

## THE PRODIGAL DAUGHTER

Detweiler didn't show for another hour. By that time I was sitting flat on the floor trying to keep my Damon Knight for "I See You". "Thank you, Matt." Congreve's voice rumbled in a gravelly baritone from the speakers all around. He glanced from side to side to take in the whole of his audience. "I, ah--I almost didn't make it here at all." He paused, and the last whispers of conversation died away. "A sign in the hall outside says that the fossil display is in twelve-oh-three upstairs." The American Archeological Society was holding its annual convention in the Hilton complex that week. Congreve shrugged "I figured that had to be where I was supposed to go. Luckily I bumped into Matt on the way, and he got me back on the right track." A ripple of laughter wavered in the darkness, punctuated by a few shouts of protest from some of the tables. He waited for silence, then continued in a less flippant voice. "The first thing I have to do is thank everybody here, and all the NASDO people who couldn't be with us tonight, for inviting me. Also, of course, I have to express my sincere appreciation for this, and even more my appreciation for the sentiments that it signifies. Thank you--all of you." As he spoke, he gestured toward the eighteen-inch-long, silver and bronze replica of the as yet unnamed, untried SP3 star probe that stood on its teak base before Congreve's place at the main table..past her and collapsed, shivering, on then- bed.. "No." Selene's voice came through clenched teeth. "I won't allow that, Mandy. And I won't retire..these old wives' tales?.passion, Rob. ... It seems to build..".and the broken arrow fell back to earth and landed at the King's feet..an upturned rake in his backyard on Larchemont?only eight or ten blocks from where I lived on.and, two, he had no interest in animals except as meat This started the examiner off on the psychic.2 Damon Knight.In the Hall of the Martian Kings."Right.".It was not Columbine who let him in, but her understudy, Lida Mullens, Lida informed Barry that.incident.. "Come on," said Amos, "just a little way. . .".rectangles, pasted them onto letter envelopes, some of which he stacked loose; others he bundled.best way I know of pleasing our leaders..that time the drinks were coming pretty fast, and an argument had broken out down the bar between one.his hands on. I got the impression he hadn't really lived Me so much as he'd read it, that all the things he.I rolled and lit a cigarette to see how bad my hands were shaking. Pretty bad, I saw. I blew out a lungful of smoke. "I wonder what he wanted," I said..organisms are clones..McKillian didn't seem to know what she wanted. "No. I... but, yes. Yes, I guess I do." She looked at.over Jain's shoulder. "Which?".extent neutralized, and we might end up with a species in which genetic variability is too narrow for.about a department store in Japan..you can lick! I'll tell you what, Barry: officially, I shouldn't tell you this myself, but I'm giving you a score.anything else for fifteen or twenty seconds, and I wondered what he was doing. Then the bolt was drawn.Joanna Russ for "In Defense of Criticism".After a short pause she said, "I just throw things together.". "No, I guess not," I said.. "You must return to your ship," they insist, "and obey the will of the Sreen.".tunes, then swooped down upon them, grabbing them up and setting them on his shoulders. Amos and.Lorraine Nesbitt, they all liked him..Halfway down the cobbled street the grey man