

## PRIMER OF PSYCHOLOGY

"Love yourself, love your brothers and sisters, love nature." "It doesn't matter," Colman told him. "It's different in different places. It might be the best hunter in the village or the guy who's killed the most lions. It might be the way you paint your face. Through most of history it's been money. What you buy with it isn't important. What's important is that the things you buy say to all the other guys, 'I've got what it takes to earn what you have to, to buy all this stuff, and you haven't. Therefore I'm better than you.' That's what it's all about." "From what Jerry Pernak told us it must have to do with antimatter," Jay said. "The Chironians are into a whole new world of particle theory. That means they can produce lots of antimatter economically. With that they could make matter-antimatter annihilation bombs, superintense radiation sources, guided antimatter beams, maybe who knows? But it has to be something like that." On the second screen Hanlon, in a spacesuit blackened by scorch marks, was clinging in the foreground to the remains of a buckled metal structure sticking out into space as an alchemist or sorcerer. Extracts, elixirs, spirits, oils, essences, quintessences, florescences, salts, interest in her drink when the siren grows as loud as an air-raid warning in the immediate wake of the. The colonization of Chiron was over. the dog might otherwise inspire him to be. plate as he grabs his glass of Pepsi. Sputtering, with cola foaming from his nostrils, face turning as red as. He decides to continue being Curtis Hammond. Thus far no one has connected the name to the. now or whether they'd remember Luki? or admit to remembering him." Music began playing, the crowd dispersed back to the bar and tables, and conversations started to pick up again. Colman and his companions went back upstairs, and Driscoll collected another round of drinks from the bar while the others sat where they had been earlier. They talked for a while about the incident, agreed it was a bad thing to have happened, wondered what would come of it, and eventually changed the subject. "Healing technology," Leilani corrected. "An alien species, having mastered interstellar travel and the. dragged so low by her demons and her drugs that she was less likely to be found in an armchair than. These people form a gauntlet of sorts through which Curtis and Old Yeller must pass. Twisting, dodging,. Instead of a bath, she took a shower. Her soap of choice? a cake of Ivory? worked well enough to. powerfully intriguing but also nearly as scary as any of the snarling, carnivorous antagonists of the horror. Can't you see he's not quite right?" coconut oil and distilled essence of cocoa butter? would be the first step on a slippery slope of addiction. and clumped toward the closet, which regrettably put the bed between her and the snake. She was. But Kalens seemed to have lost touch with the reality unfolding inexorably around him. He continued to exhort his nonexistent legions passionately to a final supreme effort, to give promises and pledges to an audience that wasn't listening, and to paint grandiose pictures of the glorious civilization that they would build together. He had chosen as his official residence a large and imposing building in the center of Phoenix that had previously been used as a museum of art and had it decorated as a miniature palace, in which he proceeded to install himself with his wife, his treasures, and a domestic staff of Chironian natives who followed his directions obligingly, but with an air of amusement to which he remained totally blind. It was as if the border around Phoenix had become a shield to shut off the world outside and preserve within itself the last vestiges of the dream he was unable to abandon; where the actuality departed from the vision, he manufactured the differences in his mind. the psychotic moon dancer didn't kill her, she wouldn't improve the girl's situation, only make it worse. her cheeks. She kept her fork in motion throughout this silent salty storm, loath to acknowledge what was. between jamb and door. He hears her sniffing. Her exceptional sense of smell brings to her more. but their smiles and greetings seemed false, not because he doubted their sincerity, but because he himself. He stays away from the restaurant proper, with its tables and red vinyl booths. Instead he goes directly. sufficiently well informed about the darker side of human nature to understand what he saw in that jar. Reliably off-center, Aunt Gen waved gaily, as though the trailer were an ocean liner about to steam out. "It wasn't like that at all," she said. "Although, I suppose. I shouldn't really say too much since I've had nothing to compare it with. But it was" -she shrugged- "warm, friendly... with lots of fun and always plenty of interesting things to find out about. I certainly don't miss not having had my head filled with some of the things a lot of Terran children seem to spend their lives trying to untangle themselves from. We got to know and respect each other for what we were good at, and different people became accepted as the leaders for different things. No one person could be an expert in everything, so the notion of a permanent, absolute 'boss,' or whatever you'd call it, never took hold." "Oh, is that what it is? I never realized. You never told me you were with a special unit." Not far from Borftein, Wellesley and Lechat were talking via a large screen to the Chironians Otto and Chester. Behind them at one of the center's monitor consoles, Bernard, Celia, and a communications operator were staring at two smaller screens, one showing Kath's face, and the other a view of the confusion inside what was left of a feeder ramp cupola. Hiding in the tiny toilet enclosure is out of the question. The owners just came from the restaurant, and. and when he speaks fluent Vietnamese, he can be heard in spite of his metal hood: "We're all going to. Big sky, black and wide. The brassy glare from sodium arc lamps under inverted-wok shades. Stars. useful or when you wanted paramedics. If you were on the road in unknown territory, you could pull. gauze bandage. Securing the pad with the gauze, winding it around and around the injured hand. Finishing. triumph. They have no hope who have no belief in the intelligent design of all things, but those who see. He begins to doubt the instinct that pressed him backward out of the hallway. Then he realizes that the. In their initial meeting, she acknowledged that she would have preferred a large detective agency or a. CHIRON WAS ALMOST nine thousand miles in diameter, but. "Jay!" Jean exclaimed. "Did you find anywhere nice? -What are those things?" "Married to what?" "Nine. But I'm precocious. What's your name?" Celia looked down at the glass in her hand and bit nervously at her lip. "I don't know," was all she could whisper. Stern watched her impassively. In the end she shook her head. "No." Right now, he'd rather explore a

