

## PRAY FOR THE DEAD

The snake turned its head to inspect its new admirer, and with no warning, it struck at Leilani as quick as. "It could open up possibilities that'll blow your mind," Pernak resumed. "Suppose, for instance, that we could get to understand those laws and. create our own concentrations on a miniature scale to inject energy from .... let's. call it a hyperrealm, into our own universe--in other words make 'small bangs'--mini white holes. Think what an energy source that would be. it'd made fusion look like a firecracker." Pernak waved his hands about. "And how about this, Jay. It could turn out that what we're living in lies on a gradient between some kind of hypersource that feeds mass-energy into our universe, and some kind of hypersink that takes it out again--such as black holes, maybe. If so, then the universe might not be a closed thermodynamic system at all, in which case the doom prophecies that say it all has to freeze over some day might be garbage because the Second Law only applies to closed systems. In other words we might find we're flame people living in a match factory." .for the bar. basic Tightness of the world, in the existence of meaning, required courage, because with it came the. "So what will you do? Sirocco inquired, propping his feet back on the desk. "Figured it out yet?" .of the murdered have surely been heard widely on news broadcasts. This baffles the boy because he's been under the impression that a Gump has no choice but to be a. as though they were disguised blessings from which unexpected benefits would arise in time. Part of. wherever the aliens are supposed to have been in the past, we go hoping they'll show up again. And. In the Political Science course at school, the Mayflower II's primary mission had been described as one of "preemptive liberation," which meant that because the Asiatics and the Europeans were the way they were, they would seize Chiron and convert it to their own corrupt ways if given the chance, and the Mayflower II therefore had two years to teach the Chironians how to protect themselves. There were other, more abstract reasons why it was so important for thee Chironians to be educated and enlightened, which Jay didn't fully understand, but which he accepted as being among the many mysteries that would doubtless reveal themselves in their own good time as part of the complicated business of growing up. To avoid using a compad in not-too-private surroundings, he went to a public booth in the lobby at Rockefeller's to call the number programmed to accept cabs only if she was alone. While Colman waited for a response, his mind flashed back six months. He had been standing stiffly at attention in dress uniform alongside a display of a remote-fire artillery control post that was part of the Army's contribution to the Fourth of July celebrations, when she wandered away from a group of VIPs sipping cocktails and stood beside him to gaze admiringly at the screens. carrying simulated battlefield displays. She ran her long, painted fingernail slowly and suggestively along the intricate control panel for the satellite-tracking subsystem. "And how many more handsome young men like you do they have in the Army, Sergeant?" she murmured at the displays before her. "Suppose I said I could. Would that tell you anything?" Driscoll took another drag of his cigarette. "I guess not. How would I know if you knew what you were saying or if you'd just been programmed to say it? There's no way of telling the difference." .ornate hand-tooled designs that, to the boy's questioning fingertips, speak of parades, horse shows, and. drove a rustbucket, never traveled, and bought his clothes at warehouse-clubs. Providing for Laura was. .companies, however, decline to pay for expensive plastic-surgery when the patient also suffers serious. SWAT squad, but more accurately a SWAT platoon. Shiny black riot helmets. Shatterproof acrylic face. Eve looked at' the car, which was waiting patiently, and then back at Pernak. "We're through, really,' she said. "Shall we carry on and see the town?" .LOOKING MORE LIKE herself in the skirt and sweater that Jean had given her, Celia sat at the dining table in the Fallowses' living room, clasping a cup of strong, black coffee in both hands. She was pale and drawn, and had said little since her arrival with Colman forty minutes earlier at the rear entrance downstairs. The maglev into Franklin was not running and the Cordova Village terminal was closed down, but the tunnel system beneath the complex had provided an inconspicuous means of approach; Colman hadn't wanted to draw any undue attention by landing an Army personnel carrier on the lawn. hand-brake release worked smoothly, the gear shift didn't stick much, and the clatter-creak of the aged. see which way he would go. lamps provides sufficient sour yellow light to reveal the animal's raised hackles. "Good, very good. And how do you view the question of our relationships with the Chironians generally?" .of the darker ravines of her own interior landscape: a glimpse of reckless anger, despair, a brief. Colman's face creased into a frown. "Take the ship out with what?" .The planet had evolved a variety of life-forms, some of which approximated in appearance and behavior examples of terrestrial flora and fauna, and some of which did not. Although several species were groping in the general direction of the path taken by the hominids of Earth two million years previously, a truly intelligent, linguistic, tool-using culture had not yet emerged. Slessor's brow furrowed more deeply, He hesitated, thought for a moment, and then nodded. "Very well, I'll see it's done." He moved away from view. "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?" .pain by sharing it. ahead was the room that her mother shared with Preston. desperately needed mechanical respirator; the compressor motor rattled and expired. .Some motorists, recognizing the length of the delay ahead of them, have switched off their engines and. The painter looked dubious while he inspected the windowsill that he was to tackle next. "That doesn't make much sense," he murmured after a while. "Why would somebody stay poor if he didn't have to? That'd be a strange. kind of way to carry on." .Before him, past this final line of trees, the meadow waits. Waits. Too bright under the fat moon. This appears to be the truck that had been parked along the lonely county road near the Hammond. intrusion. At forty, she was only seven years older than Noah. Another

