

MAJOR ARCANA

have been a cat. It was probably a stray looking for food or hiding from a dog. Okay, cat, you don't. Well, no matter? it was ended now, over once and for all. Today the message had arrived from. On December 12, 1968, I gave a talk to a meeting of doctors and lawyers in San Jose, California.* Naturally, I was asked to speak on some subject that would interest both groups. Some instinct told me that medical malpractice suits might interest both but would nevertheless not be a useful topic. I spoke on genetic engineering instead, therefore, and, toward the end, discussed the matter of cloning..vivant, and wit, Randall Garrett Out of the corner of my eye, I noticed a piece of paper placed on the. She looked at me, not saying anything, her face slowly collapsing into an infinitely weary resignation.. "The gate's going to be a lot bigger than last night," Jain had said. "Can you handle it?"..been so frightened in my life.. Well, no matter? it was ended now, over once and for all. Today the message had arrived from Belem: Darlene and Robbie were on the ship, ready for the flight to Manaus. Tomorrow morning he'd start downriver to meet them, escort them here. He'd had his qualms about their coming; they'd have to face three months hi this hellhole before the year was up, but Darlene had insisted.. Communications Agency:.. 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.. Detweiler wasn't feeling well at all. He was pale and drawn and fidgety. His eyelids were heavy and.. Detweiler didn't show for another hour. By that time I was sitting flat on the floor trying to keep my. "Nonsense," said the grey man. "I have more emeralds and diamonds and gold and pearls than I know what to do with," and he opened a closet door.. "Which," said Lea, "can be stated as: 'I've done it.' Roughly speaking.".. I grabbed her wrist. "Never mind me. How's Amanda?"..rest". would seem to be much better off than other organisms? who must go to the trouble of finding partners.. ways of asserting the primacy and authenticity of one's own experience, and that's fine. But whatever you.. In answer to all the requests for more positive, upbeat sf with some good old-fashioned Heros, we offer with some hesitation this tale of first contact between lowly Human and mighty Sreen.. their conversation, which concerned (no doubt as a rebuke to his ignorance) Ireina Khokolovna's latest.. fuel tanks and stored the fuel in every available container they could scrounge. It would be useful later for.. ?I'd like to see that process from the start," he said. "Where you suit up for the outside, I mean.".. seemingly insignificant clue in a detective story from which the solution to the whole mystery gradually.. That way they'd know our genetic structure and what lands of food we'd eat, and could prepare.. "Ms. Song, how can we get in there with you?".. of cases, nosing around in places only the Harry Spinners of the world can nose around hi unnoticed. I. "That's enough," he said. "I thank you for your concern.".. hear Detweiler's typewriter tickety-ticking away inside. Okay, Mallory, this is what you've been breaking.. least an acknowledged one). They should have left well enough alone in this case. Color instead of b&w.. "You're right," she said. "Your opinion doesn't mean anything." She slapped his knee delightedly.. He certainly had a right to say that, but there was no self-pity, just an observation. Then he looked at me with slightly distressed eyes. "You... ah... didn't want to play for money, did you?".. Fallows sat back in his chair and cast a routine eye around the monitor room. Everything seemed to be running smoothly at the crew stations beyond the glass partition behind his console, and the other displays confirmed that all else was as it should be. The reserve tank to Number 2 vernier motor had been recharged after a slight course-correction earlier and was checking out at "Ready" again. All the fuel, coolant, primary and standby power, hydraulic, pneumatic, gas, oil, life-support, and instrumentation subsystems servicing the Drive Section were performing well within limits. Way back near the tail, the banks of gigantic fusion reactors were gobbling up the 35 million tons of hydrogen that had been magnetically ram scooped out of space throughout the twenty-year voyage and converting over two tons of its mass into energy every second to produce the awesome, 1.5-mile-diameter blast of radiation and reaction products that would have to burn for six months to slow the 140-million-ton mass of the Mayflower II down from its free-cruise velocity.. "It's a very little thing to thank me for," Amos said. "But we had better start back if we want to be at the ship in time for lunch.".. "Don't I get a chance to rest?" asked Amos. "I have been climbing up and down mountains all night.".. Someone entered the room. He stood leaning against the doorframe, looking at me with sleepy eyes. He was about twenty-five, wearing tight chinos without underwear and a tee shirt. His hair was tousled and cut unfashionably short. He had a good-looking Kansas face. The haircut made me think he was new in town, but the eyes said he wasn't. I guess the old broad liked his hair that way.. played a few notes of Bach, or maybe Vivaldi or Telemann. All those old Baroques sound alike to me.. "I will try and perhaps die trying," said Jack, "but I can do no more and no less." Then Jack filled his lungs and dove headlong into the pool.. then the cabin, then the forecastle.. By the time the rescue expedition arrived, no one was calling it that There had been the little matter of a long, brutal war with the Palestinian Empire, and a growing conviction that the survivors of the First Expedition had not had any chance in the first place. There had been no time for luxuries like space travel beyond the Moon and no billions of dollars to invest while the world's energy policies were being debated in the Arabian Desert with tactical nuclear weapons..55).. Crawford did, and began to see the novelty of it. He tried hi vain to think of some mechanism hi an animal or plant of Earthly origin that turned and kept on turning forever. He could not.. VI. "There was no point in getting him involved. It was just an accident.".. McKillian looked horrified, as any good ecologist would.. Reluctantly at first, then with the glad, uncloseted feeling of shaking himself loose over a dance floor.. McKillian had had enough. "Matt, what the hell are you talking about? Rescue mission? Damn it, you know as well as I that if they find us here, we'll be long dead. We'll probably be dead hi another year.".. talk to Commander Lang. Have her come up." The voice of Mission Commander Weinstein was.. The captain wheels savagely, face mottled, teeth bared, arms windmilling with rage. I have never seen him this furious before, and it frightens me. Not that I cannot appreciate and even share his anger

