

## ASK FOR THE MOON

the hunter stepped out of the woods on the very path that Brother Hart usually took, Hinda gave a gasp. The background music changed from Vivaldi's Four Seasons to a Sondheim medley, and all the boxes of paint tubes. Architecturally, however, it was almost identical. The terrace was covered with return and eat my eggs and sausages." He had phoned me about ten after five. I had found the body at seven. "Awhile," I said. "The blood was mostly dry." "We'll never catch her then!" Nolan gripped Moises' shoulder. "Don't you understand? She's taken her hand. "Selene," I called. "I can't reach her. Help me." A similar case is that of H. G. Wells's The Island of Dr. Moreau, filmed with superbly demonic jabbering seriously." She simpered. "Oh, Johnny! Come on in. This detective was asking about Andrew Detweiler in number seven." She turned back to me. "This is my protege, Johnny Peacock? a very talented young man. I'm arranging for a screen test as soon as Mr. Goldwyn returns. There was a pause. "Well, now that you mention it, you might have come on time. But that's water through the pipes, I guess. If you have some toys or something, it might be nice. The stories I've told little Billy of all the nice things you people were going to bring! There's going to be no living with him, let me tell you." "How much longer?" Song asked, after some time had passed. Source: W. S. Halson. even as every other inferior species has, you must abide. . . ." The captain is having trouble disentangling. That hardly seemed fan' to me. As though she read my mind, Selene said, "I didn't plan it; it just. She sighed in relief. "Gordy, you're a friend. Well meet again." "No, this is Crawford again. Commander Lang is . . . indisposed. She's busy with Lou, trying to do something." There is no reason to suppose that this separation of offspring cells can't happen over and over, so screech, he ploughs through them, swatting them aside with the backs of his hands, kicking them out of. Outside, the clouds hung so low the top of the ship's tallest mast threatened to prick one open. The wind tossed about in Amos' red hair and scurried in and out of his rags. Sitting on the railing of the ship was a sailor splicing a rope. Then all the blankets fell away, and a man with more colors on him than Amos had ever seen sat up. "I notice her condition when she walked to the boat" Moises shrugged, but even before the words. These cells could serve as potential organ banks for the future. H the time were to come when an. have sex with them. Right? Right! But ridiculous or not, the law was the law, and when you break it. The North Wind was happier than he had ever been since the wizard first made his cave. more interesting? the 1963 The Last Man on Earth with Vincent Price. lungs and dove headlong into the pool. Robert F. Young for "Project Hi-Rise". "Why is that?" children until we're established." Robert Block. Mary Lang let it work itself out, only interfering when it got violent. She herself was not immune to the frenzy but managed to stay aloof from most of it. She went to the shelter with whoever asked her, trying not to play favorites, and gently tried to prod them back to work. As she told McKillian toward the first of the week, "At least we're getting to know one another." Nolan nodded, flexing his cramped limbs. He stepped out onto the dock, then hurried up the path. own." The Best from F & SF, #23 Copyright ? 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980 by Mercury Press, Inc.? Not at all." have to see it himself. By the time he'd finally agreed to go there on his next vacation, they had been. problem"? her voice dropped, her eyes avoided his? "is timeless and well-known. I fell in love with the. McCranie sounded puzzled. "Is anything the matter?" In the screen, he had swiveled his chair and was talking to Peg, gesturing with short, choppy motions of his arm. "A trap door in the bottom of a ship?" asked Amos. hours," she grinned. that might as well have been made of Saran Wrap. He didn't say anything, just let his eyebrows rise. I got out of bed and headed for the bathroom. "That's suspicious in itself." is one of film's most underrated actors, but his straightforward non-intellectual approach to the doctor. It's rare but pleasant when both productions of a single story come out well. One Million B.C. gave. "A week?" Nolan's voice rose. "I've got to get back for the loading. I can't stay here that long!" wizard had to ask my help to put it there." "Then we have been found out and all is lost," said the prince. "For it is noon already, and the sun is at its highest and hottest. The boat has docked two leagues short of over there, and the grey man must be about to go for the third mirror himself." The red column inched upwards. "One hundred and four." Nolan straightened quickly. "Go fetch Moises. Tell him I want the launch ready, pronto. We'll have to get her to the doctor at Manaos." license. Their entire conversation had been illegal. The guilt that immediately marched into his mind and. Amanda Gaf and Selene Randall came to Aventine during the autumn hiatus, when the last of the summer residents had gone back to jobs in the city or followed the sun south, and the winter influx of skiers and skaters was still some weeks away. Aventine scarcely noticed them, and if my current cohab had not gone off through the Diana Mountain Stargate on some interstellar artists' junket, they might never have been more than clients to me, either. There are nights I cannot sleep for wishing she had chosen another realty agent or come some other season. I was alone, though, in the boredom of autumn when Amanda walked into my office with her seeds of tragedy and elected me gardener. They crowded into the airlock, carefully not looking at each other's faces as they waited for the. "You're not going to meet anyone there but temps and various people who are out to fleece temps." "Sure. Can you?" He laughed again. "No. I doubt if he knew what the word means." Her pictures, though, did not do her justice. Not only was I surprised to find her taller than I expected, fully as tall as I was, but no media camera had ever captured the glow that shone out through her. David Labor. They're ready. I cut in another dozen tracks, then mute two. Things are building just a little too fast. All characters in this book are fictitious. Any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental. "Senator Moran told me I could live here in privacy. Is that true?" Amanda asked. worry about where their next breath was coming from." twentieth-century society has grown unaccustomed to language of such violence." Computer Center, simply type "ZORPH" to gain access to the game. "I'm Barry Riordan," he managed to bring out, tardily. talk and drink and laugh, and sometimes sing. Amos would sit quietly and listen? and always win at. bloody head broke into the light. You have seen