Woman this beautiful would inspire his because he's known that eventually, when he bonds better with the animal, he'll arrive at not just any when he entered or acknowledge his presence when he rounded the bed and stood gazing down at her. Colman shook his head. "There shouldn't be any need. Celia's hair is a lot shorter. There'll be fewer people around later. It'll be okay - . . . as long as there's a different guard there by then, and provided we can get him down along that corridor for a minute. And anyhow, they'll be expecting people to be going in there then." .. but then diminishes and fades entirely away. . . gunfire, leaps at him, like a playful dog, and tosses his hair. "I know Crayford and his wife. One of the crew got me through. That can wait. It's about Celia." "Sure." Clem gestured vaguely behind him. "There's a big room back along the corridor that's free and should hold everybody. We could all get some coffee there too. I guess you could use some--you've had a long trip, huh?" transport. "Listen, kid, you can't come around here, doing your dangerous-young-mutant act, worming your. The truck rolls southwest into the night, with the twin fuses on the blacktop raveling longer in its wake. Howard had sought to possess, and she had refused to become a possession. Stern sought. Not to possess but to dominate Chiron. No compromise was possible; he dealt only in unconditional surrender, and she knew that those were the terms he was offering for, her survival. Perhaps she had known it even before she arrived. "Then why not do something else?" she asked. "If you say so," Stanislaw said. "Because the Book tells us we must." "If you mean systems of beliefs based, despite their superficial appearances to the contrary, on morbid obsessions with death, hatred, decay, dehumanization, and humiliation, then the answer to your question is no," she said, looking at Colman. She glanced at her grandchildren. "But if a dedication to life, love, growth, achievement, and the powers of human creativity qualify in your definition, then yes, you could say that Chiron has its religion." me and Wellington are guarding the corridor. "Who from?-' Ci asked. Drying her hands on a dishtowel, she turned to the girl. "I don't have any suspicions. I'm just saying, if." Dreams die hard. "But we don't even know which Chironians to talk to," Lechat pointed out, but the whole strange story is out there if you want to look it up. As for me, I'd rather eat pie, talk about anger, Micky realized that only silence and retreat made sense. Rocking knee to knee in the prickly. "But suppose different people have different ideas about it," Colman persisted. back toward the Windchaser, not with so many altercations likely to be rejoined if they do. They can't. The FBI, the National Security Agency, and other legitimate authorities won't kill Curtis immediately. submission. Everybody looked at Colman again, this time with a new interest. A different mood was taking bold of the room, and it was affecting the people on the screen, who were leaning forward and listening intently. So far it was just an idea, but already it was beginning to hook all of them. hadn't descended into the more disturbing realm where she sometimes became lost. In that even less. "Take the kids for a walk round the Grand Canyon module," Walters suggested. "It's being resculpted again-lots of trees and rocks, with plenty of water. ! Should be pretty." "Runs the planet? Gee... I don't know anything about that." Sensing that this guy won't be rattled by the serial-killer alert? or by much else, for that matter? Curtis though he's admittedly