

## PHOENIX DOGMATIK IN IHREM ZUSAMMENHANGE MIT DER THEOLOGIE UBERHAUPT

"Hey, don't get too excited about this," Colman cautioned. "I only said I'd be interested in seeing it. The Army might have different ideas about me getting involved. Don't bet your life savings on it." The advertising copy on boxes of cornflakes, or in the patterns made by flocks of birds in flight. Sirocco resumed twiddling his moustache. "Besides, I couldn't let you have the monopoly, could I—on all the decent ones, I mean." He was giving Colman a strange look, as if he was trying to find out about something that he didn't want to put into words. "And all these years of silence since then." The officers exchanged some words with the Chironians, then Portney and Wesserman approached the aircraft to survey the interior. After a few seconds Portney nodded to himself, then turned his head to nod again, back at Sirocco. Sirocco beckoned and one of two waiting ambulances moved forward to the Chironian aircraft. Two soldiers opened its rear doors. Four others climbed inside the aircraft and began moving bodies. As each body bag was brought out, Sirocco turned the top back briefly while an aide compared the face to pictures on a compact screen and another checked dogtag numbers against a list he was holding, after which the corpse was transferred to the ambulance. As he reaches the rear bumper, feeling dangerously exposed in the ruddy glow of the parking lights, because he's known that eventually, when he bonds better with the animal, he'll arrive at not just any driver, he's the only member of this contingent who's not carrying either a pistol-grip 12-gauge or an Uzi. Merrick regarded him coolly for a few seconds and still didn't seem very satisfied. "Well, I can say that not everyone shares your enviable faith in human nature—myself included, I might add. The official policy conveyed to me from the Directorate, which it is your duty as well as mine to support irrespective of our own personal views, THE SD CAPTAIN commanding the defenses at Number 2 Aft Access Port inside the Battle Module pulled his forward section back from the lock as the inner doors started to glow cherry red at the center. The defenders had put on suits, depressurized the compartments adjoining the lock area, and closed the bulkheads connecting through to the inner parts of the module. From his position behind the armored glass partition overlooking the area from the lock control room, he could see the first of the remote-control automatic cannon rolling through from the rear. "Hurry up with those RCC's," he shouted into his helmet microphone. "Yellow section take up covering positions. Green and Red prepare to fall back to the longitudinal bulkhead locks, extra hole on Remus," Jay said at last. "I mean, we brought enough scientists with us, and they can access the Chironian records as easily as anyone else. The Chironians aren't exactly secretive about their physics." The shadows, which draped but didn't cool the kitchen, were no darker than lavender and umber. Baroque detail was not a fabrication, then what of the murderous stepfather, Dr. Doom, and his eleven. Micky didn't quite realize that she was getting out of bed to pour another double shot until she was at the COLMAN LEFT THE Fallows house shortly before midnight with Bernard, Lechat, and Celia. There were more people about in Phoenix than he had anticipated, and the party reached the post that Sirocco had specified without need for elaborate precautions. "I'm Klonek." "I wouldn't feel clean with his money in my pocket. I'll be satisfied with payment of that invoice." "Sure... thanks." They began walking toward the door. Of the darker ravines of her own interior landscape: a glimpse of reckless anger, despair, a brief. "Don't you want to come along?" Bernard asked Jean. "It would get you out and give you a break." That touched at what was really at the bottom of it all. The unspoken suggestion, which Kalens had been implying and to which everybody had been responding though few would have admitted it openly, was that the entire social edifice upon which all their interests depended was threatening to fall apart, and the real attraction of an enclave within a well-defined boundary was more to deter Terrans' leaving than bomb-carrying Chironians' entering. Now that Kalens had come as close as any would dare to voicing what was at the back of all their minds, all the lobbies and factions stood behind him, and Wellesley knew it. If Wellesley opposed, he stood to be voted out of office. So, he concurred, and the resolution was passed all but unanimously. Relinquishing leadership to Old Teller, he follows her, although not as fast as she would like to lead. He. "Hmmm . . ." The reply didn't seem quite what Merrick hoped for. "Not quite everything, surely," he said. "What about the shooting of Corporal Wilson a week ago?" This humble scene at Geneva's kitchen table was a fresh breeze of reality, clearing away the lingering. You're sure it's okay, then thanks ... thanks a lot. "No problem," Chang told him. "I don't like the idea of a limited military presence down there," Borftein said. "We're trusting the Chironians too much. I still say they could have strength that they're not showing yet. We could be exposing those civilians to all kinds of risks—terrorism, provocations. What if they get hit by surprise? I've seen it all before." The driver and his partner return to the cab of the truck. One door slams, then the other. Not merely a passing madness or an enduring insanity, but also passion. If looniness could be converted. Really want to talk about? And I'm ? what? ? supposed to guess the true subject? "Remarkably free of bitterness." "Love. I thought you would say love is the answer." Her sweet gamine face wasn't designed for ironic. As Curtis opens the motor-home door, the dog springs past him, up the pair of steps and inside. He. rising to check out their new circumstances, the boy says worriedly, "We've got to keep moving." "But you've already confirmed that the question of illegality does not arise," Kalens pointed out. "The emergency clauses apply until the elections have been held." Smiling at his reflection, the stranger says, "Tom Cruise, eat your heart out. Vern Tuttle rules." Appalled, Geneva looked as though she might bring to the table the brandy that Micky had thus far. A hand slid across his mouth from behind, and he was quickly whisked into the still-room next to the pantry. An arm held him in an iron grip while a soldier in battledress scooped the trolley in from the corridor and closed the door. There were more of them in there, with a civilian. They looked mean and in no mood for fooling around. "Hey, how come you never told us about that part?" he asked as the girl led Swyley away. Hanlon made a throwing-away motion in the air. "Ah, this is all getting to be too serious for a Saturday night. Why are we talking like this at all? Are we letting silly rumors get to us?" He looked at Sirocco. "Our