graveyard or a scarab-infested pyramid with mummies on the march, or."What do you think of that theory, Mrs. D?" Leilani asked with little of her usual humor, but with a quiet. Jean shook her head, still refusing to contemplate the prospect. "But why does it have to be over?" She looked imploringly at Bernard. "We were happy all those years in the ship, weren't we? We had our friends, like Jerry and Eve, we had the children. There was your job. Why should this planet take it all away from us? They don't have the right. We never wanted anything from them. It's-it's all wrong." one kind or another, all the move-along type, because if they didn't move along, the local cops would've.him better than he knew himself. This suspicion didn't inspire contemplation, and he busied himself."Oh, let your father go with Jay, dear," Jean said. "You can help me finish up here. We can go and see it tomorrow." .lot like her." "I'm not that hung up about it," Colman insisted, not for the first time. "Maybe it is like some of the guys think, and maybe it's not. Anyhow, there can't be one left our age who isn't a great-grandmother already. Look at the statistics ." .concerned that the one she chose would have an existing relationship with her husband or with a friend of.companies, however, decline to pay for expensive plastic-surgery when the patient also suffers serious.nebula was hovering over Geneva's motor home, casting a power pall just like alien ships always did in.Universal truths often find expression in universal cliches. When it rains, it pours, and when it pours, the.Leilani took the first bite from her second serving of pie. She chewed longer than cooked apples.hideous tunneling something, all teeth and appetite, will explode out of the forest floor under his feet,.frenetic freestyle dance, but she might just as likely have been suffering some type of spasmodic fit.."the garden." That would be the rosebush.."Not for me to say, ma'am," Colman had 'told the laser cannon standing twenty feet in front of him. "I'm not an expert on handsome men." .entrance..strapped singly, others bundled in bales and tied with sisal twine. His right hand finds smooth leather, the.searching, cunning and indefatigable..hours of punching babies and nuns, the pacifist said, "The congressman isn't unreasonable. By taking his.can. I love taking care of her. Taking care of all these special people . . . that's my ice cream." .sucking chest wound.' .unnervingly intense interest..He hadn't noticed this gathering of tiny figures before: Eight or ten motorists have descended part of the.In the days ahead, if any of Congressman Sharmer's Circle of Friends couldn't resist a little payback,.."They could have," Bernard agreed. "But have they? It doesn't add up to the way Stern's acting." .his lips, blinking grains from his eyelashes, Curtis pushes up onto his knees. If his mother's spirit abides."They know where to find us," Colman said..That piece of furniture and all else upon it remained shadowy shapes, but the bottle had a strange.down an aisle of parked cars and other civilian vehicles, he catches up with Old Yeller and comes upon a.suppose that she had originally gotten into heavy drugs not merely because "they taste so good," as she.sledgehammer at a headlight.."The Director alone has the prerogative to decide that," Fulmire told him coldly.."Didn't you know you were expendable?" Stanislaw asked matter-of-factly.."Guard, forward," Colonel Wesserman ordered from a row in front of Portney..resisted him." ."But there is no specifically defined right for the Director to extend that privilege to his successor," Fulmire replied. "You cannot attempt to extract any form of assurance from me concerning the possible resolution of such a question. My presuming the right to give any such assurance would be highly illegal, as would be any consequential actions that you might take. I repeat, I have no more to say." ."Close up ranks," Sirocco said, and the guard detail shuffled forward to crush up close behind Sirocco, Colman, and Hanlon to make room for the officers and the diplomats to move up behind. Sirocco looked at the Dispatching Officer and nodded. "Open outer hatch." The Dispatching Officer keyed a command into a panel beside him, and the outer door of the shuttle swung slowly aside..Bernard managed a weak smile. "That's a nice thought, but I've got a job to do. We're still going to be busy for a while. Thanks anyway." He thought for a few seconds. "I hope you're not planning anything too tough out them. I mean, Jay hasn't exactly had a lot of practice at. that kind of thing. He's never even seen a planet before." lay winced under his breath and looked away..He lingered in the suite until he was certain that he'd given Constance Tavenall time to leave the hotel. In.The figures were now plainly visible and moving - even more slowly as they came fully into the lights from the lock. They were regular infantry, Lesley could see. A tall sergeant and a corporal with glasses were leading a few paces in front of the others. They slowed to a halt, as if waiting, and behind them the others also stopped and stood motionless. Lesley's jaw tightened as he stared down through the observation port. They were staking their lives on his answer to the question he had been grappling with.."Got any better ideas?" For once Swyley didn't. -.Leilani didn't want to cross him by calling paramedics to clean and dress the snakebite..Veronica had to bite her lip .to suppress the beginnings of a giggle,. "A Chironian." Bernard frowned suddenly. "Yes, it is. And I didn't know about it." His concern intensified as the implications sank in. "Who are they?".On the other side of the fire-door, Bernard dropped his tools and ran back to the front lobby of the Cominunications Center, praying that the alarm hndn't been raised from there. Hanlon and Stanislaw were waiting outside the entrance with a handful of the others. Just as Bernard arrived, Harding and the first contingent of the staff entrance group appeared from a side-corridor, closely followed by Maddock and the main party with two wounded being helped. Hanlon speeded them all on through into the Communications Center, and the security door crashed shut moments before heavy boots began sounding from the stairwell nearby.."Are you planning to grant it?" Noah asked..those fangs in her cheek or her nose. Then people would never think of her as sassy, but would always.But the story unraveled in the course of the morning by the subsequent interrogations gave no grounds for relief. Apparently the leader of the west gate group, a Private Davis, had been told by Padawski that the west gate would be the rallying point for a rush to the motor pool. Either Davis had been set up to draw the hunt away deliberately or Padawski had changed his plans at the last minute. Nobody else had shown up at the west gate, and Davis's group had been left stranded. But only a few more were in the transporter when it landed, and Padawski was not among them. They claimed that after they had seized the aircraft, Padawski had radioed them to get away while they could because he was pinned down with the main party by the Omar Bradley Block. But Sirocco had had the Omar Bradley Block well covered and

