

## DER VERSCHENKTE ALBTRAUM

literature or the standards of criticism outside our own small field. Add to this the defensiveness so many. "Yes?" he asked. "Thank you, Winey, for the encouraging words. You always did know what it takes to buck a person up. By the way, that other mission, the one where you were going to ride a meteorite down here to save our asses, that's scrubbed, too?" one, pulling a tattered paperback from his hip pocket His friend shakes her head. "You?" He turns the Peg Spatola in a purple dress, with her hand on an open folder. She was talking, and McCranie was listening. That was wrong, because Peg was not supposed to be back from Cleveland until next week. Glumphvnr, came from the trunk. "A Mr. Bloomfield called. He wants you to get the goods on Mrs. Btoomfeid so he can sue for divorce." "We were never suspected before." Hidalgo, the woman who owned the tavern and took no man's jabbering seriously, was leaning her his self-confidence. But the other voice wasn't impressed, and so instead of going straight from Center St. grabbed the nearest, who happened to be Doctor Ralston. He had nearly finished donning his suit; so she. The production model was ready for shipping hi September. It was a simplified version of the prototype, with only two controls, one for space, one for time. The range of the device was limited to one thousand miles. Nowhere on the casing of the device or in the instruction booklet was a patent number or a pending patent mentioned. Smith had called the device Ozo, perhaps because he thought it sounded vaguely Japanese. The booklet described the device as a distant viewer and gave clear, simple instructions for its use. One sentence read cryptically: "Keep Time Control set at zero." It was like "Wet Paint-Do Not Touch." "believable" was the key word. He had to be involved unless the laws of probability had broken down completely. Yet I could swear Detweiler wasn't putting on an act. His guileless innocence was real, damn it, real. one small folding sauce pan, one metal spoon, one metal fork, and a medium-sized kitchen knife. All of it together would barely fill a shoebox. fuel tanks and stored the fuel in every available container they could scrounge. It would be useful later for. From Competition 13: Excerpts from myopic early sf novels 15. She swooped toward her ankles with the knife. The long skirt of her dress bung in the way. Before she could pick up the hem, her left hand stiffened. without wearing suits or carrying airberries. "them. On each of six envelopes he typed his office address, then covered it with one of the labels. He. about a department store in Japan. "Se/eene, love," he said. "What a delightful surprise." I've got to admit, though, that before I yelled my nay I had a bad moment. I'm still not sure I did right. Suppose the Company Representative was telling the truth and the Project really is for the benefit of common people like ourselves? If that's so, then we aren't acting in our own best interests at all; we're just pulling the rug out from under our own feet. you really get into it, don't you?" When I was through with my talk and with the question-and-answer session, I sang "Randali's Song" in my most resonant baritone and absolutely brought the house down. Janet E. Pear son. Thomas M. Disch. Due to the recent systems overload error, your test results of August 24 have been erased. Therefore, in accordance with Bylaw 9(c). "Certainly," said Amos. "Fried eggs, if you please, once over lightly, and plenty of hot sausages." past her and collapsed, shivering, on then- bed. I didn't say anything. began pacing up and down. He didn't say anything? just kept looking up at that half-finished seventh. Amos and the prince began to brush the snow from a lump on the ground, and beneath the white. togetherness, since his job kept him in Wilmington and hers kept her in New York. Additionally, her. "What about contamination?" she asked. "What do you think that sterilization was for before we. Her pictures, though, did not do her justice. Not only was I surprised to find her taller than I. "Do you have a vacancy?" I asked, getting a whiz-bang idea. bona fide starship, in which the captain and I were to have accelerated through normal space to. always survived: by staying warm, by eating, by drinking. To that list we have to add 'by breathing. The Podkayne was barely visible behind a network of multicolored vines. The vines were tough. What the woman was saying was of a character to suggest that she had just that minute gone crazy. Straight up, it sped, impervious to the wind, seeming to gather momentum with every cubit it traveled. "Amanda!" I crawled toward the kitchen, dragging the weight of my head with me. "Amanda, what. against the straw mattress in the stern of the vibrating launch. They made Manaos by dawn and roused. was content to follow her lead. As the hunter watched, she began to change. Like a rippled reflection in a pool coming slowly into. "Fro glad to hear it". could scrounge. It would be useful later for heating, and for recharging batteries. They managed to convert plastic packing crates into fuel containers by lining them with sheets of the double-walled material the whirligigs used to heat water. They were nervous at this vandalism, but had no other choice. They kept looking nervously at the graveyard as they ripped up meter-square sheets of it. play at all, or they wanted to play all the time. Both kinds were a pain in the ass to face first thing in the. I tried to sit up but my head weighed a thousand kilos. I managed to turn over on my side and, as. feet into the carpet. She stood with her eyes searching the cabin as though she expected to find an answer there. Her gaze fixed on the kitchen. "Then marry me," said Amos, "for I always thought you had uncommonly good sense in matters of whom to believe and whom not to. Your last words have proved you worthy of my opinion." evening when there's a beautiful rainbow looped across the world?" against the edge of my green. "Damn it," said the Admiral, "I don't want technical expertise. I want a working system." That smile was remarkable. It turned the light hi her to dazzling incandescence. 132. wing. I'm afraid that your ass and mine would have been in the sling but for a stroke of incredible luck. "He left about half an hour before they found Maurice. I imagine he went over there, saw Maurice dead, and decided to disappear. Can't say as I blame him. The police might've gotten some funny ideas. We didn't mention him." The fire licks her body. joined them as they lay her on the bunk. On your screen you will be given a display of your current sector of the galaxy and the stars in that sector. You may fire off laser probes to determine the location of Zorph warships. You have a number of weapons at your disposal including quantum rays, antimatter missiles and, for desperate situations, doomsday torpedoes. Your ship is protected by shields against any attack, but you

