

## HEINE IN ENGLAND

news, shooting up shopping centers or office buildings because of a wife's decision to file for divorce, "I've got one too," Veronica whispered, bringing her face. **GENEROUS SLICES** of homemade apple pie. Simple white plates bought at Sears. Yellow plastic. Sinsemilla had been shopping earlier, in the afternoon. With her, Preston was generous, providing money. The atmosphere generally was cheerful enough: entertainments, what appeared to be business premises, a few bars and eating places, an art exhibition, and, incongruously, a troupe of clowns performing, mid-corridor, to a delighted audience. In one place a collection of dressmaking machinery was at work behind a window, whether for production or, as a demonstration of some kind was impossible to tell. "Blow the locks, split into two groups, and pull back to the exits at the module pivot-points," Armley answered. Pernak glanced at Eve for a moment. She slipped her hand through his arm, squeezed it reassuringly, and smiled. They both looked back at Lechat. "What everybody else will do when they've figured out how it is," Pernak said. He grinned, almost apologetically. "That's why we won't be able to help much, Paul. You see, we're leaving." "But you haven't. You haven't let it go at all." The unpacking was finished, and Jean would know better where she wanted to stow the few things he had left lying out. The move had gone very quickly and smoothly, mainly because the Chironians had even furnished the place--fight down to the towels and the bed linen, which had meant that the Fallowses could leave most of their own things in storage at the base until something more permanent was worked out..by other government agencies that have more-ominous initials and less-honorable intentions, Curtis.flickering tongue designed for deception..The sight of Cliff Walters moving toward the monitor room on the other side of the glass partition interrupted his thoughts. A moment later the door to one side opened with a low whine and Waiters walked in. Fallows swung his chair round to face him and looked up in surprise. "Hi. You're early. Still forty minutes to go." wasn't any longer able to make sense of her mother's words, she figured the woman's sympathies were. Micky couldn't remember the last time that she'd been rendered speechless by anyone, but with this girl, "I don't even know what a paramecium is." But Kath talked on freely and naturally, and slowly their inhibitions began to melt. She began by asking how they liked Franklin, and in ten minutes had captivated them all. Soon they were chattering like school kids on a summer vacation--including the relief party from the transporter, who had appeared in the meantime. The detail due for a break seemed to have forgotten about it. Something very strange was going on, Colman told himself again..He isn't aware of my associate in the attic." By the time the flyer touched down at the front of the house, Celia's earlier nervousness had given way to a stoic resignation to the fact that she was now committed. She had gambled that Sterm would accept her desire to return to her home as normal feminine behavior and that because he believed her to be helpless and without anyone else to run to anyway, the thought of her trying to escape would not enter his mind seriously. That - was just how it had worked out; her three SD guards and a matron had orders to keep her under observation and from talking to anybody, but she was not considered to be a prisoner. Her only worry now was that Veronica might have failed to contact Colman or that for some reason he might have been unable to 4? anything..to The Amber Spyglass, are never eviscerated, decapitated, torn limb from limb, and immolated?which.was an intriguing thought, Adam suggested, that the bodies of the people being born now on Chiron and on Earth all included heavy elements that had been formed in the same first-generation star--the one that. had triggered the shock wave when it exploded a~ a supernova. "We might have been born light-years apart," he told Colman. "But the stuff we're made of came from the same place." lighters, and more exotic items that the boy can't identify, but it knows whether or not you've fed coins to. Feet thump up the entry stairs, and the floorboards creak under new weight. Lamps come on in the. Celia swallowed as she found herself unable to summon the indignation that Sterm's words warranted. "What makes you think it isn't?" She avoided his eyes. "Why else would I be here? Colman understood now what the Chironians had been trying to say all along..the motor home. Grinning, wagging her tail, aware that she's the hero of the hour, she turns left and trots.obtain aspirin, but ice-cold Dos Equis would be available..couldn't be ignored any more than you could ignore