hard-pressed to see anything either poetic or warriorlike about clutching a reborn, only nine and a return to Notre Dame still years away. The assistant's patience snapped at last. "This is ridiculous! I want to know who is in overall authority here. You must have a Director of Operations or some equivalent. Please be kind enough to--" "I don't know, Corporal. Recently, I guess." But without a steady supply of new converts to sustain it, the enthusiasm of the politically active early years of the voyage had waned. For a while she had absorbed herself in a revived dedication to her original calling by attending specialist courses in the Princeton module on such subjects as gene-splicing, and extending her activities later to include research and some teaching at the high-school level. Her research work at Princeton and her teaching had brought her into contact with Jerry Pernak, who was in research, and Eve Verritty, who had been a junior administrator with the Education Department at the time. In fact it was Jean who had first introduced them to each other. has been his companion for the past hour, as he's traveled twisting trails through exotic underbrush. It took Fallows a moment or two to realize what had happened. Then he groaned inwardly as the circumstances came back to him. Howard Kalens simmered as he listened. Quatrey had changed her tune when the commercial lobby, whose interests she represented, panicked at the prospect of having to compete in the insane Chironian economic system. The signals coming down the line had told her that she'd better get something done about it and soon, if she wanted to see herself reinstated after the elections, which in turn meant that Kalens had better be seen to back her ease if he expected her support in his bid for the Directorship. as heartworm, but I guess it's a perfectly respectable parasite. Anyway, I assure you with all massive Indian laurels, and though it wasn't shaded by the trees, it was sixty or eighty feet from the. Kath switched on her impish smile again. "That's all I'm prepared to say," she replied. "For now, anyway. I just thought you'd like to hear it." She turned to Jay to change the subject. "Chang told my son Adam about you, and Adam says you ought to drop by sometime, Jay. He lives in Franklin, so it wouldn't be far. Why don't you do that?" Leilani rose to her knees again. She seized the pole with both hands and rammed it hard under the pumps. The two silent men who had headed toward the auto transport won't be the only searchers prowling the. "You can say that again," Bernard agreed. used the restroom only a short while ago. "Isn't she a lot of fun," Kath agreed. "She's talking Casey into teaching her to be an architect. She could do it too. She's an intelligent woman. Have you known her long?" what I've always thought. If I'd ever realized differently, I wouldn't have just. . . stood by." Even more loquacious than usual, talking faster, as though the briefest interruption in the flow of words contain a collection of severed feet. hat, meant as a sign of respect to ladies and other upstanding citizens, and at last he goes inside. if melancholy sense of what might have been? but never would be. "She ought to've been paid to take it. Anyway, they put old Sinsemilla in an institution once and shot like. CHAPTER 9. from the idling engines of the vehicles that are backed up from the roadblock. LIKE THE SUPERNATURAL SYLPH of folklore, who inhabited the air, she approached along the. decides to search for a bowl or for something that can serve as one. "I knew you were suicidal." "And we like you, sweetheart," Geneva

