

## THE ILLIO 1945 VOL 52

and neither of the individuals in question was particularly bright. Bright people wouldn't be so quixotic. "Where were you climbing to?" "There is my closet full of jewels," said the grey man. "Wear as many as you want." His first endorsement proved to have been beginner's lock. Though he went out almost every night to a different speakeasy and practically lived at Partyland during the weekends, when it was at his liveliest, he never again had such a plum fall in his lap. He didn't get within sniffing distance of his heart's desire. Most people he met were temps, and the few Permanent License holders inclined to be friendly to him invariably turned out, like the MacKinnons, to have already disposed of their allotted endorsements. Or so they said. As the weeks went by and anxiety mounted, he began to be of the cynical but widely held opinion that many people simply removed the stickers from their licenses so it would seem they'd been used. According to Jason MacKinnon, a completely selfless endorsement, like his from Ed, was a rare phenomenon. Quid pro quos were the gen-. "That's exactly what I said," Amos told her, and they were both very happy, for they were both. "You stay around and nudge some more poems out of me. I'm feeling the wind in my sails, but I need. by THOMAS M. DISCH. every other feeling was something awful. He knew it was irrational, but he couldn't help it. The whole idea of having to have a license to talk to someone was as ridiculous as having to have a license to have sex with them. Right? Right! But ridiculous or not, the law was the law, and when you break it, you're guilty of breaking the law. When he left the store with his dinner and the beer in a plastic bag, she was already outside waiting for him. "I wasn't lagging at you, young man," she told him, taking the same coolly aggrieved tone. cornice of the building was the motto, which he had never noticed before, of the Federal. "Bullshit," said Barry. It was the first time he'd used an obscenity conversationally, and he brought it off with great conviction. "You knew when my license would expire, and you've just been stringing me along, hoping I'd get panicky." 123. stretches and bends. "Habit, I guess. I always left ... notes for Mandy." "About two months. 1\*. they would have to stop, but the clear stars made a mist over the jagged rocks, and a little later the moon. "I am Amos and this is Jack, Prince of the Far Rainbow," said. Maybe it's me, but I don't think I'm handling the stim console badly. If I were, the nameless tech." . . . criticism written without personal feeling is not worth reading. It is the capacity for making good. gave no sign. Finally he stopped pacing, climbed back into his palanquin and closed the curtains, and his. Singh thought he saw some movement when he pressed his face to the translucent web. The web. same question asked me a year and a day ago by a wizard so great and so old and so terrible that you. part of being a garbage man. Some poets go to a great deal of trouble to disguise their treacheries; my. angle, he can no longer keep the ship in view from a distance but must track it closely. November 21 and. But she can. I watched Stella outside Bradley Arena in LA when some overanxious bikers wanted to. "No!" Her vehemence startled me. She quickly lowered her voice and went on: "My friends call me Amanda." "You must show how clever you are," said Lea. "When I was free of this mirror, my teacher, in order to see how well I had learned my lessons, asked me three questions. I answered all three, and these questions were harder than any questions ever heard by man or woman. I am going to ask you three questions which are ten times as hard, and if you answer them correctly, you may pick up the mirror." transcendent geniuses out of an Einstein or thousands of diabolical villains out of a Hitler. When the cops finally got there, I told them all I knew-except I didn't mention the Detweiler boy. I hung around until I found out that Harry almost certainly wasn't killed after six-thirty. They set the time somewhere between five-ten, when he called me, and six. It looked like Andrew Detweiler was innocent, but what "peculiar" thing had Harry noticed about him, and why had he moved out right after Harry was killed? Birdie let me take a look at his room, but I didn't find a thing, not even an abandoned paperclip. "Remain at ready. Out." I would have enjoyed the evening thoroughly if I hadn't known someone nearby was dead or dying. Compared to the chill of the air, the water felt boiling hot. The heat drew out the last of my anger, though. day before? and today? I'll end up screaming. It seems so pointless, collecting all that information, for. "That's what you meant, all right. And you meant women, available to the real colonists as a reason to. 90. Consider the fertilized egg again. Every time it divides and redivides, the new cells that form inherit. Selene went on exercising. "She won't ask. People have been taking care of Mandy all her life. She. bare rock, rearranged the exhaust to prevent more condensation on the underside, and added more. "I'm sorry," Lang said quietly. "Go on with what you were saying." would be on my ass over the com circuit. "I think this discussion has served its purpose, which was to convince everyone here that survival is. Insect clattering in my earpiece: "What the hell's going on, Rob? Tm monitoring the stim feed. You're oscillating from bell to fade-out." I comply. She kisses me with lips and tongue, working down across my belly. under his breath. I listened hard, but I couldn't make out what it was. ?For two days she has waited there. I see you with her now when you return. And I see you with her. Handbook never tired of pointing out, but you can always try and make a good impression. Someday. develop, the smaller each one and, in the end, they will be too small to survive after delivery. The North Wind rose up in his cave and sped toward the opening that was so high they could not see. forever. No sense getting uptight; everything was going to be all right. Then all the blankets fell away, and a man with more colors on him than Amos had ever seen sat up rubbing his eyes. His sleeves were green silk with blue and purple trimming. His cape was crimson with orange design. His shirt was gold with rainbow checks, and one boot was white and the other was black. At this time tomorrow Columbine made another nonappearance, and Barry began to suspect she was deliberately avoiding him. He decided to give her one last chance. He left a message with the doorman saying he would be by to collect his you-know-what at half past twelve the next night. Alternately, she could leave it in an envelope with the doorman. Violoncello that I ventured to remonstrate with my Mentor. friendships. They were much closer to being a team. Rivalries never died out completely, but they no. other subjects. that they might fail. "Who are you?" asked

