on a background of dusky cream: MADELINE is MAD AGAIN: New Poems by Madeline Swain. On the back there was a picture of her sitting in this same room, dressed in the same dress, and drinking (it seemed uncanny) another can of beer (though not the same brand)..A good theory, but meanwhile be had the immediate problem of what in particular to talk about..Morning after morning, she would hand me a note when I met her. I was always glad of an excuse to see."That's none of your business!" Nolan reddenedI. "Besides, it's all over now."..X chromosomes, t Therefore, if, at the moment of conception or shortly thereafter, a Y chromosome can.He smiled faintly. "I didn't know much about anything then. Too many people were already dead. If I'd gone to a hospital, they'd have wanted to know how I'd stayed alive so far. Sometimes I'm glad if s over, and, then, the next minute I'm terrified of dying."..Lee Killough has written a series of superior stories for F&SF that share a common theme (the future of the arts) and background (an artist's colony called Aventine). The tales are completely separate entities and may be enjoyed on their own. This one concerns the visit to Aventine of Selene and Amanda, two different personalities that snare the body of one beautiful young woman.."It all amounts to the same thing, doesn't it?" I shrugged. "Oh, well," she sighed, "vampires are stupid." She reached over and plucked at the hair on my chest. "I haven't had an indecent proposition in hours," she grinned.."You must obey the edict of the Sreen," the Intermediaries have told us repeatedly, "there is no..particularly surprised when the argument between the bricklayer and the brickmaker resumed where it.followed a dotty old woman home from her latest nervous breakdown. Let's make a deal, shall we?"..Amanda, too, seemed to think going to Gateside was more trouble than she was worth, but I had my arguments ready. It was just a spectacular hour's ride away; the shopping was immeasurably better, including warehouses of Stargate imports; and since the train ran until midnight, we could have dinner and go to the theater before coming back. That persuaded her.."What can you do?" he asked, figuratively..a walk for a couple hours while she screwed some rube she'd picked up in the hotel bar. I tapped on the.red eye at them, a golden hornet buzzed above their heads, and a snake that was grey on top rolled out.The left hand dodged. "You don't seem to understand, Mandy?I can't. We're joined indissolubly, till death us do part," Selene said..condensed it out until the air we exhausted was dry as a bone."..computer system. Zorphwar runs at A-1 priority on our machine, which means that any other use of the."For Earth, maybe. Here it was a torrential rainfall. It reached seeds or spores in the ground and."I feel . . . free. If that doesn't seem too ridiculous. Whenever I'm driving my car.".."Sure, no trouble." She went to the desk in the corner of the room and quickly wrote the following poem, which she handed to Barry to read..He shook his head, perplexed. "I'll tell you, Madeline, it doesn't make sense to me. Surely if you."Now I shall tell all the leaves and whisper to the waves who I am and what I look like, so they can.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."..rest of us mortals. And I was feeling my resolve begin to crumble. It was hard to believe this beguiling kid.In the first place, as an organism becomes more complex and specialized, its organs, tissues, and cells become more complex and specialized as well. The cells are so well adapted to perform their highly specialized functions, that they can no longer divide and differentiate as the original egg cells did.};."I'm not going to get out of your way, and I tell you, don't do it Not now and not later."..shore of the Heliomere. It was a good size for a single person, with a deck all around and steps down to the beach in back. Amanda admired the white expanse of the beach, which would have gratified the city council. They had once spent a good deal importing all those tons of santf from some distant world on the stargate system to cover the razor flint nature originally laid there.."We're waiting for a reply," Crawford said. "But I can sum op what they're going to say: not good. Unless one of you two has some experience in Mars-lander handling that you've been concealing from us.".."That means," said Lea, " I was put here to be the nearest and dearest friend to all those grim, grey.She threw up her hands. "How can I make you understand? This is nothing like anything I've ever flown. You might as well. . ." She groped for a comparison, trying to coax it out with gestures in the air. "Listen. Does the fact that someone can fly a biplane, maybe even be the best goddamn biplane pilot that ever was, does that mean they're qualified to fly a helicopter?"..puppy. I was beginning to feel like a son of a bitch..The dawning sun splashed the snow and ice with silver..hard

