

HOSTING THE PRESENCE

no protests. McKillian and Ralston headed for the pile of salvaged equipment, hoping to rescue enough. We cut and I dealt "How long have you been in Hollywood?" Q: What's da pardpf a song dad isn'd da woids? "You noticed," she says softly. "You've got a hell of a way with understatement." make sense to me. Surely if you were nice to other poets, they'd be nfce to you, on the basic principle of scratch-my-back." She consulted a file card. "He checked in last Friday night The 22nd. Six days." While she was stuffing Nakamura into his suit, Crawford arrived. He had walked over the folds of plastic until he reached the dormitory, then sliced through it with his laser normally used to vaporize rock samples. Q: Who is that peeking out of a manila envelope in the slush pile? A: The Mote in God's Eye. Lorraine Nesbitt, they all liked him. The grey man scowled and contemplated and cogitated, but could not make anything of it At last he said, "Never mind Come to lunch." But she got no further. A loud sound in the woods stayed her. It was too heavy for a deer. And when the hunter stepped out of the woods on the very path that Brother Hart usually took, Hinda gave a gasp, part delight, part fear..like a foreign country." He shrugged. "I guess it'll all be gone before too long though. Things keep creepin'." Enough to get by." they are unhappy with us. They speak, and theirs is a voice that shatters mountains. "WHO ARE.." "No! There's no other way. Oh, not people like us, maybe. Maybe we're seeing them right now, spinning like crazy." They all looked uneasily at the whirligigs. "But I think they're not here yet I think we're going to see, over the next few years, increasing complexity in these plants and animals as they build up a biome here and get ready for the builders. Think about it. When summer comes, the conditions will be very different. The atmosphere will be almost as dense as ours, with about the same partial pressure of oxygen. By then, thousands of years from now, these early forms will have vanished. These things are adapted for low pressure, no oxygen, scarce water. The later ones will be adapted to an environment much tike ours. And that's when we'll see the makers, when the stage is properly set." She sounded almost religious when she said it..apartment court was a fleabag. Number five was one room with a closet, a tiny kitchen, and a tiny. I try to change the subject. "Your father didn't come down to the first concert, did he? Is he coming. his pile of blankets. Since the day of the blowout he never seemed to be warm enough..overworked, and a labor of love. The problem is usually to recruit reviewers, not discourage them..Ents (or his other bucolic-comic creations) are as empty-sublime as the Big People's heroics. But I agree. It was so dark in there with the curtains drawn that I couldn't see a thing. I left the closet and opened them a little on the front window. It didn't let in a lot of light, but it was enough. Maybe Detweiler wouldn't notice. I went back to the closet and waited.. "Nay, I must stay." She frowned. "You mean quit running together?"..arena; Red, yellow, blue. Start with the basics. Red..It was impossible to answer with ice in my chest. I could only stare back while she hunted around for. They looked at the floor. Then Jack got down on his hands and knees and looked under the cot..AMIS' Hell of New Maps." It will be tomorrow at four o'clock in the morning," said the grey man. "So don't stay up too late." Amanda. Energy ran like a restless, self-willed thing under her skin. She could not even sit without that. of his shut, right where it covered his belly button..our deadline a few weeks or a month closer, the day we have to be self-supporting."..the worst place, but you know better than to leave it." Matthew? Matthew, I'm sorry. I didn't meant to hurt you." Her hand stroked my forehead. "It was." "Oh, yeah, sure."..in three words. . . ." (Damon Knight, *In Search of Wonder*, Advent, Chicago, 1967, p. 29.)..that. What do you say? Are you all with me?" Barry smiled, at a loss..permit these things to grow by ingesting sand and rock and turning it into plastic-like materials. So we. Then all the blankets fell away, and a man with more colors on him than Amos had ever seen sat up rubbing his eyes. His sleeves were green silk with blue and purple trimming. His cape was crimson with orange design. His shirt was gold with rainbow checks, and one boot was white and the other was black..Another section opened up and they stepped through it After three more gates were passed, the temperature and pressure were nearly Earth-normal. And they were standing beside a small oriental woman with skin tanned almost black. She had no clothes on, but seemed adequately dressed in a brilliant smile that dimpled her month and eyes. Her hair was streaked with gray. She would be? Singh stopped to consider? forty-one years old..outlets or at the door.. "I suppose, then," said Amos, "I've done well to avoid coming here." And he turned around and left..The heat was stifling, worse than anything he could remember. Even Moises was gasping for air as he gunned the jeep over the rutted roadway, peering into the shimmering haze.. "No." She shook her hair back over her shoulders. "I don't take over officially until January. I just. The leash broke. She bounded away down the sand. As though that were not release enough, she flung herself into a succession of cartwheels and forward flips. She went around a curve of the beach and out of sight, still cartwheeling. By the time I reached the curve, she had disappeared..When I came out she said, "Why?" "Then come with me," said the grey man, and the rough sailors with cutlasses rose about him and. The hunter searched her face with his eyes but could not find what he was seeking. He walked past. The sun was poking over the mountains when he woke up. He roused and was momentarily unaware of where he was; then memory flooded back. He turned to me. The pain and hysteria were gone from his eyes. They were oddly peaceful.. "Where have you been?" cried Hidalgo. "We all thought you were dead." "Well, that all sounds pretty ho-hum to me up against this," Song said. "Do you ... do you realize . . . what are we talking about here? Evolution, or ... or engineering? Is it the plants themselves that did this, or were they made to do it by whatever built them? Do you see what I'm talking about? I've felt funny about- those wheels for a long time. I just won't believe they'd evolve naturally." "I've tried. But the girl comes from the mountains; she doesn't speak English-"..bearers bore him away..(or, possibly, an allied) species, and then let nature take its course..Here, then, is "Randali's Song," to which I took the liberty of adding a verse myself..afternoon everybody had heard it..the surface, then disappear when their function was over..Jain are sitting across the aisle from me. It's a long Sight and there's been a lull in

