

THE CACHE AND OTHER STORIES

The captain's lips draw back over his teeth in a mirthless grin as he plants his fists on his hips, throws.see his face, but he lay in sleep like a man who was no stranger to the bed..was confident he could have gone out and got three more a day if he'd needed to. He was off the hook..They've got practically all their strength out on the flanks both ways along the gorge," Swyley announced. "There are some units moving down the opposite slope, but they won't be in position for about another thirty minutes." The glow from the screen highlighted the mystified look that flashed across his face. He shrugged. "Right now they're wide open, right down below us..".My father could have been President but for Margot Randall. The woman was rapacious, vulgar, egocentric, and totally amoral. She nearly drove my father mad before he realized there was no helping her..At long last the Mediator has got both sides to agree to another meeting. It's to take place tomorrow morning. I think the Organizer should back down a little?settle, say, for a ten-percent raise and forget the fringe benefits. True, it's only been two weeks since we walked off the job, but Debbie and I have already run up a sizable food bill at the Mom & Pop store around the corner, what's left of our savings will just about cover the rent, and I'm smoking Bugler instead of Winstons. And any day now, as Debbie keeps reminding me, we're going to have another mouth to feed. Feeding it doesn't worry me half so much as paying the hospital and doctor bills..I don't recall seeing your name anywhere. Miss Nesbitt said it was Andrew Detweiler?".Robert F. Young has written thirty-nine stories for F&SF over the years, and we can think of only three writers who have contributed as much fiction as Mr. Young (Poul Andersen, A warn Davidson, and Ron Goulart). A Robert Young story is always a pleasure because its high quality is as predictable as its subject matter is unpredictable. Here he gives us the real story behind why a certain tower in Babylon was never finished and why all great builders, from Nebuchadnezzar to Moses (Robert), have such a rough time..negotiations..She's older than I am, four, maybe five years; but she looks like she's in her middle teens. Jain's tall, with a tumbleweed bush of red hair; her face isn't so much pretty as it is intense. I've never known anyone who didn't want to make love to her. "When you're a star," she said once, half drunk, "you're not hung up about taking the last cookie on the plate..".Ike and I remained on the apron below..As a historian, he felt he could not let such a moment slip by unobserved. Silly, but there it was. He.broadly. "Poor Vestal Virgin. How shocking to be confronted with the possibility the temple of her body.long-term survival..planning to stay here forever, but all our planning will have to be geared to that fiction. What we're faced.A: Dune."But I can never express it. Everything I say seems to make more sense than what I can feel inside of.Smith locked up the device and all his notes, went home and spent the rest of the day thinking..Barry was as good as his word and went to Center St. the very next morning to take his third exam..she had the mumps?.indirect evidence one can bring against this view. For one thing, the people who advance it don't stick to.Oh, yeah, another and less friendly inward voice replied. Now all you need are three endorsements. Lots of luck..against your breastbone. You grip the knob harder, push it forward just a little. The screen lights, and you.a woman worthy of a prince..".Ma, I'm all right. There's nothing wrong with working the concert circuit. I'm working damned hard now..the Detweiler boy? Except the Detweiler boy?.Q: What is the state of the Competition Editor after each contest?.of our situation. If anyone is a commodity here, it's you and Ralston, by virtue of your scarcity. There will.closet and the kitchen utensils. There was underwear, socks, an extra pair of shoes, an unopened ream of.growing up, about which they were very well-informed. Despite a bad first impression, due to his."When I couldn't get her to answer my knock last night, I went around to the window and looked in..".You're sure you want me to have this?" Barry asked, incredulous, with the white curlieue of the sticker dangling from his fingertip..Then I only half listen as I look out from the plane across the scattered cloud banks and the Rockies looming to the west of us. Tomorrow night we play Denver. "It's about as close to home as Fm gonna get" Jain had said in New Orleans when we found out Denver "was booked..To be sure, if cloning is overdone, the evolutionary advantage of sexual reproduction is to some extent neutralized, and we might end up with a species in which genetic variability is too narrow for long-term survival..INTENSITY FIVE.darkened barracks. It wasn't much in the way of a home; they were crowded against each other on."I am a good singer. I can tap dance like a house on fire. My balcony scene would break your heart. And I can say objectively that Fve got better legs than anyone except, possibly, Miss Wyoming..".the computer as quickly as possible so we can start tracking this vital project. I hope that this omission on.to her, and by the time she'd got it into final shape, five years later, it was far and away the best of the lot..trying not to play favorites, and gently tried to prod them back to work. As she told McKillian toward."I know a psychiatrist who spends her weekends here in Aventine. Perhaps she can help..".A House Divided by Lee Kitloagh 161.were secure. The crew was enjoying the luxury of sleeping without their suits..Everybody knows about Receptacle?fat best seller of the year. It's all fact, about the guy who went.gave Amos a little kick, for it is not a good thing to insult a wizard so great and so old and so terrible as..So in fact he hadn't passed the exam. Or maybe he had. He'd never find out..That afternoon I played gin with the Detweiler boy. He was genuinely glad to see me, like a friendly puppy. I was beginning to feel nice a son of a bitch..the bed, then to her feet. She fought off the effects of the drug and stood there, eyes bleary but aware..".Well," said Jack, "after I could not find my way home, I decided I should try and find the pieces. So I began to search. The first person I met was the thin grey man, and with him was his large black trunk in which, he said, was his nearest and dearest friend. He said if I would work for him and carry his trunk, he would pay me a great deal of money with which I could buy a ship and continue my search. He told me that he himself would very much like to see a woman worthy of a prince. 'Especially,' he said, 'such a colorful prince as you.' I carried his trunk for many months, and at last he paid me a great deal of money with which I bought a ship. But then the skinny grey man stole my map, stole my ship, and put me here in the brig..".Fallows took in the rest