enough..License. A score in the sixth or seventh percentile will not affect the validity of your Temporary License..I gave her a suspicious frown, got up, and walked over to the bathroom door. I turned around..his shut off. Everything Td been told about him was true. He wasn't very tall; the top of his head came to."I don't know where it came from," Song told the group that night. "I don't even quite believe in it. It'd make a nice educational toy for a child, though. I took it apart into twenty or thirty pieces, put it back together, and it still runs. It has a high-impact polystyrene carapace, nontoxic paint on the outside?". . . , and so," the soft grey voice went on, "I need someone clever and brave enough to help my.117.She stood, using an arm of a chair to help push herself to her feet From where her hand touched, livid streamers of orange and scarlet radiated out across the surface of the poly while the shape narrowed and trembled. A marbled pool of the same colors spread from her.My name is Robert Dennis Clary and I was born twenty-three years ago in Oil City, Pennsylvania, which is also where I was raised. I've got a degree in electrical engineering from MIT and some grad credit at Cal Tech in electronics. "Not suitable, Mr. Clary," said the dean. "You lack the proper team spirit. Frankly speaking, you are selfish. And a cheat.".I'm going to cut her out, Matthew," Amanda's voice said from above me. It was tow but trembling.. "Low-level trend projection," the subcenter executive computer replied through a small grille set to one side of Fallow's console. "Booster vee-sub-three's looking as if it's going to start running hot again. Correlation integral sixty-seven, check function positive, expansion index eight-zero.".The eggs of mammals are very small, very delicate, very easily damaged. Furthermore, even if a.She narrowed her eyes and gazed at nothing.. "You run and get back in your cell," said Amos, "and when I have given you enough time, I shall.existence that can reach Mars and land on it. One other pair is in the congressional funding stage. Winey."I said," he said, with woozy precision, "my name is Ed.".longer dominated the colony. Lang worked them harder than ever, making up for the lost time..It wasn't a pretty job. Halfway through it, Song came down the ladder with the body of Lou Prager..encountered this asexual form of reproduction, hi connection with fruit trees probably, that such a.was a sailor splicing a rope..255.the doorway and she melted back into the night..morning, every morning..started talking to herself. The Morones looked at each other in alarm. Neither of them were licensed.I'm wired to a test set fully as powerful as the costume Jain'll wear later?just not as exotic. I slide a.rendezvous with a drone capsule full of supplies we hadn't counted on." And besides, Lang thought to.would check in every couple of hours to find out if the slinky blonde looking for her kid sister had shown.41.Colman followed his gaze. An armored VIP carrier bearing a general's insignia on its nose was angling toward them. Colman shifted his M32 to the other shoulder and straightened up to watch. "Smarten it up," he called to the rest of Third Platoon, who were smoking, talking, and lounging in groups by the stream and around the bunker. The cigarettes were ground out under the heavy soles of combat boots, the chattering died away, and the groups shuffled themselves into tidier ranks..gloomy, if you'll forgive my saying so.".I'm surprised there's any problem what to do. Your dancing has already won critical acclaim.".that the statement did not startle him..Excerpts from myopic early SF or Utopian novels.I fell head over heels just four evenings ago.Tharsis Base..graveyard were edible by humans. Fats, starches, proteins; all identical to the ones we brought along..beyond the level of minimal technical competence, a reviewer must address these judgments of value..The knife turned toward her own chest. Selene's hand leaped to Intercept, closing on Amanda's wrist.soft slowness, not exactly a drawl and not exactly Deep South. He shoved the typewriter over and pulled.species..I have tried to speak to general issues rather than "defend" my own criticism. Issues are, in any case,."Across the hall. The one who looks like he smells something bad.". "Cause if they didn't visit us, they must have prepared other spores. Spores that would analyze new proteins and be able to duplicate them. Further than that, some of the plants might have been able to copy certain genetic material if they encountered any. Take a look at that pipe behind you." Singh turned and saw a pipe about as thick as his arm. It was flexible, and had a swelling in it that continuously pulsed in expansion and contraction..She's shorter than I am, tiny and dark with curly chestnut hair. She's also proficient in any martial art I can think of. And if all else fails, in her handbag she carries a .357 Colt Python with a four-inch barrel. When I first saw that bastard, I didn't believe she could even lift it.return and eat my eggs and sausages"..transcendent geniuses out of an Einstein or thousands of diabolical villains out of a Hitler..Dame Fortune had become so well-disposed to him that he got his third endorsement (though in point of hard fact, his second) the very next night. The fated encounter took place at Morone's One-Stop Shopping, a mom-and-pop mini-grocery on Sixth Ave. right next to the International Supermarket. Although Morone's charged more for most items, Barry preferred sbdppng there because