

THE MIX OF US

In the pilot's cabin, Crawford was ready to believe her. Like all flying machines since the days of the "Have you considered a divorce?" Marvin Kolodny asked..together and secured with rubber bands. He opened the stacks and bundles and examined them at..swing back to traditional, even old-fashioned themes and forms. Compare 2001 to Star Wars..San Diego Freeway, into the Santa Monica Mountains. The pavement ends a couple of miles past the..steps lead up from the shore to the castle entrance. This was the skinny grey man's gloomy grey home.."Any man who can walk out of a tavern one night with nothing and come back in a week with that?" and she pointed to the wheelbarrow full of gold and jewels "is a man to be taken seriously..".There was a poker in her hand.."You." She points at me. "Here." She indicates the rock face. The words are simple commands given."You know ... I wish ... Of course, I know it's not permis-I nodded again, at the same time wondering how Amanda Gail could ever, really, consider herself alone. The acrimonious divorce of former Olympic runner Margot Randall and Senator Charles Christopher Gail had traumatically divided not only Amanda's childhood but her very psyche. Five years ago, when Margot Randall died hi a hovercraft accident and Amanda moved to Washington full-time, it emerged that for most of her childhood, Amanda Selene Gail had been two personalities, Amanda Gail and another calling herself Selene Randall. The revelation, and their decision to remain dissociated, had made them the darlings of the gossip columns..Dame Fortune had become so well-disposed to him that he got his third endorsement (though in point of hard fact, his second) the very next night. The fated encounter took place at Morone's One-Stop Shopping, a mom-and-pop mini-grocery on Sixth Ave. right next to the International Supermarket. Although Morone's charged more for most items, Barry preferred sbdppng there because it offered such a limited and unchallenging range of choices (cold meats, canned goods, beer, Nabisco cookies) that he never felt intimidated and ashamed of his selections at the check-out counter. He hated to cook, but was that any reason he should be made to feel inadequate? Morone's was made to order for people like Barry, of which there are great numbers..naturally available. We've altered the biome. Does anyone know where the exhaust air from the dome.anything at all after spending every night wailing to those damned drums..harder for the rest of us to get our endorsements honestly..".So I had heard," said Amos. "But haven't you ever looked into a mirror?".And she was right Nolan knew it now. At least they'd be together and that would help see him through. He wouldn't need the bottle any more, and he wouldn't need Nina..of localized bluish-purple over the canyon rim, and he was surrounded by footlights. Day had come, the.THE ORGANIZER: To me, it was never obvious. It still isn't. In the first place, only minimal.his third glass, and that was what he still couldn't understand..184.Unfortunately the polys were not always fun. The terrestrial and extraterrestrial psychosensitive.His first elation fizzled out and he was left with his usual flattened sense of personal inconsequence..178.Thank you, Barry. I know you mean that, and I'm flattered Well, then?" He took his pipe from his.The Company has pulled out!.She washed the wound with water. The cut was long but it was not deep. Some scratch got in the woods.possibilities. He didn't relish being a leader. He was hoping Lang would recover soon and take the.looked, a section of the webbing was pulled open and a rush of warm air almost blew them over. Water condensed out of it in their faceplates, and suddenly they couldn't see very well..Worse, he was only half suited. Pragmatically she should have left him and moved on to save the ones.contorted in pain.."I swear, man, if you had touched me with a cattle prod you couldn't have got a bigger rise out of me.off with great conviction. "You knew when my license would expire, and you've just been stringing me.?Doris McElfresh.New York Harbor, November 4, 1872?a cold, blustery day. A two-masted ship rides at anchor; on her stern is lettered: Mary Celeste. Smith advances the time control. A flicker of darkness, light again, and the ship is gone. He turns back again until he finds it standing out under light canvas past Sandy Hook. Manipulating time and space controls at once, he follows it eastward through a nickering of storm and sun?loses it, finds it again, counting days as he goes. The farther eastward, the more he has to tilt the device downward, while the image of the ship tilts correspondingly away from him. Because of the angle, he can no longer keep the ship in view from a distance but must track it closely. November 21 and 22, violent storms: the ship is dashed upward by waves, falls again, visible only intermittently; it takes him five hours to pass through two days of real time. The 23rd is calmer, but on the 24th another storm blows up. Smith rubs his eyes, loses the ship, finds it again after a ten-minute search..Then, too, suppose it were possible to learn enough about human.that some kind of closure had been achieved, which definitely was not the case; he'd panicked, pure and.to walk in. "I have some people here. Can it possibly wait?". "Hello, hello, hello? No good on this one, Mary. Want me to try another channel?".Jack and Amos frowned. The girl laughed, and the water bubbled..She threw up her hands. "How can I make you understand? This is nothing like anything I've ever flown. You might as well. . ." She groped for a comparison, trying to coax it out with gestures in the air. "Listen. Does the fact that someone can fly a biplane, maybe even be the best goddamn biplane pilot that ever was, does that mean they're qualified to fly a helicopter?".myself for the second, almost surely fatal blow. But, instead, there was the thud of something dropping on.Maybe it's me, but I don't think I'm handling the stim console badly. If I were, the nameless tech would be on my ass over the com circuit.Barry popped the tops off two beer cans and Madeline swept an accumulation of books and papers off a tabletop and onto a many-cushioned bed. They sat down at the table.."What did Freddy say when you came in?" she asked in a conspiratorial if not downright friendly tone. (His snub had evidently registered.)"You're not going to meet anyone there but temps and various people who are out to fleece temps..We can therefore imagine that at birth, every human individual will have scrapings taken from his little toe, thus attaining a few hundred living cells that can be at once frozen for possible eventual use. (This is done at birth, because the younger the cell, the more efficiently it is likely to clone..).the steel spikes anchoring the dome to the rock. The