yourself staggering about the nursery in rompers, clutching a yellow plastic duck. Now you are watching yourself hiding behind the fallen tree on the hill, and you realize that there are no secret places. And beyond you in the ghostly future you know that someone is watching you as you watch; and beyond that watcher another, and beyond that another. . . . Forever..sex cells, eggs and sperm, retain the lack of genetic specialization required to produce a new organism.It turned out that they were safe from that imagined danger. There were spores in the air now, but they were not dangerous to the colonists. The plants attacked only certain kinds of plastics, and then only in certain stages of their lives. Since they were still changing, it bore watching, but the airlocks and suits were secure. The crew was enjoying the luxury of sleeping without their suits..vertebrae have been badly dislocated. The thing nevertheless succeeds in overtaking the captain and.From across the room Billy Belay tried to make a sign for Amos to be quiet, but the grey man turned.Amos himself was well aware how long he would have hesitated had the question been asked of him. As the seconds passed, he began to fear for Jack's life, and wished he had had a chance to figure some other way to get the mirror out One minute passed; perhaps they could have tricked the girl into bringing it up herself. Two minutes; they could have tied a string to the leg of a frog and sent him down to do the searching. Three minutes; there was not a bubble on the water, and Amos surprised himself by deciding the only thing to do was to jump in and at least try to save the prince. But there was a splash of water at his feet.The Mm Who Had No Idea.reproduction. Put it still another way: It is an organism with a single parent, whereas an organism that.pattern. Occasionally a moving blur traveled slowly across them..refused to end, she did come home, and for several days it was just as good as anything on the cassettes..could be erected above his hapless corpse." (William Atheling, Jr. [James Blish], The Issue at Hand,.feel I'm not alone. The dome is that big. Voices get lost here. Even thoughts echo..chilling quality comes from the very ordinariness of the people involved, and the professor's wife.of.Zorphwar!."Exactly." She squinted across the vast tasteful expanse of Party-land, then stood up and waved. "I.other creatively."."The girl-Nina??.I started to frown. It hurt hellishly. There seemed to be silver wrapped around the edges of my vision, too. "Selene isn't the evil genius you think, Amanda." My voice sounded thin..predilection for gas-pump jockeys, car-wash boys, and parking-lot attendants. I guess it had something.started looking at the street signs. I was on Mullholland. I kept going west for a long time, crossed the.you know. It's difficult to verbalize. He has such an incredible innocence. A lost, doomed look that Byron."I remember that one is two leagues short of over there, the second is up this one, and the third is somewhere nearer than you thought."..a turnip existence.. "No ideas. If other people have ideas, I can bounce off them well enough, but all by itself my mind's a.And my consonants (hie) somewhat muzzy,.the sand and fell forward, got up in time to see the fiberglass ropes on the side nearest him snap free from."The map says so," said the grey man. And sure enough, in large green letters one corner of the map was marked: HERE..terrific. To be Miss Georgia and have such a lot of talent?isn't that enough? I would have thought you'd.once dearer to me."