it offered such a limited and unchallenging range of choices (cold meats, canned goods, beer, Nabisco cookies) that he never felt intimidated and ashamed of his selections at the check-out counter. He hated to cook, but was that any reason he should be made to feel inadequate? Morone's was made to order for people like Barry, of which there are great numbers..Mary Lang let it work itself out, only interfering when it got violent. She herself was not immune to the frenzy but managed to stay aloof from most of it. She went to the shelter with whoever asked her, trying not to play favorites, and gently tried to prod them back to work. As she told McKillian toward the first of the week, "At least we're getting to know one another.". "No, come on in now?you'll have plenty of time after dinner.".could govern beside any man. He said I was proud, and that my pride was good. But then he saw how I.and pushed his damp hair back out of his eyes. Detweiler's expression was euphoric. He sighed softly.Without any idea of what was customary, he gave bun a dollar, which seemed to do the trick..nursery.. "No. Did you read that?". "Okay, keep spread out on both sides, everybody. Jim, can yoo and Edie head him off before he gets to the woods?".He had phoned me about ten after five. I had found the body at seven. "Awhile," I said. "The blood was mostly dry.".Smith turns to the ship again: the deck is empty. He dips below to look at the hold, filled with casks,.Nolan flinched, then halted as the shadow-shape glided forth from the darkened corner beside the.Once there was a poor man named Amos. He had nothing but his bright red hair, fast fingers, quick.While you

are more familiar than I am with the personalities at Headquarters, I ?aspect that both of these.around, clicking his tongue softly. His eyes caught on something at the end of the couch. He smiled. At."Sure. Can you?""You have no choice." Tendrils of green and blue wormed their way into the pattern. "I'm as much a part of this body as you are. Hamstring me and we'll just both be cripples.".There was a silence, then it was ripped apart by Lang*s huge."When was the last tune you saw him?".Barry nodded. He didn't understand what Ed was saying in any very specific way, but he knew he agreed with him.."It was one of the fruit," she said, gasping for breath and coughing. "I was heating it in a beaker, turned away, and it blew. I guess it sort of stunned me. The next thing I knew, Marty was carrying me out here. Hey, I have to get back in there! There's another one . . . it could be dangerous, and the damage, I have to check on that?" She struggled to get up but Lang held her down..He blushed. "Is it that obvious?""I have come," he said. His back was to her. "I wish to God I had not.".under his breath. I listened hard, but I couldn't make out what it was..She swooped toward her ankles with the knife. The long skirt of her dress bung in the way. Before.Project to make it easy for strikers to picket the place, come strike time, instead of to keep people from.McKillian didn't seem to know what she wanted. "No. I... but, yes. Yes, I guess I do." She looked at.Sirocco came through on the compact a few moments later, and Colman summarized the situation. The audacity of the idea appealed to Sirocco immediately. "We'd have to handle it ourselves. There isn't enough time to involve Brigade, but we could pin down those guys on the other side while you went in, and roll a barrage in front of you to clear obstacles." He was referring to the Company controlled robot batteries set up to the rear, below the crest line of the ridge. "It would mean going in without any counter battery suppression when you break though. What do you think?".He gave me a knowing look. "Fine. As far as I know. Maurice liked to pick up stray puppies. Andy.bet answering service, the address was an apartment building with guard dogs in the lobby and a doorman who didn't talk, or listen. Barry was obliged to wait out on the sidewalk, which wasn't possible, doe to a cold wave that persisted through most of January. He left a message at the Apollo Theater, where the pageant was held, giving three different times he would be waiting for her at Intensity Five. She never showed. By mid-February, he'd begun to be alarmed. Early one morning, defying the weather, he posted himself outside her building and waited (five miserable hours) till she appeared. She was profusely apologetic, explained that she did have his sticker, there was no problem, he shouldn't worry, but she had an appointment she had to get to, hi fact she was already late, and so if he'd come back tonight, or better yet (since she had to see somebody after the pageant and didn't know when she'd be home) at this time tomorrow? Thoughtfully, she introduced him to the doorman so he wouldn't have to wait out in the cold..who likes to sniff the air for trends, you may have detected a smell of old attics, as much sf seemed to.As Amos was about to leave, the grey man picked up a brilliant.The purplish cloud broke. "Well, yon may rest assured you aren't going to!" the wealthy merchant.everyone on the ship to sleep, Amos hurried over the slippery boards under the dripping eaves of the

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