the particolored prisoner..underwear?for the sailors had jumped on him when he came back in the morning and given the jailor."Come on," said Amos, "just a little way. . .".She got up without disturbing him and went to the cupboard where she found a white linen towel.."I don't recall seeing your name anywhere. Miss Nesbitt said it was Andrew Detweiler?"..almost cracked it up as it was. I ... ah, nuts. It isn't possible."..Holders of a Temporary License are advised to study Chapter Nine ("The Temporary License") in the Federal Communications Handbook. Remember that direct, interactive personal communications are one of our most valuable heritages. Use your license wisely. Do not abuse the privilege of free speech..That hurt. I climbed to my feet and reached out to touch her shoulder. "I was talking to her for your sake."..think the Company had built the wall around the Project to make it easy for strikers to picket the place, come strike time, instead of to keep people from stealing bricks. The gate's pretty wide, of course, but four pickets can guard it easily, and the wall's high enough to discourage anybody from trying to scale it..She pulled the shawl tighter around her. "When I got up this morning, that chair you're sitting in was bright blue. It's always brown or yellow for you. Selene has to have been sitting in it."..Q: What is the state of the Competition Editor after each contest?.It was small comfort, but Nolan had no choice. And he was too tired to protest, too tired to worry..Humor Bill, this is definitely not the time for jokes. Something has gone wrong with the Megalo Banking..Now she lay on the bunk, her feet sprawled carelessly in front of her. She slowly shook her head..time. She still expected, at any moment, a call from The Studio. But her flesh hadn't cooperated. Her hair..After that day Lang was ruthless in gutting the old Podkayne. She supervised the ripping out of the motors to provide more living space, and only Crawford saw what it was costing her. They drained the fuel tanks and stored the fuel in every available container they..mainspring. Energy is stored in a coiled muscle and released slowly. I don't think it could travel more than..After what seemed a long, long time, he saw a flicker of silver-white, and coming closer, he saw it was a unicorn. It stood in the little clearing, blinking. Just behind the unicorn was the last piece of the mirror..fragment of the mirror." Then he added, "which is more than your friend the wizard did, apparently."..Jack..The hunter searched her face with his eyes but could not find what he was seeking. He walked past her to the cottage door. Hinda followed behind him, uncertain..O, give me a clone..have coped, this time, with the old fuddy-duddy he'd had last August, but a Ph.D.? It seemed as though..black..1931 is worth mentioning. That is Frankenstein: The True Story. Coscripted by Christopher Isherwood..The ship came down with an impressive show of flame and billowing sand, three kilometers from..took off her helmet. She was a large woman, in her thirties, with red hair shorn off close to the scalp..A Baptist minister in Louisville led the first mob against an Ozo assembly plant. A month later, while.."He was here with us all evening. We had dinner and played Scrabble. I think he was real sick, but he tried to pretend he wasn't. Even if he hadn't been here, I would not think so."..Lang stood up and shook Song's shoulder. Song came slowly back to them and sat down, still..twenty-four hours. It has an axial tilt of twenty-three degrees."..He considered it. "All right, Commander Mary." She punched him playfully. She had barely known..A: The Demolished Man..The usher continued to hover, smiling, over his chair. Finally Barry realized he was waiting for a tip.."No, sir," Colman replied stiffly, keeping his eyes fixed straight ahead. "Corporal Swyley was manning the compack. He would not have been assigned to ELINT analysis. He's color-blind."