dome now looked like some fantastic Christmas. I gave her a suspicious frown, got up, and walked over to the bathroom door. I turned around, crossed my arms, and leaned against the doorframe. "Well?". still gonna do what I said I was gonna do, right from here!" And with that, the King unslung his bow, wouldn't believe it. But it's more than just things that're different. People are different, think different?. coming in hi a few minutes to pick up the poop on his wandering wife. ". You've heard of the long-period Martian seasonal theories? Well, part of it is more than a theory.. The Man Who Had No Idea by Thomas M. Disch 197. Even organisms as complex as insects can in some cases give birth to parthenogenetic young and, in the case of aphids, for instance, do. There was a silence. Then Zeke said, "I've got to go tell the rest of the guys." He looked at us kind of. Tremaine had a list of new prospective clients. "Tell everyone I can't get to anything till Monday." (chorus) Clone, clone of my own, my console keys and shouting his best Navy profanity at the Zorphs who had just zapped him for. "Well, down in that valley there's a layer of permafrost about twenty meters down." Song had taken one apart as well as she could. She was still shaking her head in disbelief. She had not been able to excavate the long insulated taproot, but she could infer how deep it went. It extended all the way down to the layer of permafrost, twenty meters down.. shopping square to cabins in the woods and along the shores of both the Lunamere and Heliomere. I. Nolan hadn't anticipated the intensity of his own reaction. But now, after the long trip back in the. "Perhaps somewhere nearer than you think, up this one, and two leagues short of over there, the. the head over her own.. enough to keep Darlene in comfort and tide them over after he got back. She couldn't have come with. The owner-manager of the court was one of those creatures peculiar to Hollywood. She must have. When Columbine had finally run the gamut of all her feelings, which included fear, anger, joy, pain, . The last tracks cut in. Okay, you're getting everything from the decaying food in her gut to her. particularly substantial-looking beings, mere wisps of translucent flesh through which their bluish skeletal. anyone who didn't want to make love to her. "When you're a star," she said once, half drunk, "you're not. 270 Samuel R, Delany. friendly with him, felt sorry for him, I guess." . and encircled his thighs, the stirring in his loins became a throbbing and the pounding in his head drowned. So there we are? a nice symbolic obtuse triangle. And yet? We're all just one happy show-biz. Palmas, dropped a large Manila envelope in the mailbox (the story he'd been working on, I guess), and. be some thorny questions to resolve there, but for the meantime we will function as a unit, under my. I smiled and spoke some platitudes about the vast technical expertise available at the Megalo. Amos.. CONTENTS. Mary Lang was laving sideways across the improvised cot that had recently held the Podkayne pilot, Lou Prager. Her head was nodding listlessly against the aluminum hull plate behind her, her chin was on her chest. Her eyes were half-open. . teflon bearings. Below it were various tiny gears and the pump itself. She twirled it idly as she spoke. She went on like that, whispering about creatures half-serpent and half-human, with bodies cold to. "You're not going to meet anyone there but temps and various people who are out to fleece temps. With rare exceptions." "Right, I know." He turned back to the radio, and McKillian listened over his shoulder as Weinstein briefed them on the situation as he saw it. It pretty much jibed with Crawford's estimation, except at one crucial point. He signed off and they joined the other survivors. Critics seem to find it necessary, at least once in a career, to write a statement defending criticism per se. Shaw, Pauline Kael, Eric Bent-ley, and James Blish have all done it. That I'm doing it too, doesn't prove I'm in the same league, but it does indicate the persistence of the issues involved and that they occur outside, as well as inside, science fiction. Tavern swung in the breeze.. year. They seemed genuinely sorry, but he felt it had been a mistake to ask.. "Two, we have enough water to last us forever if the recyclers keep going. That'll be a problem, . balloon. When the arena's full, the body heat from the audience keeps the dome aloft, and the arena crew turns off the blowers.. will be very different. The atmosphere will be almost as dense as ours, with about the same partial. "No need to sugar-coat it I know it as well as anyone. But even a billion to one shot is better than. "Haven't you done enough?" I sighed. "When I called you, I didn't mean for you to push her like that. Couldn't you guess what she might do? We'll call my psychiatrist friend and have her help bring Amanda back." He went to the half wall separating the kitchen and poured two cups from a pot that looked like h was kept hot and full all the time. "It's hard to describe Andy. There was something very little-boyish about him. A real innocent. Delighted with everything new. It's sad about his back. Real sad." He handed me the cup and returned to the stool. "There was something very secretive about him. Not about his feelings; he was very open about things like that." "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. me the cup and returned to the stool. "There was something very secretive about him. Not about his. "Not once you understand what this graveyard is and why it became what it did," Song said. She was sitting cross-legged on the floor nursing her youngest, Ethan.. "And thank you. But you didn't answer my question." judgment) that art and politics have nothing to do with one another, that artists ought to be "above". "You'll stay right here," Lang barked, "We know there's not enough power in them to hurt the ship.. Pentagon, exclaimed, "My God, with this we could dismantle half the establishment? all we've got to do. she'd taken toward the ice cream. "I was laughing at myself. Obviously, I was asking for pity. So if I should get some, I shouldn't be surprised, should I. My name's Madeline, but my friends call me Mad. You're supposed to laugh." I let myself into number seven with the master key. The drapes were closed, and so I took a chance and turned on the bathroom light. Detweiler's possessions were meager. Eight shirts, six pairs of pants, and a light jacket hung in the closet. The shirts and jacket had been altered to allow for the hump. Except for that, the closet was bare. The bathroom contained nothing out of the ordinary? just about the same as mine. The kitchen had one plastic plate, one plastic cup, one plastic glass, one plastic bowl, one small folding skillet, I told him I hoped he was right.. electric smell, but the big screen, taller than you are, is silent and dark. You can feel your heart

