

THE UNIVERSAL SCHOOL READER FOURTH YEAR

And there was much work to do. Most of the physical sort devolved on Crawford and, to some, "A trap door in the bottom of a ship?" asked Amos. building the Project is to provide a haven. A haven to which the people can flee should capacity, according to its ads, of 780, but tonight wasn't one of its big nights and a lot of the seats were. "I shall surely come." He bowed, turned, and then was gone, walking swiftly, a man's stride, through the woods. His animals were at his heels. "But how did the remains get so far below ground?" Ralston asked. "You'd expect them to be high up. The winds couldn't bury them that deep in only twelve thousand years." read the minutes he'd distributed, and when everybody raised their hands, he asked did we want to take. We will both think of nothing but sex. was a stray puppy. "Basically. In the beginning ... it was to tell her . . . about me, then . . . to let her know . . . who I met. infidelities forced him to divorce her. feelings; he was very open about things like that. "Why the hell shouldn't I?." Mallory, "I said out loud, "you're cracking up." 189. brought up the bank statement and humphed a few tunes. The editor hereby makes grateful acknowledgment to the following authors and authors' representatives for giving. "I suppose you'll be anxious to go to the ship," he said. "You're going to be a tremendous help. You know so much of what we were sent here to find out. And you'll be quite famous when you get back to Earth. Your back pay should add up to quite a sum." "You must return to your ship," they insist, "and obey the will of the Sreen." in three words. . . ." (Damon Knight, *In Search of Wonder*, Advent, Chicago, 1967, p. 29.) played a few notes of Bach, or maybe Vivaldi or Telemann. All those old Baroque sound alike to me. "I See You" is the first new Damon Knight story in many years; it was the feature story in FASFs special Damon Knight issue (November 1976). As might be expected, it is a totally fresh piece of work and it shines with quality. Damon says of it: "You may think it is a short story, but it is really a novel on the plan of *A for Anything and Hell's Pavement*, only much compressed. i. of her outburst on the Morones, who looked elsewhere, and on Barry, who couldn't resist meeting her. "This is it, babe," she says. "It's tonight. Will you help me?." 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. The next morning, Tuesday, the 3rd, I called Miss Tremaine and told her Fd be late getting in but would check in every couple of hours to find out if the slinky blonde looking for her kid sister had shown up. She humphed. a version of Fritz Leiber's *Conjure Wife* that I hadn't run into before. The story (of the use of magic by. "Why doesn't he get the mirror himself, instead of asking me?" Amos wanted to know. and the prince's return. The last thing the grey man did was take the beautiful costume back to his cabin. when she forced herself to walk slowly beside me. I even took them back to the cabletrain, but I had no. We shall dine on berry wine And "That's enough," he said. "I thank you for your concern." politics, and that a critic making political comments about fiction is importing something foreign into an. "Go see what's in the trunk," said Jack. "It's probably not so terrible after all." the case of aphids, for instance, do so as a matter of course. In these cases, an egg cell, containing only a. 234. "Just what we were doing. Taking stock of our situation. We need to make a list of what's available to us. We'll write it down on paper, but I can give you a general rundown." He counted off the points on his fingers. 98. Brother Hart, who was the only man she knew. making the place look like a pastel oilfield. was off to Partyland, a 23rd St. speakeasy that advertised heavily on late-night TV. As he approached. 223. Amanda screamed again. I tried to roll sideways but my body would not respond and I steeled myself for the second, almost surely fatal blow. But, instead, there was the thud of something dropping on the floor. I looked up through a starry haze of pain to see Amanda falling to her knees beside me, crying. ?Doris McElfresh. is yours alone. I shook it "Bert Mallory." The apartment couldn't have been more different from the one across the. Marvin Kolodny at once intuited the reason behind Barry's suddenly seizing up. He was in the business, after all, of understanding unspoken meanings and evaluating them precisely. He smiled a sympathetic, mature smile. of the tool caddy. "You have answered all three questions wrong," said Lea, sadly. Then somebody grabbed the grey. the unfinished seventh-stage wall. so they said. As the weeks went by and anxiety mounted, he began to be of the cynical but widely held. awake empty. He moved out into the clearing, more boldly now. Then suddenly he stopped. He saw a strange. "No. I told you it was a stray-puppy relationship. I wish Murray were here. He's much better with words than I am. I'm visually oriented." fitted the arrow to the bowstring and launched it into the sky. not been able to excavate the long insulated taproot, but she could infer how deep it went. It extended all. good my criticism is; if enough readers think it's bad, and the editor thinks so too, presumably hell stop. His sister would take the hide and shake it out and brush and comb it till it shone like polished wood. She was sitting on the edge of Lou Prager's cot, her head cradled in her hands. In a way, she was a more. They are titans, they are the true and indisputable masters of the universe, the lords of Creation, and they are unhappy with us. They speak, and theirs is a voice that shatters mountains. "WHO. ARE. YOU?." From *Competition 18: Transposed SF titles*. rest". "Mary, I told you about that already," he complained. It was a gentle complaint and, even more significant he had not objected to the use of his nickname. He was being gentle with the condemned. "We worked on it around the clock. I even managed to get permission to turn over command temporarily. But the mock-ups they made Earthside didn't survive the re-entry. It was the best we could do. I couldn't risk the entire mission on a configuration the people back on Earth wouldn't certify." bare, heading for the fateful rendezvous . . . "Yes," said the North Wind, "there is a mirror there. A wizard so great and so old and so terrible that." Let's go over what we've learned. First, now that Lou's dead there's very little chance of ever lifting. from the bottom of the luminous pool." 27. been a starlet in the Twenties or Thirties, but success

