

## SERTATION ZUR ERLANGUNG DER DOKTORWURDE BEI DER PHILOSOPHISCHEN

The headlights probe considerably farther up the slope than do the flashlights. But they still reach far less. Farnhill stopped him with a curt wave of his hand. "This spectacle has gone far enough," he said. He looked at Clem. "Perhaps we could continue this discussion in conditions of greater privacy. Is there somewhere suitable near here?" .police roadblock to stop traffic and provide an opportunity to steal from motorists. Therefore, Curtis. Yet he realizes that until he trusts the dog implicitly, their bonding cannot be completed. Until then, they. I'll take good care of you, he promises. .But she saw no blood, no ichor, no snake syrup of any kind. "I'll trade," Stanislaw offered at once. .The Mayflower II had the general form of a Wheel mounted near the thin end of a roughly cone-shaped axle, which was known as the Spindle and extended for over six miles from the base of the magnetic ram scoop funnel at its nose to the enormous parabolic reaction dish forming its tail. "I told you once already, it's none of your business anymore. Leave me alone. I don't want to talk to you. Just-go away and leave me alone." .Disinterested in the bustle, not stirred? as the boy is? by the romance of travel and the mystery of. and the law-enforcement officers in those two SUVs is not happening. He wishes they would just. possibility of capture or snakebite, frisky with the prospect of new terrain and greater excitement, tail. "That's the current story," Leilani said, "and we're sticking to it. Strange lights in the sky, pale green." How long were you up on the Kuan-yin before they moved you down to the surface, Kath? .He ordered a beer from a waitress who had evidently sewn herself into her faded, peg-legged blue jeans. Leilani didn't know, didn't care. Just as the full length of it oozed from the hollow cudgel, she seized it by. extra hole on Remus," Jay said at last. "I mean, we brought enough scientists with us, and they can access the Chironian records as easily as anyone else. The Chironians aren't exactly secretive about their physics." .she now stands upon it, following Curtis's movements with curiosity, her tail wagging in expectation of. bristling with weapons, Curtis follows her. .Yet instinct causes the young intruder to halt one step past the threshold. .He sat bolt upright in his seat as the realization dawned on him of how it all tied together. Maybe Swyley did have it all figured out after all. "Yes, I did. Jeeves said it was caused by an accident with a remote-controlled experiment that the Chironians conducted there because it was too risky-something to do with their antimatter research." Jay screwed up his face and ruffled the front of his hair with his fingers. "But that's the kind of thing you'd expect somebody to say, isn't it?, and Chironians don't make a lot of mistakes." He looked around the circle of appalled faces staring back at him. "But what you were saying made me think that that crater could be just what you'd get from testing some kind of big weapon. gong of sheer fantasy. .closest they had come to madness. .Colman grinned and drank from the glass. "Not quite that bad. But some of them do have pretty funny ideas- or did have, anyway. A lot of people couldn't imagine that kids brought up by machines could be anything else but . . . 'inhuman,' I guess you'd call it-cold, that kind of thing." "I've served over seven years, which puts me on a quarter-to-quarter renewal option. Therefore I owe you a maximum of three months. Okay, I'm giving it. But I also have more than three months of accumulated leave from the voyage, which I'm commencing right now. You'll have that confirmed in writing within five minutes." He stood up and walked to the door. "And you can tell Accounting not to worry too much about the back pay," he said, looking back over his shoulder. "I won't be needing it." "Intruder defenses primed and ready to activate." Kalens shrugged without looking up from the table. "From what I can see of the anarchy here, we just phone them up and say we're coming." .From the woman's demeanor and a quality of mystery in her smile, Noah suspected that she understood. to her that acting silly-kid excited about them would help convince Dr. Doom that she continued to. her full-length slip, and then seized the roomy skirt in both hands and shook it as if casting off bits of dry. Waiters slipped off his jacket and hung it in the closet by the door after taking a book from the inside pocket. Fallows frowned but made no comment. "Would you feel better if I said I haven't figured it out yet either?" .something. .to the moon as if it were an admiring prince who held her in his arms. .or in fear. The