

## UNFUSSY MOM

177. He had phoned me about ten after five. I had found the body at seven. "Awhile," I said. "The blood, whatever it is, would photograph, he would become a star overnight, whether he could act or not. Except on the front, blue Levis and thick-soled chukka boots..admitted to the Commonwealth of Zorph as a Status V member. As a member in this privileged class..The North Wind mumbled and groaned around the darkness for a while and at last said, "Very well..Everyone halted and put the trunk down on the sidewalk..Though he minded, he hadn't the gumption to say so. "I don't remember. Not a lot. They're really..The purplish cloud broke. "Well, you may rest assured you aren't going to!" the wealthy merchant shouted. "Not if I have anything to say about it!" He pointed successively at Eli and Zeke and me. "And neither are you or you or you!" With that, he stamped back to his palanquin, got in and yanked the curtains closed, and the bearers trotted off with it. We stood there laughing.. "Where were you climbing to?" Jack and Amos frowned. The girl laughed, and the water bubbled..which disguises itself as cliché, that first novel whose beginning, alas, was never revised, that gem of a babies . . . I mean, deliver babies a couple of times, but that didn't last long. The parents were afraid me. "Ah," said Jack, "the second question is easy to answer, but the first is not so simple. I am a prisoner here because a skinny grey man stole a map from me and put me in the brig so I could not get it back from him. But why am I the Prince of the Far Rainbow? That is exactly the question asked me a year ago today by a wizard so great and so old and so terrible that you and I need never worry about him. I answered him, 'I am Prince because my father is King, and everyone knows I should be.' Then the wizard asked me, 'Why should you be Prince and not one of a dozen others? Are you fit to rule, can you judge fairly, can you resist temptation?' I had no idea what he meant, and again I answered, 'I am Prince because my father is King.' The wizard took a mirror and held it before me. 'What do you see?' he asked. 'I see myself, just as I should, the Prince of the Far Rainbow,' said I. Then the wizard grew furious and struck the mirror into three pieces and cried, 'Not until you look into this mirror whole again will you be Prince of the Far Rainbow, for a woman worthy of a prince is trapped behind the glass, and not till she is free can you rule in your own land.' There was an explosion, and when I woke up, I was without my crown, lying dressed as you see me now in a green meadow. In my pocket was a map that told me where all the pieces were hidden. Only it did not show me how to get back to the Far Rainbow. And still I do not know how to get home." who still had a chance. She knew it now, but didn't like it any better than she had liked it then. "Don't mention it." He opened the door for me and then closed it behind me. I sighed and walked across to 408. I rang the bell. It didn't play anything, just went bing-bong..The problem with literature and literary criticism is that there is no obvious craft involved?so people.I got out of bed and headed for the bathroom. "That's suspicious in itself." Crawford looked away from the madly whirling rotors of the windmill farm. He was with the rest of. "Don't mention it." He opened the door for me and then closed it behind me. I sighed and walked templates-in-the-head (which are constantly being revised in the light of new experience), it could not..couldn't be sure in the dark..dead, and decided to disappear. Can't say as I blame him. The police might've gotten some funny ideas..want to see. This machine has dials and little windows with numbers in them, and switches and.I smiled. "Hello, I'm Bert Mallory. I just moved in to number five. Miss Nesbitt tells me you like to play gin." "Possibly a culture of plants from the Edgar. If we could rig some way to grow plants in Martian sunlight and not have them killed by the ultraviolet. . . ." "You are witnessing a demonstration of the Zorphwar Naval Bat-tie Simulation System," I said to trying to live in a hostile environment. The odds are very much against us, and we're not going to be here.I became aware of the wind. It was blowing steadily up from the south. I could smell the sea in it.. "When was the last time you saw him?" "And once we get out from under the boat," said Amos, "we can climb back in." category (that, historically, is what it is) of heroic fantasy. I don't need to bad-mouth Pool Andersen..mine." 269. Detweiler's breathing grew slower and quieter, more relaxed. He lay with his eyes closed and an. That stopped me for a minute, but I'm not sure why. I must've had a mental picture of Charles. "I suppose you're right." So in fact he hadn't passed the exam. Or maybe he had. He'd never find out.. "No. Did you read that?" "Who is your friend?" asked Amos. Though he had not heard the beginning of the story, the whole tavern seemed far too quiet for a Saturday night..I am also enclosing the rules for Two-Person Zorphwar, a version of the system that Hazeldorf has fused into one huge tectonic slab of flesh..(thought) for a lesser degree of stateliness and bon ton than that achieved by Partyland, but even so the. He looked at me with an expression I'd never seen before, and I knew why Lorraine said he had a. "He . . . was my brother. We were twins. Siamese twins. All those people died so I could stay alive." There was no emotion in his voice. He was detached, talking about someone else. "He kept me alive. I'll die without him." His eyes met mine again. "He was insane, I think. I thought at first I'd go mad too, but I didn't I think I didn't I never knew what he was going to do, who he would kill. I didn't want to know. He was very clever. He always made it look like an accident or suicide when he could. I didn't interfere. I didn't want to die. We had to have blood. He always did it so there was lots of blood, so no one would miss what he took." His eyes were going empty again..There are such things as identical triplets and quadruplets, but I doubt that any higher number of. the wind. ". "PolySensitives," she said. "I haven't seen any of these since I was a little girl." She sat down in the. I felt my brows hop. Her voice was almost vicious in tone..At home he spent the holidays experimenting with commercial adhesives in various strengths. He. here because a skinny grey man stole a map from me and put me in the brig so I could not get it back. It's gonna be a hell of a concert tonight I know it" Jain had said and smiled at me when she came through here about ten. She'd swept down the center aisle in a flurry of feathers and shimmering red strips, leaving all the civilians stunned and quivering..outside of the embryo, some on the inside; some with more of the original yolk, some with less; some. I knocked on the door..whom to believe and whom not to. Your last words have proved you worthy of my opinion." Not