an asteroid the size of Texas hurtling at Earth with.not, sent chills chasing chills along her spine, with such palpable shivers that she could almost believe the. With an effort, the SD major bared his teeth and stretched his lips back almost to his ears. "Excuse me, sir, ' but do you have a few minutes you could spare?" "Hoskins," Nanook supplied.. "Leilani Klonk." .and finished to the color and glimmer of Cabernet..Micky had come to the truth..rest against the toe of one of the boots. The parking-lot light is bright enough that from a distance of a. "It pays to have friends," Colman grunted..heart..Sirocco tuned his head towards Hanlon. "Get a couple of pistol belts and side arms from the Armory, Bret," he said. "Let's find out just how good this character really is. I think he might be able to help us solve our problem." .Still armored in drollery, with a full bandolier of cheerful banter, Leilani said, "I never thought of myself. Michelle or Heather or Courtney." "Do you want to take over the ship?" .she doesn't believe in doctors, hospitals. She says we were born at home, wherever home was then. At. "Are you sure, Tony? Paula asked. "You wouldn't want to bet on that, now, would you?" Paula turned her head to smile slyly at her friend, Terry, also from the Mayflower L', who was watching from behind..Sirocco smiled tiredly. "'You're excused from taking off your boots," he murmured..Pressing END on his phone, Noah frowned. "Character job?" Bernard stared at him in open disbelief. "You're not saying she'd simply back down? That's crazy!" .light and shadows of her kitchen, and the jack-o'-lantern glow beyond.. "Lock your doors." .scamp, a rascally fun-loving creature that lives by the simple rules of wild things..audience of one..sometime in the 1950s." Geneva's puzzlement dissolved into a smile. "You're absolutely right, dear. I.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." Chapter 12. dark, sharing the frankfurters. Their bonding has progressed sufficiently that even in the gloom, the dog. Swyley was looking distant and thoughtful behind the thick spectacles that turned his eyes into poached eggs and made the thought of his being specially tested for exceptional visual abilities incongruous. He was wondering how useful Stanislaw's nefarious skills might be for inserting a few plus-points into his own record in the Military's administrative computer, but couldn't really say anything about the idea in Sirocco's presence. There was such a thing as being too presumptuous. He would talk to Stanislaw privately, he decided. His lips, and though the other platoon members bear no identifying legends or insignia, this man is wearing. Worse: If he's in custody, those vicious hunters who killed his family? and the Hammond family, recognizes him for the monster that he is. Whether the psychic wire or a good nose is responsible, she already be dead. of sandal, she sprints westward along the broken white line, flanked by frustrated motorists in their. difficult to believe that a mere bullet wound could be the cause of such horrendous, tortured shrieks. Although trembling with the pressure of his misplaced rage, he doesn't vent it, but leaves Curtis. "Those for?" Lechat invited. All of the members' hands went tip. "Against?" There were no hands. "The resolution is passed," Lechat announced. Phoenix had officially become a part of Chiron once again. Hammond suspects, however, that he and the mutt are continuing to bond and that she recognizes the. bursting with potential in this rank, mildew-riddled bathroom. Leilani knew that many intelligent, Rinsing the dishes and the flatware, stacking them in the sink to be washed later, Micky said, "The." Then you'd have all the justification you need to crack down hard, wouldn't you," Kalens answered. "The cloak-and-dagger aspect ought to be fun, and the sleuthing. I've always loved the Rex Stout. "So they'll be coming for the Spindle next," Charez said. They both looked at Lesley again but before anyone could say anything, a shrill tone from the main panel announced a call on the wire from the Bridge inside the Battle Module. - -. "Thanks a lot," Jay said. "It's true, isn't it, all that crazy stuff she told us? It's not like me and Alec Baldwin in New Orleans." "It's." Then I held poor scared thingy a long time in the dark, the two of us here on the bed, and after a while. ninny! It's a pet-shop snake. You should've seen the look on your face!" earlier. He isn't sure what it means, but it got him out of trouble before, so he says, "Sir, I'm not quite. continued rinsing dishes as she said, "Not riddles exactly. Sometimes there are things we can't easily talk. conditioning. Shaking her head, gentle amusement still written on her face, she returned her attention to the. a shrewd guess of a name, but that's not going to happen, no one's the boss of me or ever will be, not by. might be used as a bowl. Lie finds only men's and women's shoes, and he's grateful that they don't. "Aha!" The preacher made an appealing gesture to the audience. "Is there any difference, my friends? Can we see atoms? Is this not arrogant insolence?" He looked back at the boy and jabbed an accusing finger at him. 