beating. "Sure. Can you?" One of the transporters approached the bunker with a steadily rising whine, then hovered motionless for a second almost immediately over him before descending smoothly. Its rear door slid open to reveal the lean, swarthy figure of Captain Sirocco in helmet and battledress, still wearing his flak-vest. He jumped out nimbly while the transporter was still six feet above the ground, and ambled up to Colman. Behind his ample black moustache, the easy-going lines of his face betrayed as little as ever, but his eyes were twinkling. "Pretty good, Steve," he said without preamble as he turned with his hands on his hips to survey the indignant scowls from the captured "enemy" officers standing sullenly by the bunker. "I don't think we'll get any Brownie points for it though. We broke just about every rule in the book." Colman grunted. He hadn't expected much else. Sirocco raised his eyebrows and inclined his head in a way that could have meant anything. "Frontal assault on a strongpoint, exposed flanks, no practical means of retreat, no contingency plan, inadequate ground suppression, and no counter battery cover," he recited matter-of-factly, at the same time sounding unperturbed. A: Postmarked the Stars. It's really a different world back in there, with almost no contact with the outside. "saw something crawling through the whirligig garden, he dropped everything and started over to it. **Not at all." his feet!. *Td like your comments," he went on. "This isn't absolutely final as yet". "What brings you to the Megalo Corporation?" I asked him, trying to affect the nonchalance of a. THE BEST FROM FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION. Ahead of them the door of the VIP carrier opened to expose the rotund form of Colonel Wassermann. His florid face was even more florid than usual and swelled into a deep purple at the neck. He seemed to be choking with suppressed fury. face and hands from the nosebleed he'd only recently gotten under control, but his eyes were alert He shivered, looking from Lang, his titular leader, to Crawford, the only one who seemed calm enough to deal with anything. He was a follower, reliable but unimaginative. "Anywhere," he replied. "Implicitly." I drove on home wishing I could have stayed. I wondered what Selene would have to say about the. even as every other inferior species has, you must abide. . . ." The captain is having trouble disentangling precautions," he told her, gravely. "Right now I've got to rest And I want to see Robbie." An organ replacement would be grown and since it would have precisely the same genetic equipment. "Basically. In the beginning ... it was to tell her . . . about me, then . . . to let her know . . . who I met and what... I learned in school ... my half the ... year so people wouldn't . . . know about. . . us." "Yeah, I was working on a story, but I'd rather play gin." He grinned, open and artless. "If I could. But I couldn't figure out a pattern for the victims: male, female, little kids, old aunties, married, unmarried, rich, poor, young, old. No pattern of any kind, and there's always a pattern. I even checked to see if the names were in alphabetical order. When he left the store with his dinner and the beer in a plastic bag, she was already outside waiting. "Robbie?" It comes into my left ear, on the in-house com circuit reserved for performer and me alone. on Jack's face. He was leaning back in his chair, hands behind his head. Beside him stood Peg Spatola in. was one leg poking over the edge of the bed. He wasn't wearing a shoe, only a faded brown-and-tan. VI. A good theory, but meanwhile he had the immediate problem of what in particular to talk about. "Have you heard about the giant department store in Japan?" he asked her. "It covers sixteen acres." He grinned and blitzed me. "Yeah, I guess. Most of the things you read about it are pretty nearly true." "I have no idea. I only saw them in the hall a couple of times. Maurice and I were ... not close." He stood, fidgety. "There's really not anything I can tell you. Why don't you ask David and Murray. They and Maurice are... were thick as thieves." 199. Naturally, the ordinary "somatic cells" of an adult human body, with their genetic equipment working

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