cried, "Halt!". "Hey, everybody!" Jain raises her voice, cutting stridently through everyone else's conversations. "Get.Her voice faltered only a little but her hands began to shake. The orange in the chair's color went darker and the yellows bled away. Amanda stabbed several times with a hairpin without being able to place it right. After a seventh or eighth try she stood up, letting the hairpins spill onto the carpet. She walked to the far end of the fireplace, where she stood with her back to me, toying with the tops of the fire tools. "It hasn't been long at all since?since I told you I... trusted you.".faculty wives in that most mundane of settings, the American university) totally lost its point here, since its."Yes?" he asked..Damon Knight."Like hell! Like bloody God-damned hell! Where are they? What makes them think they have the right, the right, to claim the whole damned universe for themselves?" The captain's voice is going up the scale, becoming a shriek, and filled though I am with terror of the Sreen, I am also caught up in fierce admiration for my superior officer. He may be a suicidal fool to refuse to accept the situation, but there is passion in his foolishness, and it is an infectious passion. "How dare they treat us this way? What do they mean, ordering us to go home and stay there because they own the universe?".The grey eyes widened, and all the mouths opened once more..kneeling in the shrubbery. He photographs them. He turns off the power,, sits for a moment, then goes to.shook his head and said, "The Zorphs aren't going to like this." I hope the kid isn't going flaky on us..two mighty fingers. There was a distant snap!, barely audible above the wind. Then the hand withdrew..squatted hi a circle around a growth in the graveyard.. "Have you ever heard of Apollo 13?". He stopped at the clearing's edge, raised his head, and sniffed. The smell of man hung on the ah", heavy and threatening. He came through it as if through a swift current and stepped to the cottage door.. "No, come on in now?you'll have plenty of time after dinner.". "A temp.".There was only one incident: a wealthy merchant came around in a big pink palanquin, got out and."Can't they wait? I've been sleuthing all day and I'm bushed.".ends of his eyebrows drooped in a frown. He looked back at me and started to say something, then, with."Did you see her?".Once there was a poor man named Amos. He had nothing but his bright red hair, fast fingers, quick.an introduction service on the day they came in the mail. With his last gasp of self-confidence Barry.arbitrary. What can make it seem arbitrary is that the whole preliminary process of judgment, if you trace.tenants.. "I think it's the best idea. One thing: you've given up on any thoughts of me flying the Podkayne?".something moved inside it, and they saw it was the form of a lovely girl. It was Lea, who had appeared to.The door starts to swing back on noiseless hinges, and a breath of cold, unbelievably cold air touches."Well. . . not for a long time." But I think her words sound unsure..I look out at the crowd and it's like staring at the Pacific after dark; the gray waves march out to the.164.occur at all.\* [\* I used to inform people of the endings of television plays (before the endings happened)."I shall surely come." He bowed, turned, and then was gone, walking swiftly, a man's stride, through."Do you want the child, Lucy?" Lang asked quietly..It would take a tome to sort out all the Frankensteins and spinoffs therefrom. Only a handful, of.The payoff.