must be careful to maintain your energy supply. Any Zorphs in your sector will attack you and each attack will use up some of your reserve energy. If your energy is depleted, your shields fail and the next Zorph attack destroys you. You can replenish your energy reserve by returning to a friendly base. You can hop sectors using hyperspace, al-detachment, existing only to observe..208.He had been loitering, alone and melancholy, for the better part of an hour, eavesdropping to his right.hoisted the trunk to their grimy shoulders?Onvbpmf, came the thick sound from the trunk?and the grey."No need to sugar-coat it I know it as well as anyone. But even a billion to one shot is better than.In the case of sexual reproduction, every new organism has a.When the cops finally got there, I told them all I knew-except I didn't mention the Detweiler boy. I.Samuel R. (Chip) Delany has for some time been one of sfs most interesting novelists (Dhalgren, Triton, et cetera) and one of the field's more thoughtful critics (The Jewel-Hinged Jaw: Notes of the Language of Science Fiction). He has not written much short fiction recently, and so we are especially pleased to offer this fresh and magical change of pace..in Houston to show us how low our stock has fallen.". "Any or none, it amounts to much the same thing.".The eggs of reptiles and birds, however, are enclosed in shells, which adds to the technical difficulty..6 Damon Knight."I have just been given the ultimate garbage presentation," he said. "Your boys should know better.negotiations..course, he's a clever vampire. Vampires are usually stupid. They always give themselves away by leaving.made them the darlings of the gossip columns..Just like, he thought, a lie..Jack and Amos frowned. The girl laughed, and the water bubbled.. "Thank you, Matt." Congreve's voice rumbled in a gravelly baritone from the speakers all around. He glanced from side to side to take in the whole of his audience. "I, ah--I almost didn't make it here at all." He paused, and the last whispers of conversation died away. "A sign in the hall outside says that the fossil display is in twelve-oh-three upstairs." The American Archeological Society was holding its annual convention in the Hilton complex that week. Congreve shrugged "I figured that had to be where I was supposed to go. Luckily I bumped into Matt on the way, and he got me back on the right track." A ripple of laughter wavered in the darkness, punctuated by a few shouts of protest from some of the tables. He waited for silence, then continued in a less flippant voice. "The first thing I have to do is thank everybody here, and all the NASDO people who couldn't be with us tonight, for inviting me. Also, of course, I have to express my sincere appreciation for this, and even more my appreciation for the sentiments that it signifies. Thank you--all of you." As he spoke, he gestured toward the eighteen-inch-long, silver and bronze replica of the as yet unnamed, untried SP3 star probe that stood on its teak base before Congreve's place at the main table..Jain gestures in an expansive circle. "This is where I grew up.".Just out of curiosity, Barry wondered aloud, what kind of cash payment were they talking about?.too sharp to ignore. At last I reach the summit.."?ready. How about you?". "Now wait a minute. What about all this line about 'colonists' you've been feeding us ever since we.should imagine that he considered it so glaringly obvious that there was no need for the.133.death us do part," Selene said..a muscle..He continues to shout and I don't answer. On the stage Nagami and Hollis look at each other and at.Ed Bryant's story about stim star Jain Snow is a terrifically intense extrapolation of the.It was not unexpected; Lang had been waiting for it to happen since the night the Burroughs left. But.81.The Man Who Had No Idea by Thomas M. Disch 197.Now one day in late spring, Brother Hart had gone as usual to the lowland meadows leaving Hinda.She lowered her eyes. "My father remarried last month. He doesn't need me any longer. But a woman of twenty-six ought to be leaving home anyway.".that "my" copy of Bug Jack Ban-on tried to punch "me" in the nose means that such an event really.burials. The same sort of thing was happening around the Podkayne, too, triggered by our waste; urine.fell on her, she smiled tentatively and took his hand..stretched out upon the bed. Ought to undress, but he was too tired. The throbbing in his head was worse, pulsing to the beat of the drums. And the hate was in his head, too. God, that ugly face! Like the thing in mythology?what was it??the Medusa. One look turned men to stone. Her locks of hair were live serpents..There, he thought, that should keep her busy long enough for me to think of the next one. He opened.She snorted. "I wonder. Do you have any idea what ifs like being locked up in her head for six."No, babe. Don't say that".It was Nina..afternoon, you'd better go to sleep right now.".months Selene and I were together, if I hadn't already known about her, I'd never have guessed?"

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