the usually boisterous. "Then I am die prince to save you," said Jack. "Very well," said Amos a second time. "Until then, I shall walk around and explore your ship." "I meant, would you like some now, with me? I've got a six-pack." hair style. At long last the Mediator has got both sides to agree to another meeting. It's to take place tomorrow morning. I think the Organizer should back down a little? settle, say, for a ten-percent raise and forget the fringe benefits. True, it's only been two weeks since we walked off the job, but Debbie and I have already run up a sizable food bill at the Mom & Pop store around the corner, what's left of our savings will just about cover the rent, and I'm smoking Bugler instead of Winstons. And any day now, as Debbie keeps reminding me, we're going to have another mouth to feed. Feeding it doesn't worry me half so much as paying the hospital and doctor bills. people, and the way these are concretely embodied in personal relations, social institutions, and received stature as they watched, seeming to grow until she dominated the group with the intangible power that. "Certainly. Barry, you said? You're so direct it's almost devious. Let's go to my place. It's only a. sounded almost religious when she said it. Gus Verdugo worked in R&I. I had done him a favor once, and he insisted on returning it tenfold. I gave him everything I had on Andrew Detweiler and asked him if he'd mind running it through the computer. He wouldn't mind. He called back in fifteen minutes. The computer had never heard of Andrew Detweiler and had only seven hunchbacks, none of them fitting Detweiler's description. I started to frown. It hurt hellishly. There seemed to be silver wrapped around the edges of my vision, too. "Selene isn't the evil genius you think, Amanda." My voice sounded thin. They're ready. I cut in another dozen tracks, then mute two. Things are building just a little too fast. "It's funny," Lang said, quietly. "I always thought it would be something flashy, or at least obvious. An alien artifact mixed in with caveman bones, or a spaceship entering the system. I guess I was thinking hi terms of pottery shards and atom bombs." completed. ".257." Let's put our cards on the table, shall we, Mr. Riordan? I am a Permanent Card holder. What are you? "Birdie Pawlowicz was a fat, slovenly old broad somewhere between forty and two hundred. She was. they're very busy right now, they can't be bothered." Since I first heard her in Washington, I've loved this song the best. I push more keys. Eighty-two. Eighty-five. I know the tech's happily watching the meters. "Sure." She raised her eyebrows. The one over the patch didnt go up as high as the other. "If you see him from the front, you can't even tell." "When the dawn is foggy and the sun is hidden and the air is grey as grey can be." ?Barry N. Malzberg. The cracks opened. "Oh, yes. He's only been here a few days. The name had slipped my mind." uninteresting that I would learn nothing from it? "A similar case is that of H. G. Wells's The Island of Dr. Moreau, filmed with superbly demonic atmosphere as Island of Lost Souls in 1932. Charles Laughton, maybe the best actor yet to appear on film, gives an extraordinary performance as Dr. M., and Bela Lugosi captures the spirit of the beast men as the Speaker of the Law with the abhuman quality that characterized his Dracula. Now Burt Lancaster is one of film's most underrated actors, but his straightforward non-intellectual approach to the doctor role undermined the '70s trip to the Island; Richard Basehart didn't help matters by looking tike a beneficent Old Testament prophet in the Lugosi role. But even Laughton and Lugosi would have been hard put to come across, with the later film's completely uninteresting script and camerawork. The image as it swells hypnotically toward him is clear and sharp, without tremor or atmospheric. "Haven't you done enough?" I sighed. "When I called you, I didn't mean for you to push her like that." "Then I love you," and breaks off as the riff ends and she struts back out into the light. I reluctantly touch the console and push the stim to seventy-five. Fifty tracks are in. Jain, will you love me if I don't?. presentation in syllogistic form. An acquaintance with the modern philosophy of science would disabuse. we should know why, or we're ignoring a fact about Mars that might still kill us. Let's do that first. Ralston, can you walk? "To Your Broadcast Bodies, Get Yourselves, PHILIP JOSE FARMER. I don't think the fault's in Jain. I detect no significant difference from other conceits. Her skin still tantalizes the audience as nakedly, only occasionally obscured by the cloudy metal mesh that transforms her entire body into a single antenna. I've been there when she's performed a hell of a lot better, maybe, but I've also seen her perform worse and still come off the stage happy." "Very well then, I have a plan." Again Amos began to whisper through the bars, and Jack smiled and rasp. "You take us to these God-damned Sreen of yours and let us talk to them." The topmost platform of the scaffolding was on a level with the serrated apex of the unfinished wall. Getting a grip on the edge of the platform, the King chinned himself and swung his body onto the narrow planking. He stood up, and the wind set his ringleted hair to dancing about his golden crown. In the Hall of the Martian Kings by John Varley 113. concerned solely with how much his efforts will net him, not with the use to which their. can university) totally lost its point here, since its chilling quality comes from the very ordinariness of the people involved, and the professor's wife of Weird Woman is given a childhood background of Caribbean voodoo. Much closer is the well-known version, Bum Witch, Bum, which has become a sort of minor classic. I looked at the girl, an exact double of my lost love. Beautiful and quiet. What more could a man ask!. of our situation. If anyone is a commodity here, it's you and Ralston, by virtue of your scarcity. There will. Sixty overlay tracks and one com board between Jain and maybe. Outside, the water lapped at the ship, and after a moment Jack said, "A river runs by the castle of the Far Rainbow, and when you go down into the garden, you can hear the water against the wall just like that". From somewhere there was the sound of knocking. change places with Ben. With my old buddy to talk to, time went by fast. appearing in a French history of SF. months. "But you were one of the best, everyone knows that. You still don't think you could do it?" "Now Fin likable! I thought"? he dangled the poem by one corner ?" you were just hinting that I should leave?" I bit my tongue but it was too late. She shrieked like a stricken animal and came at me swinging. There was a poker in her hand. It is important to remember that the most important genetic possession of any species is not this gene. It was painful to leave the mystery for later, but there was nothing to be done about it. They could not bring themselves to uproot the thing, even when five more like it sprouted in the graveyard. There was a new consensus among them to leave the Martian plants and animals alone. Like nervous atheists, most of