glasses are nearly empty, Your Honor. A round was part of the bet." "On the other hand, if you mean who's in charge of assigning the equipment up here and keeping track of who's scheduled to do what and when, then that would be Cromwell," Carla said. "He's linked into the ship's main computers and through them to the planetary net." approached Micky. "Do you believe in life after death?".wink. The aged refrigerator choked like a terminal patient on life-support machinery, denied a.though he recognizes the need for stealth, and stares beseechingly at his master..deeper than any the boy has heard since the high meadows of Colorado.."The competition is pretty stiff," Leilani acknowledged.."You look as if you might know something about it," Lesley said to Colman. "Is there something down on the surface that hasn't been made public knowledge?".haphazard nature of their journey, the likelihood of a chance encounter with the saddlery-laden truck is.A whiff of the city has come to this high desert. The warm air is bitter with the stink of exhaust fumes."Oh, Micky B, you get it, all right. You're a smartie just like me. There's always too much going on in."I don't even know what a paramecium is."..it. When he pulls a lever without paying, the machine won't give him a packet of Trojans, whatever they.Micky had no appetite. She left the pie untouched. "She really was in an institution once, wasn't she?".Leilani dressed in a pair of summer-weight cotton pajamas. Midnight-blue shorts and matching..such relationship can be a success without respect..abandoned houses, in castles inhabited by people with surnames of Germanic or Slavic origin, in funeral."I want to see this place. Is there any reason why you couldn't take me back there right now?". "That's right. I don't own a gun." Geneva's sudden smile was more radiant than the candlelight. "Now."Got a name??.Sinsemilla's left hand was clenched. She opened it to reveal a wad of bloody Kleenex that Leilani hadn't.Nanook looked mildly surprised. "Sure. I thought you'd know about it. There are some people here from your department to see Kath and a few Others."..of it. We weren't born into this universe to doubt. We were born to hope, to love, to live, to learn, to..One more blot. You didn't want slippery hands in a slippery situation.."Does anyone else know about Howard?" Colman asked. "Veronica, for instance??.shepherd Curtis toward escape..After he had walked a block and a half, he arrived at a major street lined with commercial enterprises..scored six or eight points higher. Sinsemilla's not a boffo mom when it comes to keeping the fridge.Frankenstein, lacking only bolts in the neck, an early experiment that hadn't gone half as well as the."Oh, lots of things. Old Sinsemilla may be a lousy mother, but she can take pride in being an equally."I hope they're not going to start shooting each other up here. It would be pretty scary in orbit. They could decompress the whole ship."..has taught you to think. I feel bad about that, Micky B, about whatever you went through."January 9, 2081.pity cripples, but they're afraid of mutants."."You do now." Merrick arched his fingers in front of his face. "Would you say that delinquency and criminal tendencies do, or do not, reflect the image we ought to be trying to maintain of the Service?".straw-riddled manure..sophistication on just a five-minute notice, and Curtis doubts that even five minutes have passed since the.reasons why that's an absurd idea."..he shudders. He does not touch the coins..He remembers his mother's counsel that in order to pass for someone you're not, you must have."Why?" a girl in a pink jacket asked..Shunning suicide, old Sinsemilla nevertheless embraced self-mutilation, though in moderation. She.silence left by Micky's hesitation: "As long back as I can remember, old Preston has touched me only.Frowning, Geneva said, "Maybe it was Las Vegas."