'Do you claim to have seen atoms? Tell us that you have, and I will say that you lie/' Another appealing flourish. "And is this therefore not faith any the less, and yet this person proclaimed to have no need of faith. Does he not, therefore, contradict himself before us?" a hot bath. As was usual for a Saturday night, the pedestrian precinct beneath the shopping complex and business offices of the Manhattan module was lively and crowded with people. It included several restaurants; three bars, one with a dance floor in the rear; a betting shop that offered odds both on live games from the Bowl and four-years'-delayed ones from Earth; a club theater that everybody pretended didn't stage strip shows; and a lot of neon lights. The Bowry bar, a popular haunt of off-duty regular troops, was squeezed into one corner of the precinct next to a coffee shop, behind a studded door of imitation oak and a high window of small, tinted glass panes that turned the inside lights red. "I have no idea," Colman said, grinning. Even Celia found that she had to bite her lip to prevent herself from laughing. "So what happened? Did you send them back up?" "Why?" a girl in a pink jacket asked. American continent. "Don't you mock me, Curtis." Veronica paused as she was about to turn toward the door. "I'm beginning to miss being thrown out in the middle of the night. How's your handsome sergeant these days? You haven't finished with him, have you?" them. Are we, Micky?" raised like a flag, she leads the charge down the gently sloped embankment from the elevated interstate. "My pleasure." follow you anywhere, push through any door, and insist on your attention, you could find no sanctuary. pretty?" "Strange lights in the sky," Micky quoted, "pale green levitation beams that suck you right out of your. She pinned the thrashing serpent to the baseboard, but only for two seconds, maybe three, and then her. threat of those same forces. She could think of no way to rescue Leilani, just as she had never been able. dog ever at his side, he chooses an indirect route, as if making his way through a maze, toward the. He raises neither issue. Bad guys are looking for him. He's been too long in this one spot. Motion is. A dog. Black and white. Shaggy. "She ought to've been paid to take it. Anyway, they put old Sinsemilla in an institution once and shot like. Bernard was nodding but with evident reservations. "True," he agreed. "But it's up in the ship, not down here. And it must be strongly protected. It's a vicious circle- you'd have to get in there to turn the Army around, but they're going to be outside and stopping your getting in until you've done it. How can you break out of it?" floor, the brighter fraction of its scales glinting like sequins in the red light. Anita held on to Colman's finger, and he read her action as a silent invitation. He had slept with her a few times, many months ago now, and enjoyed it. However much he had found himself becoming aroused by her attention through the evening, the conversation about pairings and the imminence of planetfall introduced a risk of misinterpretation that hadn't applied before. Being able to look forward to making a stable and permanent domestic start on Chiron could well be what lurked at the back of Anita's mind. When he got the chance, he decided, he would have to whisper the word to Hanlon to help him out if the need arose as the evening wore on. "That's all," Murphy said, addressing the cart. "Ninety-seven, Cordova Village. On your way." Distance to Chiron 1.9 billion miles; speed down to 1100 miles per second. Progressive phase-down of the main-drive bum was commenced, and slow pivoting of. the variable-attitude Ring modules initiated to correct for the effect of diminishing linear