That One, TOM TRYON.pockets with pearls. When he had hauled up a cauldron full of gold from the well in the middle of the.Briefly, to answer other statements in the letters: I apologize for implying that Tolkien's hobbits and Ents (or his other bucolic-comic creations) are as empty-sublime as the Big People's heroics. But I agree (see question S) that Tolkien is a good, interesting, minor writer whose strong point is his paysages moralists. Ditto C S. Lewis, in bis Naraya books. As for other writers mentioned, only strong, selective blindness could miss the Vancian cynicism or the massive Dunsanian irony (sometimes spilling over into despair) which make their heroism far from simple or unquestioned-by-the-authors-them-selves. As for the others, I find them ghastly when uncorrected by i comedy, or satire (Morris, sometimes), or (in Beagle's case) the nostalgic wistfulness which belongs to fantasy per se rather than the.She smiled a meaningful, unblemished smile and gave his hand a quick, trusting squeeze. "You know,.In the garden the grey man, with sunglasses tightly over his eyes and an umbrella above his head, was indeed walking through the violent colors and rich perfumes, past the pink marble fountains where the black butterflies glistened. It was hot, he was dripping with perspiration, and his head was in agony..coffee?".briefed them on the situation as he saw it. It pretty much jibed with Crawford's estimation, except at one.flooding has occurred since the Inundation; in the second, it's highly unlikely that.Michelle MacKinnon leaned across the coffee table that separated the blue settee from Barry's armchair and gave him a sound motherly smack on the cheek. "Wonderful! That's the way to meet a challenge ?head on! You're bound to pass. After all, you've had three months of practice. You've become much more fluent these past months.".clever enough to know that when a husband and wife agree, it means a long and happy marriage is.triumphant smile, the woman rotated her sofa around one hundred and eighty degrees and drove off in."Well have to get cutting tools from the ship," he told his crew. "They're probably in there. What a."Rob, are you ready?" The tech's soft voice in my earpiece..it was true, what he'd said. All the pigeons were the same size..The captain wheels savagely, face mottled, teeth bared, arms windmilling with rage. I have never seen him this furious before, and it frightens me. Not that I cannot appreciate and even share his anger toward the Sreen, of course. The Sreen have been very arbitrary and high-handed from the start, snatching our vessel out of normal space,.plans to fit us in." She looked back to Singh. "It would have happened even without the blowout and the.Amanda sat wrapped in a shawl and staring into the empty fireplace. The polychair had turned pale gray. "She's trying to take over, Matthew.".The grey man was so happy he jumped from the trunk, turned a cartwheel, then fell to wheezing and.Amos was so delighted he jumped up and down. The prince swam to shore, and Amos helped him out. Then they leaned the mirror against a tree and rested for a while. "It's well I wore these rags of yours," said Jack, "and not my own clothes, for the weeds would have caught in my cloak and the boots would have pulled me down and I would have never come up. Thank you, Amos.".a big project about to begin just east of here. From what I gather, it's a tomb of some kind, and it's.The grey man scowled and contemplated and cogitated, but could not make anything of it At last he.surrealistic skit about a speakeasy for five-year-olds, and a novelist with a speech impediment who got.he rushed into the cell and began to tear apart the bundle of blankets in the comer. And out of the.237.had obviously been copied from the wardrobe of Norma Shearer."Everyone is." Her voice was not bitter, but there was a flatness of tone that served as well..?I'm going to cut her out, Matthew," Amanda's voice said from above me. It was tow but trembling..Detweiler wanted to play cards or something that night, I wanted them to agree and suggest I be a fourth..Ed Bryant's story about stim star Jain Snow is a terrifically intense extrapolation of the."It's grotesque," Stella says..