them didn't believe Song's theories but had an uneasy feeling of trespassing when they went through the gardens. They felt subconsciously that it might be better to leave them alone in case they turned out to be private property..friendly with him, felt sorry for him, I guess." "Hey?" Jason grabbed Barry's hand and gave it an earnest squeeze. "Don't forget, if you do get your Permanent License?".was no one sitting in front of them. Crawford assumed the guard had gone to sleep. He would have been.DICK'S The High In the Castle, Man AMIS' Hell of New Maps MOORCOCK'S Ruins in the Breakfast SILVERBERG'S Inside Dying.if she were then to have the egg cell implanted into me womb of her own mother (who, we will assume, is.211.Edward Bryant for "Stone".savages?" He shrugged..This time, he had brought his bow with him. It was slung diagonally across his back. His right hand.Singh thought he saw some movement when he pressed his face to the translucent web. The web.Westland. "A valuable training aid, ft is a product of the research staff of the Megalo Corporation.You squirm around, raising the viewer to aim it down the hill. As you turn the knob with your thumb,.me one hour to produce a full report justifying the project and went storming back up to the executive.You only had to take one look at his hands to know he'd never done a lick of work in his life.."I didn't say that" Tired as he was, Nolan still remembered the basic rule?never contradict these people or make fun of their super-.Naturally, the ordinary "somatic cells" of an adult human body, with their genetic equipment working.Tm not disturbing you, am I? I heard the typewriter." The room was indeed identical to mine, though.Belem: Darlene and Robbie were on the ship, ready for the flight to Manaos. Tomorrow morning he'd.So Amos took off the prince's clothes and the sailor took them to the brig and returned with Amos' rags. When he had dressed and was about to go with the grey man to lunch, his sleeve brushed the grey man's arm. The grey man stopped and frowned so deeply his face became almost black. "These clothes are wet and the ones you wore were dry."..moment he turned to the breadboard controls of the device and changed one setting slightly. In the.111.water. It isn't here now, but it can be created by properly designed plants. They engineered these plants.frog, but it was neither. It was human. It waddled on all fours like an enormous toad..The topmost platform of the scaffolding was on a level with the serrated apex of the unfinished wall..not necessary, for all he saw was a mass of confusing colors. "Nobody," be said..?Edward L. Ferman.This fertilized egg cell cannot become an independently living organism for some nine months, for it must divide and redivide within its mother's womb and be nourished by way of its mother's bloodstream. It must develop, specialize, and grow larger until it has developed the necessary ability to live independently. Even after it emerges from its mother's womb, it requires constant and unremitting care for a period of time before it can be trusted to care for itself..He and Lea walked to the mirror and looked at their reflections..That hardly seemed fan' to me. As though she read my mind, Selene said, "I didn't plan it; it just.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.

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