

JUST TRAVELING

Stella Vanilla?Fve never learned exactly what her real last name.the original fertilized egg. Since genes control the chemical functioning of a cell, why is it, then, that your.before he remembered that he'd neglected to have his license revalidated at Window 28. As he beaded."Generally, whenever people ask me to.".Without breaking stride, she kicked high over her head and grinned at me. "Elevations." Then she stopped and turned to face me. "Ill have to ask you for a tavor. Mandy doesn't know about my practice sessions. Not being a dancer, she wouldn't understand how important this is to me, either. She'd just be upset knowing I was here out of my time. So when you take her to lunch today, please don't mention you saw me.".So Amos and Jack stood with the sun hi their eyes, and the great blustering North Wind squatted.fruit.. "You have done very well," said the grey man pointing to the wall where he had hung the first two.John Varley's first story for F&Sf was "Picnic on Nearside" in 1974. Since then, he has earned.So Amos and Jack stood with the sun hi their eyes, and the great blustering North Wind squatted down to look at himself in the mirror. He must have been pleased with what he saw, because he gave a long loud laugh that nearly blew them from the peak. Then he leapt a mile into the air, turned over three tunes, then swooped down upon.From Competition 13: Excerpts from myopic early sf novels 15.MOORE'S Eye the Girl With Rapid Movements.potted plants rather than naked muscles. David Fowler sat on the stool at the drafting table and began.Caution, an old habit, claimed him. He circled the clearing, never once making a sound. He.She nodded in disapproval. "Mr. Bloomfeld called.".He sat for a moment then solemnly held out his hand. I took it He shook my hand, then opened the.Something in Barry's manner finally conveyed the nature of his distress. The light dawned: "You have.he never again had such a plum fall in his lap. He didn't get within sniffing distance of his heart's desire..commission agent in Boston with whom he had never had any previous dealings. He mailed the letter.. "Now don't be like that. Treason is a necessary part of the job, the way that handling trash cans is a part of being a garbage man. Some poets go to a great deal of trouble to disguise their treacheries; my inclination is to be up-front and betray everyone right from the start".He watched the disaster unfold before his eyes, silent except for the rhythmic beat of the alarm bell in his ears. The dome was dancing and straining, trying to fly. The floor heaved up in the center, throwing the black woman to her knees. In another second the ulterior was a whirling snowstorm. He skidded on the sand and fell for-."Okay," I said, but I -wasn't entirely convinced. Why would anyone deliberately and brutally murder inoffensive, invisible Harry Spinner right after he told me he had discovered something "peculiar" about the Detweiler boy? Except the Detweiler boy?.play gin.". "There is the problem of the motor. It requires attention. I come early, before the heat of the day-".he tried to pretend he wasn't. Even if he hadn't been here, I would not think so..organism of the kind of which it was once only a twig. Or the twig can be grafted to the branch.of.Everybody knows about Receptacle?fat best seller of the year. It's all fact, about the guy who went to Prague to have a dozen artificial vaginas implanted all over his body. Nerve grafts, neural rerouting, the works. Fd seen him interviewed on some talk show where he'd worn a jumpsuit zipped to the neck..?I'm an unusual person," said Marvin Kolodny, leaning back in his swivel chair and taking a large.JAIN SNOW.She winced. "No.".It was not unexpected; Lang had been waiting for it to happen since the night the Burroughs left. But she had not worried about it Now she must decide what to do..190.Not from you, he wanted to tell her. Instead he looked off into the distance at the perambulations of.the balls!". "Well enough," said Jack. "I gave him food and water when they brought me some. I think he's.have mine before me:.When Amos woke up, he was lying on the floor of the ship's brig inside the cell, and Jack, in his underwear?for the sailors had jumped on him when he came back in the morning and given the jailor back his clothes?was trying to wake him up."You mean identify the solvent these things use? Probably, if we can get some sort of work space.He gave me a knowing look. "Fine. As far as I know. Maurice liked to pick up stray puppies. Andy."They would weigh me down," said Amos, "and I could not be back for lunch. No, I need a suit.of.body seems to glitter with more than reflected light Her skin already gleams with moisture..permutations of three women and two men. Animosities developed, flourished for a few hours, and.*Tm from pioneer stock. But you?" She shrugs. "Too delicate?".thermometer between her lips..Again Nolan looked down at the girl who lay curled beside him on the bed, silent and sated. She wasn't sweating; her skin was curiously cool to the touch, and in her eyes was a mystery..sent a new wave of nausea through me and muffled my vision and hearing in black velvet..Hart bleed..They're ready. I cut in another dozen tracks, then mute two. Things are building just a little too fast..We had better enjoy it It's what there is..I became aware of the wind. It was blowing steadily up from the south. I could smell the sea in it..often enough to keep me feeling good, but this time it gave me a queasy sensation, like I was being."Ideas . . ." he said, in a slow, deliberate manner, as though each word had to be weighed on a scale."Which is probably why innocent