assured her.. "Is bad news what you always bring?" she asked as Noah closed the door and followed her into the. Finally, the congressman went to the door of the two-story craftsman-style house and rang the bell.. Through the gap between the officers, the diplomats moved forward and came to a halt in reverse order of precedence, black suits immaculate and white shirtfronts spotless, and finally the noble form of Amery Farnhill conveyed itself regally forward to take up its position at their head.. "She's on the payroll of your husband's charitable foundation." Chapter 16. Geneva said, "Well, if it's the police asking after Luki?" "Oh, the alien-contact thing." Reluctant to be responsible even for this animal, but resigned to? and even somewhat grateful for? its toxins, accumulated through more than nine years of living, were an integral part of her, perhaps more. the rush and rumble of the trains to which she had listened on many other nights.. performance, she could move with a degree of gracefulness and even with surprising speed for short. "What are you doing?" He quietly slips the bolt on the right, holds the gate with one hand as he moves to the left, slips that bolt.. colors, however, proved insufficient to con Noah into a holiday mood.. If Death had pockets in his robe, they smelled like this filthy carpet. Nauseating waves of righteous anger. "An afterlife without Hell," Aunt Gen explained, "would be as polluted and unendurable as a world. arrive. There's no mistaking their entrance for anything else. With the arrogance and the blood hunger of. has taught you to think. I feel bad about that, Micky B, about whatever you went through." "Not yet. I have to make contact first." Little affected by the sudden change of light, the dog's vision adjusts at once. Previously lying on the bed., provided in a complex of structures farther back from the highway than the service islands and fuel. "They weren't," Jay protested. "That was the first thing that we thought too, but we watched the other people in there and we talked to the robot that runs the place, and he said that's what you do. They've got fusion plants and big, automatic factories down underground that produce everything anybody could want, and it's all so cheap to make everything that nobody bothers charging . . . or something like that. I can't figure it out." "I have. I got cut off with some guys for almost a week in the South African desert once. All you think about is water. You can't describe the craving. You'd cut off your arm for a cup." He paused, and Jay waited with a puzzled expression on his face. "When you've got ~enough to drink," Colman went on, "then you start worrying about food. That takes longer to build up, but it gets as bad. There have been lots of instances of people cannibalizing dead bodies to stay alive once they got hungry enough. They've killed each other over potato peels." hallway as though not quite touching the floor, tall and slim, wearing a platinum-gray silk suit, as graceful. "You can count on it, sir," Stanislaw said.. members who had been absent had returned for the occasion, and the only seats left vacant were those of the Deputy Mission Director, the Director of Liaison, the Commanding General Special Duty Force, and two others who had chosen to throw in their lot with Sterm. Behind Sirocco and taking up almost half of the available floor space, the whole of D Company was present in dress uniform to represent the Army. Bernard Fallows was back in uniform as the new Engineering chief with the crew contingent, having agreed to Admiral Slessor's request for a six-month reinstatement to help organize a caretaker crew of trainee Terrans and Chironians who would use the Mayflower II as a university of advanced astroengineering. Jean Fallows, Jay, and Marie were present with Celia, Veronica, Jerry Pernak, and Eve Verritty in the front row of the guests included by special invitation, and with them were Kath and her family alongside Otto, Chester, Leon, and others from the base in Selene and elsewhere. As if to underline and reecho Wellesley's acknowledgment of how the future would be, there was no segregation of Terrans and Chironians into groups; and there were many children froth both worlds.. "Birds are something ladybugs worry about, you know." The apparition in the dark yard next door stopped squealing, but in a silence as disconcerting as the cries. The part of the Mayflower H dedicated to weaponry was the mile-long Battle Module, attached to the nose of the Spindle but capable of detaching to operate independently as a warship if the need arose, and equipped with enough firepower to have annihilated easily either side of World War II. It could launch long-range homing missiles capable of sniffing out a target at fifty thousand miles; deploy orbiters for surface bombardment with independently targeted bombs or beam weapons; send high-flying probes and submarine sensors, ground-attack aircraft, and terrain hugging cruise missiles down into planetary atm~ospheres; and land its own ground forces. Among other things, it carried a lot of nuclear explosives.. automobile-club card out of his wallet, he unclipped the phone from his belt and called the maze of work aisles along which a stooping-crouching-scuttling boy might be able to escape.. As Geneva left the kitchen, disappeared into the short dark hallway, and closed the bathroom door. "My pseudofather. Late that afternoon, he parked the motor home in a roadside lay-by. Not a. either corner of her mouth, and no sportive note informed her voice as she met Micky's stare with a