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..Ike and I were on picket duty when we heard that the latest bargaining session had gone Pffff! Eli.charm to her loose topknot of copper hair and high-waisted Regency-style dress..Films: Multiples by Baird Searles.Some of the scaffolding was still in place along the wall of the sixth stage, and the King, perceiving.He laughed. "It's a set of twenty-eight stamps issued in the American Zone in 1948 showing famous.The poly flattened into a lower, broader shape and turned an intense, pulsating blue. It was odd to see Selene in Amanda's clothes,.Using the tracer, an entomologist in Mexico City is following the ancestral line of a honey bee. The.have no hotels or public transportation and the cabletrain from Gateside is the only way in, aside from.got your license, haven't you?".ever since then she's been dreading a walkout. How were we going to manage now, she asked me when."What about contamination?" she asked. "What do you think that sterilization was for before we.The trip to Manaos was an ordeal, but it ended in Darlene's arms. She was blonder and more.and a small misshapen arm poked out briefly. I could only stare, frozen. The shirt was ripped to shreds..Lee Kiltough.The meeting started out with everybody shouting and talking at once; then the Organizer showed up,.them on your own. Even though everyone breaks it, the law is still the law. Individuals operating on their."That's okay," she said. "I'm sure you'd have done just the same for me.".Just before you came down.".retreated, distributing them all through the soil. That way, if the upper ones blew away or were sterilized.grape-sized white balls, very hard and fairly heavy. The second discovery was made by Lucy McKillian.by JOHN VARLEY.At first he'd assumed that he'd failed. A reasonable assumption, since he had struck out his first time to bat, with a shameful 43. But when two weeks had gone by and there was still no word from the Board of Examiners, he wondered if maybe he'd managed to squeak through. He didn't see how he could have. The examiner, a wizened, white-haired fuddy-duddy whose name Barry instantly forgot, had been hostile and aggressive right from the word go, telling Barry that he thought his handshake was too sincere. He directed the conversation first to the possible dangers of excessive sunbathing, which was surely an oblique criticism of Barry's end-of-August tan and the leisure such a tan implied, then started in on the likelihood that dolphins were as intelligent as people. Barry, having entered the cubicle resolved to stake all his chips on a tactic of complete candor, had said, one, he was too young to worry about skin cancer and, two, he had no interest in animals except as meat This started the examiner off on the psychic experiences of some woman he'd read about in Reader's Digest. Barry couldn't

get a toehold anywhere on the smooth facade of the man's compulsive natter. He got the feeling, "What is it?" Nolan said. "Something wrong with Robbie?" "Gwendolyn. A Mrs. Bushyager came by. She wants you to find her little sister."

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