toward the Sreen, of course. The Sreen have been very arbitrary and high-handed from the start, snatching our vessel out of normal space.. "Don't mention it." He opened the door for me and then closed it behind me. I sighed and walked across to 408. I rang the bell. It didn't play anything, just went ding-dong.. "Calm yourself, señor. With my own eyes I saw her go to the boat and she was alone, I swear it. She does not have the little one." Well, I'll get them, he insisted, hoping to impress the other voice with the authenticity and vitality of.46. Tom Reamy wrote four stories for F&SF: Twilla, "Insects in Amber," "San Diego Lightfoot Sue" (a Nebula award winner), and the gripping story you are about to read. He also wrote a novel, Blind Voices. In 1978 he died at the age of forty-two, as he was reaching his peak as a storyteller of unusual freshness and power..meandered on home.. Amos ran to get his wheelbarrow, put the prism on top, and wheeled it to the mirror. Then, just in case, he went back and locked the trunk tightly..and began pushing at her hair..finally rewarded by seeing the light come back on in her. At the office I explained that the owner of No.. "So glad to hear it". "Okay, keep spread out on both sides, everybody. Jim, can you and Edie head him off before he. From Competition 18: Transposed sf titles 155. bloody head broke into the light. You have seen yourself staggering about the nursery in rompers.. "Hey," I say.. Again those black and burning eyes of his seemed to absorb the Project from its bottommost brick to its topmost one. There was a purposefulness about his mien that had been lacking on his previous visit; a fierce, almost an awesome, determination that made him seem larger than life. His black eyebrows were like the wings of a hawk; his lips were set like bitumen. He was wearing a maroon turtleneck with a big N on the front, blue Levis and thick-soled chukka boots.. Identical twins are very like each other and often display mirror-image characteristics. (I once had a chemistry professor with his nose canted to the left. His identical-twin brother had his nose canted to the right, I was told..) descended on them. The jailor had at last woken up and, finding his captives gone, had organized a. Conversation was tense and ragged at first until Lorraine got off on her "career" and kept us entertained..?peak English-". "You must show how clever you are," said Lea. "When I was free of this mirror, my teacher, in order. completely I might never get out of it again..". all his chips on a tactic of complete candor, had said, one, he was too young to worry about skin cancer. Her voice faltered only a little but her hands began to shake. The orange in the chair's color went darker and the yellows bled away. Amanda stabbed several times with a hairpin without being able to place it right. After a seventh or eighth try she stood up, letting the hairpins spill onto the carpet. She walked to the far end of the fireplace, where she stood with her back to me, toying with the tops of the fire tools. "It hasn't been long at all since? since I told you I... trusted you..". "Hurry, hurry, step in! We can't keep it open too long." They groped their way in, scraping frost away with their hands. The web dosed behind them, and they were standing in the center of a very complicated network made of single strands of the webbing material. Singh's pressure gauge read 30 millibars.. "Could you write a poem right now? About what you're thinking?".. millibars.. interesting episodes that I'd like you to tell me about someday, from your 'soldier-of-fortune? days?'. the case of aphids, for instance, do so as a matter of course. In these cases, an egg cell, containing only a. it occupies. The way you describe it, it couldn't function without help from a symbiote. Maybe it fertilizes. 142. "Mine's Ed," said the occupant of the bentwood rocker, a young man of Barry's own age, build, and. It took me a second to realize what he meant "You mean stamp collecting? Not much..". Now one day in late spring, Brother Hart had gone as usual to the lowland meadows leaving Hinda. color of parrot's feathers, a yellow as pale as Chinese mustard, and a blue brilliant as the sky at eight. death was accidental? a dumb, stupid accident It niggled around in my brain for an hour before I gave in.. form of data and supplies. There was one more capsule load due; after that, its presence would only be a. glanced his way, however, was Evelyn, the woman behind the refreshment stand. He went to other. An undercurrent of murmuring rippled quickly around the hall. Congreve nodded, indicating his anticipation of the 'objections he knew would come. He raised a hand for attention and gradually the noise abated.. "Now," said Jack, rubbing his wrists, "I can look at myself again and see why I am Prince of the Far. It was too early to drop around, and so I ate breakfast, hoping this was one of the times Detweiler. But he was alone in the castle hall. Jack and Lea had already left. Amos ran to the mirror just in time. PLANNED FREEDOM IS THE. They were of nearly uniform size, about four meters tall, and all the same color, a dark purple. They had. either Ike or I were, and by the time we reached the apron he was halfway up the scaffolding that flanked. You squirm around, raising the viewer to aim it down the hill. As you turn the knob with your thumb, the bright image races toward you, trees hurling themselves into red darkness and vanishing, then the houses in the compound, and now you see Bruce standing beside the corral, looking into his viewer, slowly turning. His back is to you; you know you are safe, and you sit up. A jay passes with a whirl of wings, settles on a branch. With your own eyes now you can see Bruce, only a dot of blue beyond the gray shake walls of the houses. In the viewer, he is turning toward you, and you duck again. Another voice: "Children, come in and get washed for dinner now..** "Aw, Aunt Ellie!" "Mom, we're playing hide and seek. Can't we just stay fifteen minutes more?" "Please, Aunt EUiel" "No, come on in now?.. "I'd advise you to do it," Crawford said. "I know my opinion means nothing after shooting my mouth off. I know I'm a fine one to talk; I won't be cooped up in here. But the colony needs it We've all felt it: the lack of a direction or a drive to keep going. I think we'd get it back if you went through with this..". Available from all Alpertron. When Westland left, I headed for the men's room to down a couple of aspirin to steady my nerves. And who should I meet coming out of the door but Admiral Venerate. Venerate and I are old buddies, having been together on the Potlatch Investigation Team some eight years ago. At that time I proved there were no irregularities in the award of the Potlatch missile contract to Megalo. Venerate proved that the Navy had done nothing wrong. I was promoted to this staff position. Venerate moved up to Admiral.. turned murky green. There was a soft whisper of crushing pile, then a tide of scarlet and purple eddied. you're guilty of breaking the law.. assume there is a reservoir of something like crude oil down there, maybe frozen in with the water..". blind in her right eye and wore a black felt patch over it. She claimed she had lost the eye in a fight with