The precision-engineered and carefully timed upslope leading to climax. The Big. "Where can I reach you?" she asked as I hung up the phone..water. It isn't here now, but it can be created by properly designed plants. They engineered these plants.the doorway and she melted back into the night.."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..glanced his way, however, was Evelyn, the woman behind the refreshment stand. He went to other.Hinda would have called after him then, called after and made him stay, but she did not know his name. So she went instead to the. clearing's edge and cried:.CHAPTER ONE.Singh realized he had strayed from his original question..truncated Martian day that would never touch the blackness over his head..The crawler skidded to a stop, nearly rolling over, beside the deflated dome. Two pressure-suited."What is it a map of?" Amos asked. He knew you should ask as many questions as possible when.to get started on their analyses. Song knelt again and started digging around one of the ten-centimeter.reproduction exclusively..Subject: Zorphwar Contract.Zorph Commonwealth Network Message: Celestial Date 7654-55."In a mirror," said the grey man. "In three mirrors, or rather, one mirror broken in three pieces."..the table, empty. "What I like about you, Barry, is that you manage to say what you think without.cut just a little, but he never was able to race again."..to the nearest speakeasy to celebrate, he took the subway home and spent the evening watching first a.A couple kids climb on stage and pull breakfasts out of their backpacks. "You ever read this?" says.so sorry he'd broken a steadfast rule and refunded most of the month's rent Detweiler had paid hi."Yeah"..soothing away the bizarre reflections of the struggle. Gradually, the chairs and carpet softened to bright.Weinstein time to reply to that Weinstein had been trapped by his own seniority into commanding the.CENTRAL ARENA -. "Who is Ireina Khokolovna?" he asked..My long coat is wrapped around the two of us, and we watch each other inches apart. "So much passion, Rob. ... It seems to build."..I bit my tongue but it was too late. She shrieked like a stricken animal and came at me swinging.."Right. Get on that. Since we're sleeping in it until we can find out what we can do on the ground, we'd best be sure it's safe. Meantime, well all sleep in our suits." There were helpless groans at this, but no protests. McKillian and Ralston headed for the pile of salvaged equipment, hoping to rescue enough to get started on their analyses. Song knelt again and started digging around one of the ten-centimeter spikes..across the clearing, through the trees and into the open space before the riverbank..I turn. "And?"..printing it although writing book reviews (except for places like the New York Times) is underpaid.."You must show how clever you are," said Lea. "When I was free of this mirror, my teacher, in order to see how well I had learned my lessons, asked me three questions. I answered all three, and these questions were harder than any questions ever heard by man or woman. I am going to ask you three questions which are ten times as hard, and if you answer them correctly, you may pick up the mirror."..and concerned the absence of an event that up to that time had been as regular as the full moon..If, after the first cell division, the two offspring cells, for any reason, should happen to fall apart, each offspring cell may then go on to develop into a complete organism of its own. The result is a pair of identical twins, each with the same genetic equipment and each of the same sex, of course. In a sense, each twin is a clone of the other..elongated, the wide mouth accentuating the ugliness of her face. How could he have coupled with this.You've got to give the Mediator credit. Somehow he managed to get the two sides together again..Fill me like the mountains.I?m done with the circuit chips. Now the easy staff. I wryly note the male and female plugs Fm.working for that they mean business when they say they want more money. Sure, I know the Project's an.exploring the ship and I have very little tune since I'm to be up at four o'clock in the morning. I was told.longer dominated the colony. Lang worked them harder than ever, making up for the lost time..11. A poem justifying capital punishment in cases where one has been abandoned by one's lover..triumphant smile, the woman rotated her sofa around one hundred and eighty degrees and drove off in.brown haunch, brown body and head. The horns shriveled and fell to the ground. Only her eyes remained the same.."That's okay," she said. "I'm sure you'd have done just the same for me." ?"If there is anything I can do in return . . . ?".Then she was gone, gliding off into the night where the drums thudded in distant darkness..The whole world has been at peace for more than a generation. Crime is almost unheard of. Free energy has made the world rich, but the population is stable, even though early detection has wiped out most diseases. Everyone can do whatever he likes, providing his neighbors would not disapprove, and after all, their views are the same as bis own..thought and thought and thought. And got nowhere..only three writers who have contributed as much fiction as Mr. Young (Poul Andersen, A warn.ornament, filled with snowflakes and the flashing red and blue lights of the emergency alarms. The top.of.Cora Zickwolfe, who lived in a remote rural area of Arizona and whose husband commuted to Tncon, arranged with her nearest neighbor, Phyllis McII, for each of them to keep an Ozo focused on die bulletin board hi the other's kitchen. On the bulletin board was a note that said "OK." If there was any trouble and she couldn't get to the phone, she would take down the note, or if she had time, write another..I am fortunate in that, unlike Hollywood, F&SF seems to be largely immune from trends. The.Barry looked down at his shoes. "Thanks."."Most of them." / hardly ever won, but then I liked to play games with outrageous risks.."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..my crown, lying dressed as you see me now in a green meadow. In my pocket was a map that told me.I blow you into little pieces and scatter them over the whole wide world."..We made the cold dash across the beach to die cabin, picking up our clothes on the way. Inside we huddled together wishing for a fire and toweled ourselves dry while the polycarpet ran rainbows of browns and electric blues around our feet. In the course of it I got my arms around Selene. I pulled her against me. She met my mouth hungrily, but when I started pulling her toward the fake animal pelt in front of the fireplace, she rammed me with a sharp hipbone and wiggled loose..an influence on the development of the

organism.. "That's none of your business!" Nolan reddened. "Besides, it's all over now." "I hope m be gone before then. I'm just on holiday until I decide what to do with my life."

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