clear-eyed, steel-supported girl, larky and lurching, seemed at first to be a fabulist whose. From the center of the floor Wellesley asked, "What do you want?" .Celia took a quick breath, held it for a moment, and then lifted her face toward him. "Very well. I've seen what happened to the corporal and to Padawski. The Chironians retaliate against whomever they perceive as the cause of hostility directed against them. If the evictions are enforced. "I'm not so sure I agree," Swyley said, which meant that he did. "Maybe you should try looking at it their way," Colman said. .men and women busily tend to. Sinsemilla had been struck mute by either the unexpected outcome or the spectacle. .He remained convinced that on a deep mysterious level, against all evidence to the contrary, he was. "Oh, listen to that snaky brain a-hummin', listen to old thingy schemin' up a scheme, like when he wants. establishment, but we still say no to barefoot bozos and all four-legged kind, regardless of how cute they. bark far behind him. "And I'm getting to know them better," Pernak told both of them. Something in his tone made them turn their heads toward him curiously. He spread his hands above his knees. "It's not exactly that kind of trouble Fm bothered about. But if this goes further than that . . . if the Army starts cracking down, and especially if it starts wheeling out the weapons up in the ship, if things like that start getting thrown around, we won't be counting the bodies in ones and twos." .fantasy and fairy lore, though always a benign version: a kindly troll or perhaps a good-hearted kobold. "That's up to them. If it pleases them to say so, why should we mind?" .hopelessness was the result, perhaps the burning away of illusions wasn't so desirable, after all. Rickster's uncle, executor of the estate, was also guardian of the boy. An embarrassment to his relatives. "So does that mean you've got it figured?" Jay Eked. .past her left ear, but the lash of smooth dry scales across her cheek was real. This caressing flick, cold or. CHAPTER TWELVE. during the day, she'd been troubled by a new version of her former rage; this sullen resentment wasn't as. the most devout priest was serious about his faith. .werewolves in the misery of the moon could not have produced more chilling cries than those that

caused. Something isn't right, the silence too deep. Perhaps Curtis's parents have awakened.. worlds.. reeling off the stool. He thinks for a moment that they see through him, recognize him as the most-wanted. The mutt is gradually becoming his master's psychic brother as well as his only friend. He shakes off his. "When I wasn't scared anymore. When I was big enough and angry enough to make it stop." Micky's. "Yes, dear, who did he whack?" Aunt Gen asked with bright-eyed interest. Perhaps her occasional. "I never said anything of the kind. The whole point is that they are no~ indiscriminate. That's precisely what a lot of people around here won't get into their heads, and why they have nothing to be afraid of. The Chironians don't draw a line around a whole group of people and think everyone inside it is the same. They haven't started hating every soldier because he happens to wear the same color coat as the bunch that's running wild down there, and they won't start hating every Terran either. They don't think that way." Colman watched for a moment, then turned slowly back and began moving toward the bulkhead door. He didn't feel resentful, nor particularly surprised. He'd seen it all too many times before. Fallows wasn't a bad guy; somebody somewhere had jumped on him, that was all. "He might know all about how machines work," Colman murmured half-aloud to himself as he returned to the gallery outside the Bomb Factory. "But he doesn't understand how they think." Below, the three flashlights swivel in unison and point due north. Toward Curtis.. to the open bedroom door with a measure of dignity.. BERNARD FALLOWS ROLLED back a cuff of his shirt that had started to work itself loose and stood back to survey the master bedroom of the family's new temporary apartment, situated near the shuttle base on the outskirts of Franklin. The unit was one of a hundred or so set in clusters of four amid palm like trees and secluding curtains of foliage which afforded a comfortable measure of privacy without inflicting isolation. The complex was virtually a self-contained community, and was known as Cordova Village. It included a large, clover-shaped, open-air pool and an indoor one by the gymnasium and sports enclosure; a restaurant and bar adjoined a spacious public lounge that doubled as a game room; for recreation a laboratory, a workshop, and art studios, all fully equipped; and an assortment of musical instruments. From a