a.Two willowy young men gave me appraising glances in the carpeted lobby as they exited into the sunlight like exotic jungle birds. It's one of those, I thought My suspicions were confirmed when I looked over the tenant directory. All the names seemed to be male, but none of them was Andrew Detweiler..and decrease heat loss."."I said," he said, with woozy precision, "my name is Ed."."I thought you like to sleep late," I said..days romanticism acquires religious overtones. In the present instance a perfectly..and kept his eyes firmly open..think I pity rather than dislike her. Don't I let myself get sucked into looking after her like everyone else?.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.."It was a very . . . short argument." Her voice began to catch. "And I find the ... conclusion rather . . . inconsistent" Her control was cracking. Tears spilled out of her eyes. Her hand was white on the handle of the tool caddy..months, continuously aware but able to do nothing? If I couldn't get out for a run once in a while, I'd not.'When Westland came charging back into my office an hour later, he found the Admiral hammering at my console keys and shouting his best Navy profanity at the Zorphs who had just zapped him for fifteen-hundred energy units..She shakes her head. "Just my pa." I guess I look curious because she looks away and adds, "My.(2nd verse)."Believe me, a little air would make me sleep much better."."Yes. Aventine has too many rich and famous residents to care about another celebrity, and as we have no hotels or public transportation and the cabletrain from Gateside is the only way in, aside from private aircraft on private landing fields, we manage to discourage most reporters and curiosity seekers."..tossed it on the back of a chair..barracks..know how powerful it is or if it'll eat the-plastic in your boots, but we'd better play it safe. How about it,."The staple on your license?why is it there?". "If you say so," said Amos. He went to the trunk, walked all around it three times, then gingerly lifted.se. Shaw, Pauline Kael, Eric Bentley, and James Blish have all done it. That I'm doing it too, doesn't.transparent sheets of film to the sunlight, heating the water which circulated through them. The water was."And this was obviously such a time," said Hidalgo, "for you are back now and we are to be..see if the altered moisture content we've been creating here had any effect on the spores hi the soil. See,."She shook her head, eyes hooded and expressionless, and then Nolan remembered that she didn't speak English. He raised the bottle and drank again, cursing himself for his mistake..He stood there staring down at it..She took a deep breath and plunged in, only to collide with Ralston as he came out, dragging Song. Except for a dazed expression and a few cuts, Song seemed to be all right. Crawford and McKillian joined them as they lay her on the bunk..breathing grows a little ragged; that is all And yet she is more demanding of me than ever before..running..Belem: Darlene and Robbie were on the ship, ready for the flight to Manaos. Tomorrow morning he'd.simple. A fiasco from which he'd naturally feared the worst in the form of a letter addressed to Dear..So he lay down on the bed and Hinda sat by him. She rubbed cinquefoil on his head to soothe it and.III.movie star except for his back."."Okay, keep spread out on both sides, everybody. Jim, can you and Edie head him off before he gets to the woods?".Nina stood before him and she was stark naked. Stark naked, her arms opening in invitation..first forty thousand meters. It doesn't have the juice to orbit on the jets alone. The wings are folded up

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