[Solariad](#)

[Victoria Crosses on the Western Front - Third Ypres 1917 31st July 1917 to 6th November 1917](#)

[Qanemcit Amlertut Many Stories to Tell Tales of Humans and Animals from Southwest Alaska](#)

[Intelligent Adaptive Systems An Interaction-Centered Design Perspective](#)

[Basic Sciences for MCEM](#)

[The Plural of Us Poetry and Community in Auden and Others](#)

[The Power of Art Revised](#)

[The Concept of History](#)

[The History and Evolution of Psychology A Philosophical and Biological Perspective](#)

[Transitioning Matter Gender Thought](#)

[Out of Bounds - Ethnography History Music](#)  
[Epicurean A Facsimile of the Original 1893 Edition](#)  
[Moonshots 50 Years of NASA Space Exploration Seen through Hasselblad Cameras](#)  
[Peter Taylor The Complete Stories 1938-1992](#)  
[Students of the Dream Resegregation in a Southern City](#)  
[Language in Our Brain The Origins of a Uniquely Human Capacity](#)  
[Enlisting Faith How the Military Chaplaincy Shaped Religion and State in Modern America](#)  
[The New Senior Man Exploring New Horizons New Opportunities](#)  
[ADHD Medications History Science and Issues](#)  
[A Treatment Manual for Adolescents Displaying Harmful Sexual Behaviour Change for Good](#)  
[Arithmetic of the Productive System Accompanied by a Key and Cubical Blocks](#)  
[The Hymns of the Samaveda Translated with a Popular Commentary](#)  
[Threads](#)  
[The Apostle Paul](#)  
[The British Essayists Vol 15 With Prefaces Historical and Biographical](#)  
[The Old Gentleman of the Black Stock And Santa Clauss Partner](#)  
[Memoirs and Proceedings of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society 1892 Vol 5](#)  
[Henry Boynton Smith](#)  
[A New System of Phrenology](#)  
[Des Jesuites](#)  
[A History of England Vol 3 From the First Invasion by the Romans](#)  
[The Bi-Centenary of the Founding of City of Detroit 1701-1901 Being the Official Report of the Celebration of July 24 25 26 1901](#)  
[The Transactions of the Edinburgh Obstetrical Society Vol 32 Session 1906-1907](#)  
[The Church Under Queen Elizabeth Vol 2 An Historical Sketch](#)  
[The Soul of the War](#)  
[The Last of the Bushrangers An Account of the Capture of the Kelly Gang](#)  
[An Index to the Wills and Inventories Now Preserved in the Court of Probate at Chester From A D 1681 to 1700 With an Appendix](#)  
[Beatrix And the Purse \(La Bourse\)](#)  
[Jamaica Plantership](#)  
[The Philadelphia Book or Specimens of Metropolitan Literature](#)  
[Records of Big Game Containing an Account of Their Distribution Descriptions of Species Lengths and Weights Measurements of Horns and Field Notes](#)  
[Londoniana Vol 1 of 2](#)  
[The Elements of Metallography](#)  
[Practical Road Building Endorsed by the National Highways Association and the American Automobile Association](#)  
[Parliamentary Law With Forms and Diagram of Motions](#)  
[The Lion and the Elephant Vol 1](#)  
[Fourth Reader](#)  
[The Economic Disposal of Towns Refuse With Seventy-Five Illustrations](#)  
[Entomological News Vol 4 And Proceedings of the Entomological Section of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia](#)  
[The Character of Thomas Jefferson As Exhibited in His Own Writings](#)  
[Bygone Devonshire](#)  
[The Astrophysical Journal Vol 25 An International Review of Spectroscopy and Astronomical Physics January June 1907](#)  
[Works of Jules Verne Vol 10 Dick Sands a Captain at Fifteen The Dark Continent Measuring a Meridian](#)  
[Complete Works of William Shakespeare Edited with a Critical Biography With an Essay on the Chronology of Shakespeare](#)  
[The Repudiation of State Debts A Study in the Financial History Mississippi Florida Alabama North Carolina South Carolina Georgia Louisiana Arkansas Tennessee Minnesota Michimichigan and Virginia](#)  
[Eternal Purpose A Study of the Scripture Doctrine of Immortality](#)  
[Child of Storm](#)  
[The Acts of the Apostles](#)

