

STELLAR FOX

Three weeks later, the Tharsis Canyon had been transformed into a child's garden of toys. Crawford, having thoroughly enjoyed his company, but unfortunately they'd both used up their quota for that. Ten minutes later, Sirocco had worked out a hastily contrived fire-plan with his executive officer and relayed details to First, Second, and Fourth platoons, and Colman had briefed Third Platoon via his section leader. Colman secured and checked his equipment; unloaded, reloaded, and rechecked his M32 assault cannon; checked and inventoried his ammunition. "Good morning," I said and showed him my ID. He blanched. His eyes became marbles brimming with terror. He was about to panic, tensing to slam the door. I smiled my friendly, disarming smile and went on as if I hadn't noticed. "I'm inquiring about a man named Andrew Detweiler." The terror trickled from his eyes, and I could see his thin chest throbbing. He gave me a blank look that meant he'd never heard the name. Dame Fortune had become so well-disposed to him that he got his third endorsement (though in a tall lithe man with hair, eye shadow, and fingernails striped fuchsia and lavender, broke off from the group. charm to her loose topknot of copper hair and high-waisted Regency-style dress. He wrote down the coordinates for the plane crash in which his daughter and her husband had died. Barry refused to believe her. Neither the woman nor her apartment corresponded with his preconceptions of poets and the necessarily indigent life they must lead. "Have you ever published a book?" he asked craftily. . . . dearest. . . . natural, effortless result of any vital relationship. Ideas are what happen when people connect with each other. I called Amanda at noon. Without mentioning the note, I asked about her cooking. . . . A clone is any organism (or group of organisms) that arises out of a cell (or group of cells) by means. Then all the blankets fell away, and a man with more colors on him than Amos had ever seen sat up. and told me that he and his nearest and dearest Mend would find the mirror all for themselves. . . . "That's no use. The doctor says it's a miracle he's still breathing. If he wakes up at all, he won't be anything like you knew him. The telemetry shows nothing like the normal brain wave. Now I've got to talk to Commander Lang. Have her come up." The voice of Mission Commander Weinstein was accustomed to command, and about as emotional as a weather report. restaurants, two movie theaters, and a children's playground. . . . Ma, I'm all right. There's nothing wrong with working the concert circuit. I'm working damned hard now. . . . "Amanda," I called. . . . We're above timberline, and the mountainside is too stark for my taste. I suddenly miss the rounded. . . . "Ye Gods! Why doesn't she go to the police?" . . . "Then what are the treasures?" Amos asked, full of curiosity. . . . we saw your light. . . . into his palanquin and clapped his hands. We stared after it as the four black bearers bore it away. . . . ground. Only her eyes remained the same. . . . When you can get it. "We'll never catch her then!" Nolan gripped Moises' shoulder. "Don't you understand? She's taken the second hatchway behind the wheelhouse. . . . Would I want to? . . . Now, as the drums sounded in the distance, Nina slept Unmindful of the din, heedless of his. . . . 4th. . . . In fact, the controls on this machine are unfamiliar, the little viewers you have used all your life have no word of farewell. Her thoughts were on the hunter, the man of the wolves. She never doubted he. . . . I'm a poet. . . . When Columbine had finally run the gamut of all her feelings, which included fear, anger, joy, pain, and an abiding and entirely unreasoning sense of dread, she thanked him, gave him her address and phone number, and said to get his touch in January for his endorsement. "Done!" . . . IX. you'll have plenty of time after dinner." And Brace: "Aw, okay. All cut's in free." And once more they have not found you; your secret place is yours alone. . . . Lee Killough has written a series of superior stories for F&SF that share a common theme (the future of the arts) and background (an artist's colony called Aventine). The tales are completely separate entities and may be enjoyed on their own. This one concerns the visit to Aventine of Selene and Amanda, two different personalities that snare the body of one beautiful young woman. . . . She went on like that, whispering about creatures half-serpent and half-human, with bodies cold to the touch. The years Fallows remembered had come later, when the slender fingers of gleaming new cities were beginning to claw skyward once more from the deserts of rubble, and new steel and aluminum plants were humming and pounding while on the other side of the world China and India Japan wrestled for control over the industrial and commercial might of the 'East. Those had been stirring years, vibrant years, inspiring years. Fallows remembered the floodlit parades . . . in Washington on the Fourth of July—the color and the splendor of the massed bands, the columns of marching soldiers with uniforms glittering and flags flying, the anthems and hymns rising on the voices of tens of thousands packed into Capitol Square, where the famous building had once stood. He remembered strutting into a high-school ball in his just acquired uniform of the American New Order Youth Corps and pretending haughtily not to notice the admiring looks following him wherever he went. How he had bragged to his envious friends after the tint weekend of war gaming with the Army in the New Mexico desert . . . the exhilaration when America reestablished a permanently manned base on the Moon. . . . "Good morning, Mr. Gordon." She smiled, leaving me breathless. "Where are we going?" . . . We looked. It was that long black palanquin again. Out of it stepped the King. . . . "Thank you very much," said Amos and hurried off to the wheel-house. When he found the second hatchway, he went down very quickly and was just about to go to the barred cell when he saw the grimy sailor with the great iron key? who must be the jailor as well, thought Amos. . . . At the bottom of the pool is a piece of mirror. Can you be back by lunch?" . . . saw me. . . . "Oh, my nearest and dearest friend," said the grey man, "I had almost forgotten you. Forgive me." He took from his pocket an envelope, and from the envelope he took a large, fluttering moth. "This flew in my window last night," he said. The wings were pale blue, with brown bands on the edges, and the undersides were flecked with spots of gold. He pushed in a long metal flap at the side of the trunk, very like a mail slot, and slid the moth inside. . . . In the swamp, Amos waited until the prince had found him. "Did you have any trouble?" Amos. Why do we do it? . . . "Ten," he insisted. "Ten is a lot". . . . hobbyhorses. What was your wife interested in? Couldn't you have talked about that? . . . There was another twisting of the facial features. Amanda, her voice rising, said, "You can't do this, Selene.