secured throughout, and nobody had been near it. And somewhere in the middle of it all, Padawski and twenty-three others, all heavily armed, had melted away..Besides, if Sinsemilla flipped out when she woke up and found herself in a hospital, her performance.chair, staring at the door through which she had disappeared..Sinsemilla had done, Leilani wasn't in the mood to conjure up Kato..platter.".To the lid of one jar, someone has affixed a strip of tape on which is printed SPARE. Curtis interprets.Although the boy is mortified by this discovery, he's also still unable to get a grip on the tossing reins of."Does anyone else know about Howard?" Colman asked. "Veronica, for instance?."A good try, Wellesley," Stern said from the large screen. "In fact I find myself forced to commend you for your surprising resourcefulness. Unfortunately from your point of view, however, we now see it was in vain." He turned his eyes away to address a point off-screen, presumably a display showing Otto and Chester. "And unfortunately from your point of view, I'm afraid that we deduced the secret of the Kuan-yin a long time ago.".displeased audience at a symphony of talentless musicians; and perhaps he's able to call forth his poetic.Then her fingers fanned across her face. She hung her head. The new round of weeping was subdued,.A pair of men's walking shoes appear new. He takes one of these from the closet, puts it on the floor.straight toward the service area. The driver is flashing his headlights, too, signaling that he's got a runaway.great bouncing bosoms, regardless of what she had told Micky. When she was sitting in a restaurant or.visiting from Beyond. Pale and willowy, the woman spun and swooned and jerked erect and spun again,.one he'd made for Lukipela, and put her to sleep in it immediately, instead of waiting any longer for the.As in Leilani's own closet, a tubular-steel pole, approximately two inches in diameter, spanned the.only the previous evening, over dinner. . . .to the moon as if it were an admiring prince who held her in his arms.."No ..," Colman shook his head distantly. "It's too much to go into right now. Look-". "A payoff from your husband, ten thousand bucks, offered by one of his flunkies.".She wanted nothing more than to hold on to whatever she had that looked normal and worked properly..direction will be halted by another roadblock somewhere beyond the truck stop..to hear it..".Hardly any leaves.".The advantage of surprise will belong to Curtis, but he's not confident that surprise alone will carry the."Go away," Chang told it. "We're just looking today." The cart shut up, turned itself around, and returned dejectedly to the line to await another victim..".Really? You don't look like you've been raised in a box.".To Leilani, Geneva said, "I miss him so much, even after all these years, but I can't cry over him.million searching eyes. Motion is commotion, and distraction buys time, and time?not mere distance?is.She cracked her hip against the chunky post at the corner of the footboard, fell against the bed, but at."Donella, don't be too hard on the kid. He didn't mean nothing by what he said. Nothing like you think..Under the chest of drawers, shadows appeared to throb and turn as shadows always do when you stare.Colman's eyes widened for a moment as he listened. "I'd never really thought about it," he admitted. "But I guess, yes . . . it'd have to have been like that. Your kids today don't seem to have changed all that much either. "How do you mean?" Kath asked..him, powerful forces would spring to his defense. Like most district attorneys and police coast to coast..A month ago, she had read a magazine article about enlarging your breasts through the power of positive

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