of the information from the screen. The changes that the computers had detected were tiny--the merest beginnings of a trend which, if it continued at the present rate, wouldn't approach anything serious for a month or more. With only another three months to go before the ship reached Chiron there was no cause for alarm since the rest of the pump-group had enough design margin to make up the difference even without the backup. But even so, there was little doubt that Merrick would insist on the primary's being stripped down to have its bearings reground, alignment rechecked, and rotor rebalanced again. They had been through that routine twice already in the three months that the main drive had been firing. That meant another week of working in near-zero g and klutzing around in heavy-duty protective suits on the wrong side of the stern radiation shield. "Bloody pump," Fallows muttered sourly..balloon. When the arena's full, the body heat from the audience keeps the dome aloft, and the arena crew turns off the blowers..fuel tanks and stored the fuel in every available container they could scrounge. It would be useful later for..summer residents had gone back to jobs in the city or followed the sun south, and the winter influx of."He told me about some Japanese department store." Amos was so delighted he jumped up and down. The prince swam to shore, and Amos helped him.I let myself into number seven with the master key. The drapes were closed, and so I took a chance.was mostly dry."I hope so. We've only been out a week, but it seems twice that long, with nothing to do but hang around.out a deck of cards..type (a football player now) and Dyan Cannon shrieked to great effect a couple of times..My chair scraped back as I stood up. "Who are you?".was off to Partyland, a 23rd St. speakeasy that advertised heavily on late-night TV. As he approached.sticker dangling from his fingertip..1. Don't shove your politics into your reviews. Just review the books..Crawford waited until she had run through a long list of reasons why they were doomed. Most of."Bert, do that again." Nolan wiped his forehead. Maybe he'd been too hasty, bringing Darlene and the baby here. But a.order to make it possible to build up a great army of cannon fodder that despots will use for world.The grey man turned and raised grey eyebrows. "There is my friend, my nearest and dearest." He pointed to the trunk. From it came a low, muggy sound: Ulmphf..make you sleep much better than all the air hi the world."..dirt of kingdoms she had never seen. He sang songs she had never heard before, singing them softly into.by ROBERT F. YOUNG.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..necessary to maintain the illusion that it was. Otherwise, you might as well cut your throat. You might as well not even be born, because life is an inevitably fatal struggle to survive..A block south of the Federal Communications Building, he looked up, and there strung out under the.I will?when the authors keep politics out of their stories. But they never do; in fact, it seems.separate organism with its genetic characteristics fixed and unique.."You're sure you want me to have this?" Barry asked, incredulous, with the white curlicue of the.Friday morning I sat at my desk trying to put the pieces together. Trouble was, I only had two pieces and they didn't fit. The sun was coming in off the Boulevard, shining through the window, projecting the chipping letters painted on the glass against the wall in front of me. BERT MALLORY Confidential Investigations. I got up and looked out. This section of the Boulevard wasn't rotting yet, but it wouldn't be long.."Barry Riordan." Later in the castle hall, Amos and the prince stood bound by the back wall. The grey man chuckled to himself as he hung up the two-thirds completed mirror. The final third was on the table..I sat up so fast I almost fell out of the chair. I gave her a long, hard stare, but her neutral expression."Thanks, but I wouldn't have room." I looked around to make sure I hadn't disturbed anything, turned off the bathroom light, and got in.Christopher Gail had traumatically divided not only Amanda's childhood but her very psyche. Five years.sat staring at her hands clenched in her lap. I put an arm around her. She stiffened momentarily at my."Nope." Jain shakes her head. ?I'm not going to need one."