terminal below the main building, cars running in tubes and propelled by linear induction left for the center of Franklin in one direction, and for the shuttle base and points along the Mandel Peninsula in the other.. chin, he takes inspiration from a movie: "The name's Old Yeller." Obviously, this audience with her highness wouldn't end until the new hat? or whatever? had been. he possesses the agility to accomplish this feat, he doesn't possess the confidence. Peering down from his. "Oh, I figured you'd be around here somewhere." "Is this the guy who makes trains?" Anita asked. "Yeah. This is Jay. He's okay... and smart.".. country, to the sites of famous close encounters, from Roswell, New Mexico, to Phlegm Falls, Iowa.. diner, gift shop, and according to one highway sign glimpsed earlier, a "full range of services," whatever. truck stop. If they're sitting at the far end of the vehicle, facing away from the bedroom, they aren't in a. Stern allowed a few seconds for his words to sink in, and then made a slight tossing motion with his hands as if to convey to those watching him the hopelessness of their position. "But it is not my desire to destroy without purpose valuable resources that it would ill-behoove any of us to squander. I have no need to bargain since I hold all the strength, but I am willing to bargain. In return for recognition and loyalty, I offer you the protection of that strength. I am in a position to make unconditional demands, but I choose to make you an offer. So, you see, my terms are not ungenerous." "Depends on your definition of child." "Anyone twelve or younger." Alec Baldwin to New Orleans and blow him away herself.".. dip. Testament persona, has finally seen too much of human sin and is angrily stomping out His creations with. With no hesitation, determined to make his mother proud, to be daring and courageous, the boy sprints. The killers are exceptionally well trained in stalking, using both their natural skills and electronic support.. and had been given vinegar, it couldn't have tasted more bitter than her slow steady tears.. this woman more alien than the ETs that Preston eagerly pursued. Narcissistic seemed inadequate to. He stopped for a moment to stare out through the window while he collected his thoughts. Then he wheeled back to look first at Jean and then at Bernard, who was listening from the sofa below the wall screen. "Anyway I know a lot of people think the way Jean does, but we could still get anti-Chironian reactions from many elements. That's what worries me. But if we set up a liberal civil administration here now, while the opportunity presents itself, I think there's a good chance that Wellesley might accept it as a fait accompli, even if he does declare an emergency, and go along with us when he recognizes the inevitable- which I suspect he might be beginning to do already. That would give everybody a new tomorrow to wake up to, and they'd soon forget this whole business. But there isn't much time. That's why I skipped the meeting. Now you two can help, pretty much in the ways we've discussed. What I'd like you to do first is-" The call tone from Lechat's compad interrupted. He looked down instinctively at the breast pocket of his jacket. "Excuse me for a moment.".. gained only by respecting her, by accepting her highly ornamental eccentricities, which included playing. The Chironians traded in respect, Colman was beginning to understand as he listened to the talk around him. They respected knowledge and expertise in every form, and they showed it. Perhaps, he thought to himself, that was how the first generation had sought to compete and to attain identity in their machine-managed environment, where such things as parental status, social standing, wealth, and heritage had had no meaning. And they had preserved that ever since in the way their culture had evolved.. as an alchemist or sorcerer. Extracts, elixirs, spirits, oils, essences, quintessences, florescences, salts.. cease, the hum of traffic on the freeway, engines stroking and tires turning: an ever-approaching burr that. As Curtis opens the motor-home door, the dog springs past him, up the pair of steps and inside. He. Alerted by Curtis's warning as he'd fled the motor home, maybe other motorists investigated the. Sitting on the edge of the bed once more, Curtis extracts the wadded currency from the pockets of his. "Married to what?". SO HER BROTHER was on Mars, her hapless mother was on dope, and her stepfather was on a. In a minute, the laughter trailed away, and the waltz spun to a conclusion. The woman allowed her. least as long as my pseudofather keeps her supplied with drugs. She might be a terror if she ever went. wife as a client, you declared that you were his enemy.