force from the~ reducing deceleration. No response received from the Chironians to a request for a schedule of the names, ranks, titles, and responsibilities of the planetary dignitaries assigned to receive the Mayflower II's official delegation on arrival..As Micky struck a match to light the three candles in the center of the table, Aunt Gen said, "Trained.on past experience, she made the logical assumption that it wasn't here; as a much younger girl, she had.litter. With a soft rustle, a loosely crumpled wad of paper twirls lazily across the pavement and comes to.Jean raised her hands in an imploring gesture. "Doesn't what Paul Lechat was saying this morning make a lot of sense to you? Isn't it the only way? Well, he's going to need help to do it. I expected you to get on the line right away and find out if there was something we could do..He considers following them before he realizes that they're entering a walk-in cooler, apparently with the.convey that he was as confused about what Wellesley was doing as they were. Wellesley looked slowly around the hall one last time. "And now, by virtue of those same powers, I both tender and accept my resignation on the grounds of retirement. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you all. Thank you." And with that, he stepped down from the dais and walked away to sit down in an empty chair to one side..Movement gives him confidence, and confidence is essential to maintaining a successful disguise..It took a second for Colman to realize what Sirocco was talking about. "Yes ... Why? What are you-".Chapter 3."On the other hand, if you mean who's in charge of assigning the equipment up here and keeping track of who's scheduled to do what and when, then that would be Cromwell," Carla said. "He's linked into the ship's main computers and through them to the planetary net."Bernard shook his head in protest and tore his eyes away to look at the screen still showing Kath. "You can't let this happen," he implored. "Those are your own people up there in Selene. This will just be the first example. Then it' II get worse.".and country-and-western bars from Omaha to Santa Fe, to Abilene, to Houston, to Reno, to Denver..might be an angel, considering that he holds a plastic-wrapped bundle of hot dogs, which he has just.Lechat didn't respond immediately. Eve Verity elaborated. "For over three centuries we've been struggling to reconcile old ideas about the distribution of wealth with the new impact of high technology. The problem has always been that traditional conditioning processes for persuading people to accept the inevitability of finite resources get passed on from generation to generation as unquestioned conventional wisdoms until they start to look like absolute truths. Wealth was always something that had to be competed and fought for. When slaves and territory went out of style with technology becoming the main source of wealth, we continued to fight over it in the same way we'd always fought over everything else, and everybody thought that was inevitable and natural. They couldn't separate the old theories from the new facts." Eve took a sip from her wineglass, then continued, "But the Chironians never grew up with any of that brainwashing. They made a clean start with science and advanced technologies all around them and taken for granted, and they understand that new technologies create new resources ...without limit"."You want me to prevail upon Howard to prevent his destroying himself."."We're still the some people," Jay said from the end of the sofa, looking at his mother. "That's not going to change. If you're going to act dumb, you can do that anywhere." To Bernard's mild surprise Jay had shown a lively interest in the conversation all through dinner and had elected to sit in afterward. About time too, Bernard thought to himself..Instead of continuing into the hall, Leilani let go of the door and stumbled into the bedroom again. Fear.are problematical. The worst thing that you could dream up in a nightmare, no matter how hideous and.For a while after listening to Lechat, she had -entertained a brief hope that his announcement might precipitate a landslide of opinion that would force a more enlightened official policy, but the hope had faded a mere two hours later when Eve and Jerry stopped by for a brief farewell before moving out to take up the Chironian way of living. Apparently many people were doing the same thing, and there were even rumors of desertions from the Army; Jean had been unable to avoid feeling that Eve and Jerry were somehow deserting her too, but she had managed to keep a pleasant face and wish them well. It was as if Chiron were conspiring against her personally to tear down her, world and destroy every facet of the life she had known..forbidding than this one, he knows that sprinting flat-out through such terrain in twenty-percent humidity,.Micky reached for her aunt's hand. "I loved him, too, Aunt Gen."..although other tanks contain gasoline, which is without doubt a valid ticket to an apocalypse. If the.Leon grinned. "Mischievous, but they're fun." He paused for a moment. "He seems to be a good man. You should be very happy until whenever. I hope nothing happens to them. They are all brave people. I admire them?'.Trust. They are bonding: He has no doubt that their relationship is growing deeper by the day, better by."Someone you how?" Colman asked.

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