..empty..HERBERT'S The Frank Worlds of Herbert.least an acknowledged one). They should have left well enough alone in this case. Color instead of b&w,.189.up. Smith rubs his eyes, loses the ship, finds it again after a ten-minute search..only got a glimpse of it, but it might have been a cat. It was probably a stray looking for food or hiding from a dog. Okay, cat, you don't bother me and I won't bother you. I kept my eye on the couch, but it didn't show itself again.."Why didn't you go to a hospital or something?" I asked, feeling enormous pity for the wretched boy..crossed my arms, and leaned against the doorframe. "Well?".me to see. It's extremely odd." "What ecological balance?" Song shot back. "You know as well as I do that this trip has been nearly a zero. A few anaerobic bacteria, a patch of lichen, both barely distinguishable from Earth forms?".with a single parent, and sex has had nothing to do with its making. It is because human beings first.decide on a second Inundation, you can rest assured that it will be of such dimensions.fierce, almost an awesome, determination that made him seem larger than life. His black eyebrows were.about Everyone looked very solemn, almost scared.."Tomorrow. I've got a date with Janice tonight." She reached in her desk drawer and pulled out my.haven, why weren't they and the rest of the people so informed in the first place?.And there wasn't any sound at all..Singh realized he had strayed from his original question..I mean think I am drunk;.and clammy, and his fingers shook as they unscrewed the cap. For a moment Nolan wondered if he was.Nolan shuddered. That's what she was; an animal. In repose, the lithe brown body was grotesquely.?I thought so at first, but I changed my mind. I've seen enough of that and it wasn't the same. Take.me from a hundred directions. The faded photographs covered every level surface and clung to the walls.a muse. If you give me twenty good ideas for poems, I'll give you your endorsement."..people or make fun of their superstitions. And he couldn't afford to alienate Mama now. "I shall take."Oh, of course. Minor poets do nothing else. They positively swarm. I'd rather be major and lonely,.144.the information on six..floor and up the walls, even affected the chairs so that they, too, raged with color and pulsed to ? the time.evaluated. Now I can say without equivocation that our morale down here has never been higher.."Howdoldothatr."It will be tomorrow at four o'clock in the morning," said the grey man. "So don't stay up too late." "Well, as you don't appear to be either a mugger or a rapist, there had to be some reason you.as the as-if speculation which produces medical and technological advances..branching stairways

spreading up and out from the ground-level entrance unit. There were the grottoes. Cora Zickwolfe, who lived in a remote rural area of Arizona and whose husband commuted to. On your screen you will be given a display of your current sector of the galaxy and the stars in that water. It isn't here now, but it can be created by properly designed plants. They engineered these plants and forced her to disrobe. The state troopers got there in fifteen minutes, and Cora never spoke to her. 184. In another hour I said I had to call it a night. I had to get up early the next morning. I always spent Sunday with my mother in Inglewood. My mother was touring Yucatan at the time, but that was neither here nor there. I looked at Johnny. He nodded. He was to make sure Detweiler stayed at least another twenty minutes and then follow him when he did leave. If he went anywhere but his apartment, he was to come and let me know, quick. Balls-hung in dusters from the pipes that supplied them with high-pressure oxygen.

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