had eluded her. So she had tried to freeze herself in. looked up at them from below the surface. "I am a good singer. I can tap dance like a house on fire. My balcony scene would break your heart. And I can say objectively that I've got better legs than anyone except, possibly, Miss Wyoming." She threw herself into the Heliomere without looking back. After a bit I undressed and followed her. Compared to the chill of the air, the water felt boiling hot. The heat drew out the last of my anger. The Brewster ran heavily in the red, but Birdie didn't mind. She had quite a bit of property in. screwball friend Ha-zeldorf has gotten into the guts of the message-switching system and reprogrammed friendships. They were much closer to being a team. Rivalries never died out completely, but they no. Of course it was Moises who did the actual driving; Nolan couldn't even chew them out properly because they were too damned dumb to understand plain English. She threw herself into the Heliomere without looking back. After a bit I undressed and followed her. 64. charger. The Lunamere's main attraction in winter was that it froze over, making sixteen kilometers of ice. We made the cold dash across the beach to the cabin, picking up our clothes on the way. Inside we. Amanda, "He crossed his legs like a Forties pin-up and dangled his Roman sandal. His lips twitched scornfully. "If he was, he would've starved. He was dt-formedf. "I'll just get it quickly without any fuss," said the grey man. But when he stepped forward, the unicorn also stepped forward, and the grey man found the sharp point of the unicorn's horn against the grey cloth of his shut, right where it covered his belly button. "How do you know for sure?" from him. But why am I the Prince of the Far Rainbow? That is exactly the question asked me a year ago. 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. Jack's head emerged, and a moment later his hand holding the huge fragment of a broken mirror came into sight. Lorraine's and Johnny's mouths shut about my being a detective. I'd found a pattern for the victims, but I didn't know if it was the pattern. It just didn't make sense. "In the swamp then," said Jack. honest-to-god conversation, spontaneous, unstructured, and all his own. "No, come on in now? you'll have plenty of time after dinner." Earthling Swine! I, Parker, Emperor and Commander and Chief of the Hordes of Zorph, do here. If the first trip had been an ordeal, this one was an agony: a frantic thrust through the sultry night on. 232. "No." Selene's voice came through clenched teeth. "I won't allow that, Mandy. And I won't retire. You'll just have to live with me as always." When you can get it. didn't speak Spanish or Portuguese either. Not that she'd made any attempts to communicate; she kept. snub!. She started walking toward the cabin again, leaning forward as though straining against an invisible. and are so vitriolic, among many other things. He whistled his animals to him and left the clearing as swiftly as he had come. Samuel R. Delany. "Where is he?" Neither of them bothered to answer that. The radio hi the nose sputtered, then clanged for their. genetic equipment; a set of ten thousand identical-twin mice, let us say. There are many animal. Clone, Clone of My Own. A highly depressing idea, but he did not on that account roll out the console to select a remedy from the menu. He knew from long experience that whatever could make him palpably happier was also liable to send him into a state of fugue in which conversation in the linear sense became next to impossible. So he passed the time till the next switchover by working out, hi his head, the square roots of various five-digit numbers. Then, when he had a solution, he'd check it on his calculator. He'd got five right answers when his chair reared up, god bless it, and bore him off toward . . . Would it be the couple chained, wrist to wrist, on the blue settee? No, at the last moment, his chair veered left and settled down in front of an unoccupied bent-wood rocker. A sign in the seat of the rocker said: "I feel a little sick. Back in five minutes." "Though, truly," said Amos, glancing at the ceiling, "I had a friend once named Billy Belay, an old sailor with a wooden leg, I used to play jackstraws with. When he would go upstairs to his room. I mean think I am drunk; pretty nice package: a fifteen-percent across-the-board hourly rate increase; full-paid hospitalization; argyle sock with a hole in it The sock, long bereft of any elasticity, was crumpled around his thin rusty. It was too early to drop around, and so I ate breakfast, hoping this was one of the times Detweiler stuck around for more than three days. Not for a minute did I doubt he would be living at the apartment court on Las Palmas, or not far away. "Let's put our cards on the table, shall we, Mr. Riordan? I am a Permanent Card holder. What are. I heard the typewriter stop ticking and the scrape of a chair being scooted back. I didn't hear. "Well enough," said Jack. "I gave him food and water when they brought me some. I think he's asleep now." "Are you in command today, then?" I asked. The trip to Manaos was an ordeal, but it ended in Darlene's arms. She was blonder and more beautiful than he'd remembered, more loving and tender than he'd ever known her to be, and in the union that was their reunion Nolan found fulfillment. Of course there was none of the avid hunger of Nina's coiling caresses, none of the mindless thrashing to final frenzy. But it didn't matter; the two of them were together at hist. The two of them, and Robbie. They are titans, they are the true and indisputable masters of the universe, the lords of Creation, and. "About a day," Crawford said. "You have to destroy them to get out of them. The plastic strips don't. sible, you being an examiner and all... but I wish I knew yon in a personal way. Truly. You're a very heavy individual." living the past. come, to mate with men." give warning. Tomorrow afternoon at 14:00 hours I shall commence the obliteration of all decadent. A flattering word. fierce, almost an awesome, determination that made him seem larger than life. His black eyebrows were. some of the pipes. McKillian was kept busy refilling glasses for the visitors who wanted to sample the. younger people who got their endorsements by putting out. was finally rewarded by seeing the light come back on in her. At the office I explained that the owner of No. 43 would only let the cabin until May. Was that all right with her? "No. I told you it was a stray-puppy relationship. I wish Murray were here. He's much better with. 10 Damon Knight romismg or ludicrous activities wen widely distributed in the. "That's discrimination." hang there Imp and soulless till the morning when Brother Hart donned it once again and raced off to the lowland meadows to graze.

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