You're cheating." I am fortunate in that, unlike Hollywood, F&SF seems to be largely immune from trends. The magazine has a reputation for offering variety, and to uphold that image, it seems to me that it must carefully avoid trends and formulas in an effort to publish a balance of different types of fantasy and sf. And so we continue to look for good writing and fresh ideas and entertaining narratives, and once those general criteria are satisfied, we take on whatever seems to be pleasing our writers at the time. That's the best way I know of pleasing our leaders.. "What about the window? Was it locked too?" The payoff. The precision-engineered and carefully timed upslope leading to climax. The Big. "Good evening," Amos said. "How are you?" doorman so he wouldn't have to wait out in the cold..sixty-track stim by RobCal. "I can help." "But if she knows?" I began, then, as her light went out entirely, said, "I'm sorry; I didn't mean to." "What is that stuff?" .versions of *Midsummer Night's Dream*. And yet more to come: As the science fiction and fantasy films.216.He smiled at her. "No, honey, but maybe there's some hi the ship." She seemed satisfied. She would.science fiction, mysteries, biographies, philosophy, several by Colin Wilson..wrote a story and sent it to a magazine. They bought it; paid me fifty dollars. Thought I was rich, so I.love the tenant directory. All the names seemed to be male, but none of them was Andrew Detweiler.. "Generally, whenever people ask me to." Ralston. They were waiting, and she had to blush and smile slowly at them..door had a heavy-duty bolt that couldn't be fastened or unfastened from the outside. The window beside.time when science fiction magazines, and pulp magazines generally, were going strong, and when a young. Therefore, in accordance with Bylaw 9(c), Section XII, of the Revised Federal Communications Act, I've got to admit, though, that before I yelled my nay I had a bad moment. I'm still not sure I did right. Suppose the Company Representative was telling the truth and the Project really is for the benefit of common people like ourselves? If that's so, then we aren't acting in our own best interests at all; we're just pulling the rug out from under our own feet..he was pushing her. I try to change the subject. "Your father didn't come down to the first concert, did he? Is he coming.to bed. Just before he fell asleep, he thought: I could call them and tell them what I thought..Late in February he bought a house and an electronics dealership in a small town in the Adirondacks. In March he signed over his interest in the company to his partner, cleaned out his lab and left He Bold his co-op apartment in Manhattan and his summer house in Connecticut, moved to his new home and became anonymous.. "That's no use. The doctor says it's a miracle he's still breathing. If he wakes up at all, he won't be.make you sleep much better than all the air hi the world." "Where're you from?" I asked. "I don't place the accent".turned murky green. There was a soft whisper of crushing pile, then a tide of scarlet and purple eddied.naturally available. We've altered the biome. Does anyone know where the exhaust air from the dome.Quick as a light switch he could feel his throat go dry and his face tighten into a smile of rigid.deliberately difficult, testing him, possibly his reactions hadn't been that entirely inappropriate. Possibly."I suppose you'll be anxious to go to the ship," he said. "You're going to be a tremendous help. You." "We like it here. It's a good place to raise a family, not like Earth the last time I was there. And it couldn't be much better now, right after another war. And we can't leave, even if we wanted to." She flashed him a dazzling smile and patted the ground again..slowly turning. His back is to you; you know you are safe, and you sit up. A jay passes with a whirl of.people. What one does is legally binding on the other." .chosen another realty agent or come some other season. I was alone, though, in the boredom of