..Billy of all the nice things you people were going to bring! There's going to be no living with him, let me.I sat up so fast I almost fell out of the chair. I gave her a long, hard stare, but her neutral expression didn't flicker. "You're kidding." Her eyebrows rose a millimeter. "Was she a slinky blonde?I\*.a big project about to begin just east of here. From what I gather, it's a tomb of some kind, and it's.not imagine anyone else writing it.Robert F. Young has written thirty-nine stories for F&SF over the years, and we can think of.Hinda could not answer. She could not even look at him. His nakedness shamed her more than his.Up above the burning city, a woman wails the blues. How she cries out, how she moans. Flames fed.I backed away, throwing my arms up to protect my head. Amanda might not be athletic, but she had.down, because there wasn't a damn thing worth seeing near the camp. Even the exposed layering and its.Lang sat back down and patted the ground around her, ground that was covered in a multiple layer of the Martian pressure-tight web, the kind of web that would have been made only by warmblooded, oxygen-breathing, water-economy beings who needed protection for then-bodies until the full bloom of summer..She comes off the stage crying. I touch her arm as she walks past my console. Jam stops and rubs.under his breath. I listened hard, but I couldn't make out what it was..Destination: P.T. Warrington.Detweiler wasn't feeling well at all. He was pale and drawn and fidgety. His eyelids were heavy and.After a short pause she said, "I just throw things together."..from Jain, pipe it into the audience, they react and add their own load, and I feed it all back to the star..samples we were allowing for. By using the fuel we would have ferried down to you for takeoff, we can.Tucson, arranged with her nearest neighbor, Phyllis Moll, for each of them to keep an Ozo focused on.And what about this, Mallory? What if someone died nearby tonight while you were with Detweiler;."What is that stuff?".The door opened and he was yanked through and bound up again. The grey man marched Amos back to the prince's side and wheeled the barrow to the middle of the room.. "Mrs. Bushyager called. Her sister and Mr. Bushyager are still missing."."I can see I'll be drawing on your knowledge a lot in the years to come. What do you see as the next order of business?".I do so and the tech is satisfied with the results. "That ought to do it," he says. "I'll get back to you later." He breaks off the circuit. All checks are done; there's nothing now on the circuits but a background scratch like insects climbing over old newspapers. She will not allow me to be exhausted /or long..tacked it to the door with his knife. The hooves did not quite touch the ground..Someone walked by the door, quietly and carefully. I leaned my head out It was Johnny Peacock.. "Sure," Song said, peering along his pointed finger. "Just show me the damn thing and I'll immortalize.by ROBERT BLOCK.And that is the end of the story.. "Good," said Amos. "Oh, but one more thing. You say it is windy there. I shall need a good supply of."Don't think of them as ideas then, think of them as questions.\*."Get out of my way."..printed under fairly makeshift circumstances. Consequently, there's an enormous variety of different.The hunter controlled the shaking of his hands, bat he could not control his heart He allowed himself.rendezvous with a drone capsule full of supplies we hadn't counted on." And besides, Lang thought to.phenomenon. Quid pro quos were the general rule, in the form either of cash on the barrel or services.before? ".His sister would take the hide and

shake it out and brush and comb it till it shone like polished wood..Samuel R. (Chip) Delany has for some time been one of sf?s most interesting novelists."Thanks." He got up to go..A Reflection.It's disheartening to see how little has changed. On the other hand, there is no pleasure like finding out the realities of human life, in which joy and misery, effort and release, dread and happiness, walk hand in hand..sail and lay down.."The wetsuit comes off about four; then we'll have Saturday night and all of Sunday."..off a tabletop and onto a many-cushioned bed. They sat down at the table..didn't speak Spanish or Portuguese either. Not that she'd made any attempts to communicate; she kept

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