..Hinda could not answer. She could not even look at him. His nakedness shamed her more than his..publicity. I understand they're trying to work out a heat-shield parachute system from one of the drop..time to fall, she turned, sprang away into the fading light, and was gone..inevitable. A matter, merely, of making the effort and reaping the reward.."Okay," I say..stick together when the chips are down.."I See You" is the first new Damon Knight story in many years; it was the feature story in..talking, steadily, for three hours!.Not with angels and pins..you."..people, and the way these are concretely embodied in personal relations, social institutions, and received..Dear heart, Brother Hart, Come at my behest, We shall dine on berry wine And you shall have your rest..\* Though Dune is, strictly speaking, science fiction. Wilson was talking about tbe-gnat-kader syndrome, and the heroic atmosphere Dune shares with heroic fantasy.."How can you tell?"..We have our congruencies..Robbie lay in his crib, a shaft of moonlight from the window bathing his tiny face. From his rosebud mouth issued a gentle snore..ecologjst, and Song Sue Lee, the exo-biologist They still stood numbly by the airlock, unable as yet to..Larchemoot is a middle-class neighborhood huddled in between the old wealth around the country club and the blight spreading down Melrose from Western Avenue. It tries to give the impression of suburbia?and does a pretty good job of it..father than just another nearly downtown shopping center. The area isn't big on apartments or rooming houses, but there are a few. I found the Detweiler..thinks they've visited us, back in the Stone Age. In some ways it's easier to believe than the alternative..Crawford had climbed to watch the sunrise..his face. It was just about die way Lorraine Nesbitt had described it If you called central casting and asked for a male angel, you'd get Andrew Detweiler in a blond wig. His body was slim and well-formed?from where I was standing I couldn't see the hump and you'd never know there was one. I had a glimpse of his bare chest as he buttoned the shirt It wasn't muscular but it was very well made. He was very healthy-looking?pink and flushed with health, though slightly pale as if he didn't get out in the sun much. His dark eyes were astounding. If you blocked out the rest of the face, leaving nothing but the eyes, you'd swear he was no more than four years old. You've seen little kids with those big, guileless, unguarded, inquiring eyes, haven't you?..seemed always to be hanging around. When I was eight, my parents died in a fire. I think the..Smith turns to the ship again: the deck is empty. He dips below to look at the hold, filled with casks, then the cabin, then the forecandle..Nolan rose, stretching, then stepped out into the hall. The shadows were darker here and everything was still..Edward Bryant..alabaster box and lit it with an alabaster lighter. As an afterthought, he offered me one..The jab left her untouched. With perfect calm and not even a pause in her movement, she said, "He had the press, I believe." She spun once more and finished in a deep curtsy, then straightened and began stripping off her exercise suit. "I'm going to swim. Will you come with me?"..The dancer raised a brow. "Ah-I see. You're

the other one." He grinned at me. "You know, all those months Selene and I were together, if I hadn't already known about her, I'd never have guessed?".showtime, and partly because I didn't feel like being in the star's bed when she woke up.."We're waiting for a reply," Crawford said. "But I can sum up what they're going to say: not good.."Does she believe that?" Mama's gaze was grave. "You must tell her to go.".The Best from F & SF, #23 Copyright ? 1976,1977,1978, 1979,1980 by Mercury Press, Inc..only fair to warn you, though. I'm harder to get along with than Mandy."Q: Whad's da pard of a song dad isn'd da woids?.me."

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