autumn.long loud laugh that nearly blew them from the peak. Then he leapt a mile into the air, turned over three.Driscoll spoke into the microphone boom projecting from his helmet. "Red Three, routine check." This would leave an innocuous record in the automatic signal logging system. In the darkness Driscoll pressed a key to deactivate the recording channel momentarily. "You're showing a light, shitheads. Douse it or cover it." His finger released the key. "Report status, LCP".He looked at me, grinned, and shrugged..There was another twisting of the facial features. Amanda, her voice rising, said, "You can't do this, 'em never been more than thirty miles from the place they were born, never saw an electric light? You.We sped through the city in what I judged to be a locomotive, although there were no tracks. "What.The thing was twenty centimeters long, almost round, and dome-shaped. It had a hard shell on top..she is free can you rule in your own land.' There was an explosion, and when I woke up, I was without.In general, though, complex animals and, in particular, vertebrates do not clone but engage in sexual.discussion of the morality of our involvement in Mexico, when a black woman in a white nylon jumpsuit."Tell her I'll get on it Monday." She opened her mouth. "If you say anything about my bank account,.die Twin Rivers gleamed like gold in the morning sun..I got back to my office at six. Miss Tremaine sat primly at her desk, cleared of everything but her purse and a notepad. She reminded me quite a lot of Desmond. "What are you still doing here, Miss Tremaine? You should've left an hour ago." I sat at my desk, leaned back until the swivel chair groaned twice, and propped my feet up..Thomas M. Disch.The end result will be that though my clones, or some of them, might turn out to be valuable citizens."It's a ... what's the word? Orrery. It's an orrery." Crawford had to stand up and shake his head to.He shrugged. "I saw him yesterday afternoon. I was out last night . . . until quite late." "Would it be worth all the pearls you could put in your pockets, all the gold you could carry in one." "I am Amos and this is Jack, Prince of the Far Rainbow," said.toes or larynxes. And some opinions are worth a good deal more than others.. "The nature of the beast," he mutters, almost sadly, and smacks the palm of his gloved hand against.by SAMUEL R. DELANY.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..Jain soars to the climax. I shove the slides all the way forward The crowd is on its feet; I have never been so frightened in my life..where we can and adapt it to us where we can. For that, we're better oft than most of the colonists of the past, at least for the short term. We have a large supply of everything a colony needs: food, water, tools, raw materials, energy, brains, and women. Without these things, no colony has much of a chance. All we lack is a regular resupply from the home country, but a really good group of colonists can get along without that. What do you say? Are you all with me?".When Amos came up to the ship with the mirror under

his arm, he called, "Here's your mirror..Corporation and their ability to respond quickly to any technical challenge..?I'm freezing and I'm icy and I'm chilling. . . ".In another half hour I said I had to call it a night. I had to get up early the next morning. I always."Low-level trend projection," the subcenter executive computer replied through a small grille set to one side of Fallow's console. "Booster vee-sub-three's looking as if it's going to start running hot again. Correlation integral sixty-seven, check function positive, expansion index eight-zero."."That's fascinating, isn't it?" the Usher concluded, after setting forth further facts about this remarkable department store..My mother told me once she was sorry I wasn't handsome enough to get by without working. Listen, Ma, I'm all right. There's nothing wrong with working the concert circuit. I'm working damned hard

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