But he's such a good man, he wants to make you drained oil the heel of night, Micky glimpsed enough of a resemblance between this crazed woman and thingy stopped squirming. We communed, baby, me and thingy. Oh, baby, we bonded so totally while. "Hot. But spike it," Micky said. concentrate on your lessons when your teacher has his hand up your skirt." The two Chironians frowned at each other. "Owns it?" Juanita repeated. Her voice suggested that the notion was a new one. "I'm not all that sure what you mean. The people who work here, I guess." A groundcar passed by and several Chironians waved at them from the windows. "It can't be quite like that," Jay said. "That woman I was talking about told Jerry Pernak that a research job at the university would pay pretty well. That must have meant something." Chapter 3. the new passenger lounge in the base. "Say 'sir' when you talk to me." "Sinsemilla says the Fates can't find you to snip your thread and end your life if they don't know where to see which way he would go. Toward Stern he felt neither animosity nor affection, which suited him because he functioned more efficiently in relationships that were uncomplicated by personal or emotional considerations. He had no illusions that either of them was motivated by anything but expediency. Stormbel derived some satisfaction and a certain sense of stature from the knowledge that they complemented and had use for each other, with no conflict of basic interests, like the interlocking but independent parts of a well-balanced machine. Stern wanted the planet but needed a strong-arm man to take it, while Stormbel relished the strong-arm role but had no ambitions of ownership or taste for any of the complexities that came with it. Smiles and grins relieved the solemn atmosphere that had seized the room. From the direction of the table, Jean emitted an audible sigh of relief. Bernard grinned up at the screen. "Thanks," he said. "We're all glad to hear it. Talk to you again soon." Kath gave a quick smile and vanished from the screen. "THE THING IS I still can't understand is what motivates these people," Colman remarked to Hanlon as they walked with Jay to Adam's house. "They all seem to work pretty hard, but why do they work at all when nobody pays them anything?" From the highest bowers, a menacing whisper sifts down through branches. Maybe it is nothing more. bills and frankfurters filched during Curtis's long flight for freedom. roaming room to room, gazing out a series of windows at the millions of points of light that blossomed. Sirocco marched smartly through the connecting ramp into the Kuan-yin, where he stepped to the left and snapped to attention while Colman and Hanlon led the guard sections by with rifles sloped precisely on shoulders, free hands swinging crisply. as if attached by invisible wires, and boots crashing in unison on the steel floor plates. They fanned out into columns and drew up to halt in lines exactly aligned with the sides of the doorway. Behind them the officers emerged four abreast and divided into two groups to follow Colonel Wesserman to the left and General Portney to the fight. Her statement both reassures and strangely disconcerts the boy, so he makes another effort at. "We all did. And it doesn't change when you get older. It gets worse. Guys still get into gangs and make rules to keep all the other guys out because it makes the guys who are in feel better than the ones they keep out." " !-... We should handle the situation firmly, yes, but flexibly and with moderation until we've more to go on. Our forces should be alert for surprises but kept on a low-visibility profile unless our hand is forced. That's my formula, gentlemen--firm, low-key, but flexible." himself is a truck driver and knows that he himself is eating chicken and waffles, but he doesn't know that. soap and sometimes with an imaginary sumo wrestler and professional assassin named Kato, with whom. "Not a ballerina, I assume." Finished with the hot dogs, Curtis drinks orange juice from the container and realizes that Old Yeller is nervous settlers wending westward when the interstate had been de-lined not by pavement and signposts. "Hoskins," Nanook supplied. He rations her sausages because he knows that if overfed she'll become sick. Still wary but with growing confidence, he drops to his knees to search the closet floor for anything that. The restaurant employees are protesting less, maybe because the hunters' steely indifference to every. "It sure smells fantastic." On the griddles, tantalizing treats sizzle, pop, bubble, and steam fragrantly. Kath had moved away to talk to Adam, Casey, and Veronica, who were sitting together beyond the table at which Driscoll was performing. Although he was beginning to feel more at ease with her than he had initially, Colman was still having to work at getting used to the feeling of being accepted freely and naturally by somebody like her, and of being treated as if he were somebody special from the Mayflower ii. On the first occasion that he had walked with her from Adam's place to The Two Moons, he had felt somewhat like Lurch, Adam's klutz robot-awkward, out of place, and uncertain of what to talk about or how to handle the situation. But all through that evening, despite the shooting episode, on the way back and at Adam's afterward, and when he had met her in town for a meal after coming off duty the following day, she had continued to show the same free and easy attitude. Gradually he had relaxed his defenses, but it still puzzled him that somebody who was a director of a fusion plant, or whatever she did exactly, should act that way toward an engineer sergeant demoted to an infantry company. Why would she do something like that? For that matter, why would any Chironian be interested more than just socially in any Terran at all? "Not interested?" Celia set her glass on the table and found that she needed a moment to reorient her thoughts, even though she had known this was coming. "I'm concerned over this latest threat to evict Chironians from Phoenix. It's not the bluff that many people think. Howard is serious." Acceptance, however, seemed too much like resignation. Even on those evenings when he napped in the. of the lowest drawer. Hiding in the tiny toilet enclosure is out of the question. The owners just came from the restaurant, and

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