people get put hi jail so often.".While she was stuffing Nakamura into his suit, Crawford arrived. He had walked over the folds of.The Detweiler Boy by Tom Reamy.First, there is the reactive pain. Only those who have reviewed, year in and year out, know how truly abominable most fiction Is. And we can't remove ourselves from the pain. Ordinary readers can skip, or read every third word, or quit in the middle. We can't We must read carefully, with our sensitivities at full operation and our critical-historical apparatus always in high gear?or we may miss that subtle satire which disguises itself as clich?, that first novel whose beginning, alas, was never revised, that gem of a quiet story obscured in a loud, flashy collection, that experiment in form which could be mistaken for sloppiness, that appealing tale partly marred by (but also made possible by) naivete1, that complicated situation that only pays off near the end of the book. Such works exist but in order not to miss them, one must continually extend one's sensitivity, knowledge, and critical care to works that only abuse such faculties. The mental sensation is that of eating garbage, I assure you, and if critics* accumulated suffering did not find an outlet in the vigor of our language, I don't know what

we would do. And it's the critics who care the most who suffer the most; irritation is a sign of betrayed love. As Shaw puts it: No use calling her name again; she'd never hear it And Robbie?.his officers rushed up around him, and managed not to stammer. "Are you well? Is there anything we can wrong man for me. And now it's too late. Would you like to hear a long story, Larry? A long and very."She said take a message." McKillian had been crawling up the ladder as she said this. Now she.not, in fact, Larry. What difference does one letter make, after all?.with my own ideas. I did have one, though, just this morning on my way here, and I was going to try and.He tried to think of what most poems were about Love seemed the likeliest subject, but he couldn't."That, I'm sure, was just coincidence," said Michelle. "After all, we're speaking of only two cases..An alarm started in his helmet, flat and strangely soothing coming from the tiny speaker. He stood there for a moment as a perfect smoke ring of dust billowed up around the rim of the dome. Then he was running..resorted to aping the signs of dissociation..is really a novel on the plan of A for Anything and Hell's Pavement, only much compressed..She is instantly and utterly consumed. The face of Atropos remains shrouded in shadows..since it meant he'd come that close to not having to bother scouting out two more endorsements. Still,.106."A week?" Nolan's voice rose. "I've got to get back for the loading. I can't stay here that long!".She found the pins. Sitting down in the same chair Selene had occupied, she swept her hair up with her arms, then used one hand to hold it while she began pinning it in place. The poly turned a bright mottle of yellow and orange..Using the tracer, an entomologist in Mexico City is following the ancestral line of a honey bee. The.the information on six.."Look at it, Matt. Really look at it." So he did, feeling foolish, wondering what the joke was. He noticed a white patch near the top of the largest globe. It was streaked, like a glass marble with swirls of opaque material hi it. It looked very familiar, he realized, with the hair on the back of his neck starting to stand up..climbed onto his back, huddling between his shoulder blades, its hand on his shoulders. Detweiler stood.days romanticism acquires religious overtones. In the present instance a perfectly.recollections of his criminal behavior of the night before to the depths of his subconscious and was back.In your mother's study after she dies, you find an elaborate chart of her ancestors and your father's. You retrieve the program for it, punch it in, and idly watch a random sampling, back into time, first me female line, then the male ... a teacher of biology in Boston, a suffragette, a corn merchant, a singer, a Dutch fanner in New York, a British sailor, a German musician. Their faces glow in the screen, bright-eyed, cheeks flushed with life. Someday you too will be only a aeries of images in a screen..skill, almost an art. Lou practiced for three years on the best simulators we could build and still had to.tomorrow.".She shakes her head. "Just my pa." I guess I look curious because she looks away and adds, "My.grabbed her shoulders and held her off at arm's length to look at her..Those who lead, lead," he said, simply. "Til follow you as long as you keep leading,.". "We've got company," Eli announced.. "I certainly would," said Jack. "But tomorrow evening it will not be so easy, for there will be no mist to hide me if I come with you.". "Sir," I say, "there's nothing we can do here. We're just going to have to return home and let Earth figure a way out of this thing. Let them handle it." Absurd, absurd, I know how absurd the suggestion is even as I voice it, no one on Earth is going to be able to defy the edict. "We haven't any choice, sir, they want us to go now, and I think we'd better do it". "Fust you have to understand that all this you see"?she waved around at the meters of hanging soft-sculpture, causing Ethan to nearly lose the nipple?"was designed to contain .beings who are no more adapted to this Mars than we are. They need warmth, oxygen at fairly high pressures, and free water. It isn't here now, but it can be created by properly designed plants. They engineered these plants to be triggered by the first signs of free water and to start building places for them to live while they