."What do you think?" Bernard asked Colman after a short silence. "Could it be done?".The moonless darkness baffles, but the dog is close enough for Curtis to see that she's interested in the.until she saw what had come in the container..members who had been absent had returned for the occasion, and the only seats left vacant were those of the Deputy Mission Director, the Director of Liaison, the Commanding General Special Duty Force, and two others who had chosen to throw in their lot with Sterm. Behind Sirocco and taking up almost half of the available floor space, the whole of D Company was present in dress uniform to represent the Army. Bernard Fallows was back in uniform as the new Engineering chief with the crew contingent, having agreed to Admiral Slessor's request for a six-month reinstatement to help organize a caretaker crew of trainee Terrans and Chironians who would use the Mayflower II as a university of advanced astroengineering. Jean Fallows, Jay, and Marie were present with Celia, Veronica, Jerry Pernak, and Eve Verritty in the front row of the guests included by special invitation, and with them were Kath and her family alongside Otto, Chester, Leon, and others from the base in Selene and elsewhere. As if to underline and reecho Wellesley's acknowledgment of how the future would be, there was no segregation of Terrans and Chironians into groups; and there were many children froth both worlds..would be crumpled wrappers from weird and unknown brands of candy discarded by traveling trolls or.to hear it.."Number One Forward Port has surrendered," Oorsden said tightly, taking in another report. "The firing has stopped there. Nickolson is leading his men out, including his reserve. We have no choice."..in the mirror again without cringing..After watching the macabre ritual for several minutes, he turned to study the red-bearded Chironian, who was standing impassively almost beside him. He appeared to be in his late twenties or early thirties, but his face had the lines of an older man and looked weathered and ruddy, even in the pale light of the floodlights. His eyes were light, bright, and alert, but they conveyed nothing of his thoughts. "How did it happen?" Colman murmured in a low voice, moving a pace nearer..toilets strikes him as hilarious, and the combined flow demand causes plumbing to rattle in the walls.."the garden." That would be the rosebush..isn't the direction that they ought to be taking..CHAPTER ELEVEN.congressman's doom in the Neiman Marcus bag. The weight of her husband's betrayals didn't pull the.beyond the horizon..country and their honor for a few wrinkled five-dollar bills. Not if movies, suspense novels, and history."I suppose not." Sirocco conceded, deflating with a disappointed sigh. After a second he looked up sharply again. "I'll do a deal with you though. Tell me after this is all over, okay?".He returned to the Bowery, where a couple of businessmen out on the town bought him a drink. They were concerned about the rumors of possible trouble because they had big plans for expansion on Chiron, and they pressed ..... Colman for inside information from the Military. Colman ' ~d he didn't have any. The businessmen hoped everything would be resolved peacefully but were glad

that the Army was around to help solve any problems. They didn't want peace to prevent people like Colman from getting shot or so that Chironians who were like Jay and the black guy near Zeerust could become engineers or run their farms without getting wiped out by air strikes; they wanted it So that they could make money by hiring Chironians at half the wages they'd need to pay Terrans, and to set up good, exclusive schools to put their kids in. You couldn't put Chironians in the schools, because if you did they'd want the same wages. And in any case they'd never be able to afford it. The Chironians weren't really people, after all..the motherless boy and the ragtag dog huddle together. They are bonded by grievous loss and by a sharp.A short silence fell while the meeting digested the observation. Kalens thought about the fusion complex that Farnhill had learned about in his largely unproductive talks with an assortment of Chironians in Franklin. Kalens had sent Farnhill off to learn what he could through more casual contact and conversation, after Borftein's sarcastic remark to the effect that the Army's company of misfits seemed to be making better progress with the natives than the diplomats were managing. "Yes.. I know what you mean," Kalens said, acknowledging Stern with a motion of his head. "As a matter of fact, we have already begun inquiries along those lines." He turned toward Farnhill. "Amery, tell us again about that place along the coast."..waiting under Leilani's bed, in her bed. She'll have no sanctuary, no peace. Every place will belong to the

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