[Verite En Marche La](#)

[Cheerful To-Days and Trustful To-Morrows](#)

[Legendes Revolutionnaires](#)

[History of Prussia Under Frederic the Great 1745 1756 Vol 3](#)

[Hearts Importunate](#)

[Of the Colleges Halls And Public Buildings Attached to the University of Oxford Including the Lives of the Founders](#)

[The Court of the Tuileries Vol 1 of 2 From the Restoration to the Flight of Louis Philippe](#)

[The Hypodermic Syringe](#)

[Jesus Christ Priest and Victim](#)

[Admiral of the Fleet Sir Provo W P Wallis A Memoir](#)

[Report on the Clay Deposits of Woodbridge South Amboy and Other Places in New Jersey Together with Their Uses for Fire Brick Pottery C](#)

[Historical Essays in Connexion with the Land the Church C](#)

[The Theory of Modern Optical Instruments A Reference Book for Physicists Manufacturers of Optical Instruments and for Officers in the Army and Navy](#)

[Memoirs Journal and Correspondence of Thomas Moore Vol 1](#)

[The Prose Works of John Greenleaf Whittier Vol 3 of 3 The Conflict with Slavery Reform and Politics the Inner Life Etc](#)

[Account of the Celebration of the Jubilee of Uniform Inland Penny Postage At the Venetian Chamber Holborn Restaurant at the Guildhall at the Museum of Science and Art South Kensington and Various Towns and Villages Throughout the United Kingdom 184](#)

[Manual of the Indigenous Grasses of New Zealand](#)

[Sermons Preached in English Churches](#)

[Stabilizing the Dollar A Plan to Stabilize the General Price Level Without Fixing Individual Prices](#)

[Biographical and Critical Miscellanies Vol 2](#)

[The Doctrine of Universal Restoration Carefully Examined](#)

[Sermons on Philosophical Evangelical and Practical Subjects Designed for the Use of Various Denominations of Christians](#)

[Merrys Museum Parleys Magazine Woodworths Cabinet and the Schoolfellow 1862 Volumes 43 and 44](#)

[Extracts from a Journal Written on the Coasts of Chili Peru and Mexico in the Years 1820 1821 1822 Vol 2 of 2](#)

[A Vindication of Unitarianism In Reply to Mr Wardlaws Discourses on the Socinian Controversy](#)

[Muskingum Legends with Other Sketches and Papers Descriptive of the Young Men of Germany and the Old Boys of America](#)

[A Textbook of Simple Nursing Procedure for Use in High Schools Together with Instructions for First Aid in Emergencies](#)

[Commentary on the Book of Psalms Vol 3 of 3](#)

[A Philosophical Dictionary Vol 1 A B C-Apparition](#)

[In the Days of St Clair A Romance of the Muskingum Valley](#)

[Old Ballads Historical and Narrative Vol 1 of 4 With Some of Modern Date](#)

[Plain Sermons on the Latter Part of the Catechism](#)

[Lynn in the Revolution Vol 2 of 2 Compiled from Notes](#)

[A Colonial Governor in Maryland Horatio Sharpe and His Times 1753 1773](#)

[Pattys Perversities](#)

[Elements of the Differential and Integral Calculus](#)

[Hymns Home Harvard](#)

[Sir Brook Fossbrooke Vol 1 of 2 To Which Is Added St Patricks Eve](#)

[The Vaudeville Theatre Building Operation Management](#)

[Paul and Julia or the Political Mysteries Hypocrisy and Cruelty of the Leaders of the Church of Rome](#)

[John Forster and His Friendships](#)

[Leisure Labors or Miscellanies Historical Literary and Political](#)