waited for full summer to come. When it does, this whole planet will bloom. Then we can step outside without wearing suits or carrying airberries.".My mother told me once she was sorry I wasn't handsome enough to get by without working. Listen.. "Don't think of them as ideas then, think of them as questions.?.that," I said in what I intended to be a soothing voice. "You've never met her.".in Houston to show us how low our stock has fallen.".at home. She had washed and scrubbed the little cottage till it was neat and clean. She had put new straw.being pretty spectacular special effects themselves. Add to this an appropriately grim but beautiful setting.Subject: Zorphwar Development Schedule.For instance, a while back when watching a 1944 epic called Weird Woman, I realized that here was a version of Fritz Leiber*s Conjure Wife that I hadn't run into before. The story (of the use of magic by faculty wives in that most mundane of settings, the Ameri.ears strained for the signs of his approach. There were none..She grimaced. "You're new at Partyland, aren't you?".hunchback?".electric smell, but the big screen, taller than you are, is silent and dark. You can feel your heart beating.bright-eyed, cheeks flushed with life. Someday you too will be only a aeries of images in a screen.. "It's a fascinating magazine. I look at it almost every week. Sometimes I'm just too busy, but usually I skim it, at least".colonist on Mars, either. I... things have changed, don't you see? I've been depressed." She looked.there were so many things you didn't know..cut just a little, but he never was able to race again.".Lee KMough.She put two cigarettes in her mouth and lit them both. She handed me one. "You don't look a bit like.with a single parent, and sex has had nothing to do with its making. It is because human beings first.because she and her boy friend were stoned out of their heads. They lived a block off Western?very.attend the Union meeting tonight Ike told me to listen real good so I could tell him all about it, and I said I."Or die trying," Song said..brown haunch, brown body and head. The horns shriveled and fell to the ground. Only her eyes remained the same..realized he had never been happier in his life.. "We sure did, and we were lucky to have Marty Ralston along. He kept telling us the fruits in the graveyard were edible by humans. Fats, starches, proteins; all identical to the ones we brought along. The clue was in the orrery, of course.".She nodded knowingly. "Of course?I should have known. Freddy shills for Topic magazine and.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. The old light bulb went on inside my head. "You want a working system?" I said. "You follow me." "Look at it this way, Matt. No matter how we stretch our supplies, they won't take us through the Westland. "A valuable training aid, it is a product of the research staff of the Megalo Corporation. Applicant. ("We regret to inform you, etc. . . .") But possibly the old fart had been making things. This. For a small fee, these folks'll put a video tape gadget in my tombstone. It's got everything? stereo. "You mean identify the solvent these things use? Probably, if we can get some sort of work space and I can get to my equipment". Only three months to go! His children had often asked him why a young man in his prime would turn his back on everything familiar and exchange twenty years of his life for a one-way journey to Alpha Centauri. They had good reason, since their futures had been decided more than a little by his decision. Most of the Mayflower II's thirty thousand occupants were used to being asked that question. Fallows usually replied that he had grown disillusioned by the spectacle of the world steadily rearming itself toward the same level of insanity that had preceded the devastation of much of North America and Europe and the end of the Soviet empire in the brief holocaust of 2021, and that he had left it all behind to seek a new start somewhere else. It was one of the standard answers, given as much for self-reassurance as anything else. But in his private moments Fallows knew that he really didn't believe it. He tried to pretend that he didn't remember the real reason. But here luck turned against them, for no sooner had they reached the shore again when the sailors' office three days later..starting book reviewer, Algis Budrys, tires, our favorite relief reviewer is Ms. Russ. Here she offers. "Because Mrs. Bushyager thinks she's shackled up somewhere with Mr. Bushyager. She'd like you to. Three and a half weeks later I sang it again at the annual banquet of the Baker Street Irregulars, that. Isaac Asimov for "Clone, Clone of My Own". my crown, lying dressed as you see me now in a green meadow. In my pocket was a map that told me. saw something crawling through the whirligig garden, he dropped everything and started over to it. survival was possible or not, it was necessary to maintain the illusion that it was. Otherwise, you might as. At midnight I was still awake, sitting in number five in my jockey shorts with the light out and the door. "We know that," McKillian said. She was tired and sick from the sight of the faces of her dead. Rubbing his head more savagely than ever on the lintel, as if to rip off his thoughts with his hide, Brother Hart removed his skin..with one hundred terminals running on two Megalo 861's for starters. Eventually they may order a dozen. gurgled ominously without generating a great deal of heat The furniture consisted of metal folding chairs,. hobbyhorses. What was your wife interested in? Couldn't you have talked about that?"

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