

WHITEFLY A NOVEL

He considered it. "All right, Commander Mary." She punched him playfully. She had barely known him before the disaster. He had been a name on a roster and a sore spot in the estimation of the Astronaut Corps. But she had borne him no personal malice, and now found herself beginning to like him..It was a small story on page three, not very exciting or newsworthy. Last night a man named Maurice Milian, age 51, had fallen through the plate-glass doors leading onto the terrace of the high-rise where he lived. He had been discovered about midnight when the people living below him had noticed dried blood on their terrace. The only thing to connect the deaths of Harry Spinner and Maurice Milian was a lot of blood flowing around. If Milian had been murdered, there might be a link, however tenuous. But Milian's death was accidental? a dumb, stupid accident It niggled around in my brain for an hour before I gave in. There was only one way to get it out of my head..By the time she'd finished the sonnet about how much she loved him, he had come up with all twelve other subjects..?John Bittingsley.the company store by day to purchase food..I showed him my ID. Instead of going pale, he only looked interested, "I was told by the man in 409.After calling the office to let Caro know where she could reach me, I handed Amanda into the runabout and proceeded to demonstrate what I meant. The sultan's palaces, Greek temples, antebellum mansions, and Norman castles I bypassed with the contempt such common tawdries deserved. Instead, I let her stare wide-eyed at constructions like the Tree House, whose rooms unfolded like flowers along branching stairways spreading up and out from the ground-level entrance unit. There were the grottoes and galleries of The Cavern, carved into the cliffs above the Lunamere, and the jigsaw-stacked rooms of The Funhouse..of encyclopedias?published in 1911.".retreated, distributing them all through the soil. That way, if the upper ones blew away or were sterilized.you've been feeding us ever since we got stranded here? Who ever heard of a colony without babies? If we don't grow, we stagnate, right? We have to have children." She looked back and forth from Lang to Crawford, her face expressing formless doubts..TomRcamy."That's right," said Jack. "And nearer than you think is a great, grey, dull, tangled, boggy, and baleful swamp. The first piece is at the bottom of a luminous pool in the center. But it is so grey there that the grey man would blend completely in with the scenery and never get out again. Up this one is a mountain so high that the North Wind lives in a cave there. The second piece of the mirror is on the highest peak of that mountain. It is so windy there, and the grey man is so thin, he would be blown away before he was halfway to the top. Two leagues short of over there, where the third piece is, there stretches a garden of violent colors and rich perfume where black butterflies glisten on the rims of pink marble fountains, and bright vines weave in and about The only thing white in the garden is a silver-white unicorn who guards the last piece of the mirror. Perhaps the grey man could get that piece himself, but he will not want to, I know, for lots of bright colors give him a headache.".water in the pipes was frozen. Though she would not commit herself in the matter, she felt they were.So Amos took off the prince's clothes and the sailor took them to the brig and returned with Amos!."Thanks." Setting the tray on the table, she contrived to brush against his left foot. "I see you're wearing the same shoes.".Jack clung to his long, thick hair as the Wind began to fly down the mountain, crying out in a windy voice:.The DetweUer Boy."No need to sugar-coat it I know it as well as anyone. But even a billion to one shot is better than nothing. I take it they think Crawford is right, that survival is at least theoretically possible?".They circled so high they cleared the clouds, and once again the stars were like diamonds dusting the velvet night. He flew so long that at last the sun began to shoot spears of gold across the horizon; and when the ball of the sun had rolled halfway over the edge of the sea, he settled one foot on a crag to the left, his other foot on the pinnacle to the right, and bent down and set them on the tallest peak in the middle..George Bernard Shaw said all this almost a century ago; interested readers may look up his preface to.133.There were straps across his chest..The usher continued to hover, smiling, over his chair. Finally Barry realized he was waiting for a tip. Without any idea of what was customary, he gave bun a dollar, which seemed to do the trick..writers and publishers, in order to be sure of appealing to at least a stable fraction of the market.,Window 28 was the window that issued licenses: he had passed!.Amos and the well-muffled sailor climbed down onto the rocks that the sun had stained red, and.liked him, mixed with varying portions of pity, to be sure, but liking nevertheless. Harry Spinner liked him,."Help me push them back in the closet," said the grey man. "They're so bright that if I look at them too long, I get a headache.".friendly with him, felt sorry for him, I guess.".with the drums. Damned pounding. Had to stop, had to stop so he could sleep-It was the silence that.Crawford missed most of the interesting work, being more suited for the semiskilled manual labor that never seemed to be finished. So he and Lang had to learn about the new discoveries at the nightly briefings in the shelter. He remembered nothing about any animal life being discovered, and so when he saw something crawling through the whirligig garden, he dropped everything and started over to it.He gave me a knowing look. "Fine. As far as I know. Maurice liked to pick up stray puppies. Andy was a stray puppy.".74.spend much money. Just a little spaghetti and wine tonight and ham and eggs in the morning." She.They all looked at Lang. They were reassured to find her calm and unshaken..Interference crackles and what she says is too soft to hear..endorsement, or preferably two, to which Michelle replied (quite seriously) that unfortunately she did not.48.went around colliding with each other..me that medical malpractice suits might interest both but would nevertheless not be a useful topic. I spoke.the fringe benefits. True, it's only been two weeks since we walked off the job, but Debbie and I have.ad hoc task forces instantly created to investigate everything from general inefficiency down to the detailed operation of the Computer Center. Someone immediately spilled the beans about Zorphwar. (I suspect it was J.L., covering his ass.) Friday afternoon Westland came slamming into my office to ask about a thousand questions about our schedules and the cost of running Zorphwar. I tried to get him to try using the program, but he was too upset to listen to reason. He gave me one hour to produce a full report

justifying the project and went storming back up to the executive wing. I'm afraid that your ass and mine would have been in the sling but for a stroke of incredible luck..When the gag came off, the story came out, and the part of the story the jailor had slept through the.She stooped closer to the ice cream and winced. "But then it's pure hell. I want to cut my leg off, have a."Robbie?" It comes into my left ear, on the in-house com circuit reserved for performer and me."Does he live in the building?" I swallowed to get my heart back in place and blinked a couple of times to clear away the skyrockets.."No." She shook her hair back over her shoulders. "I don't take over officially until January. I just come early to exercise."..limb from limb and strew them in gobbets about the stage or platform. ... In the same way really fine.in unison, "No, no, what you request is impossible. The decision of the Sreen is final, and, anyway,..A: Dune/Dhalgren/Froomb.trouble and she couldn't get to the phone, she would take down the note, or if she had time, write."I'm Miss Georgia."..?I'm sorry about tonight". "You run and get back in your cell," said Amos, "and when I have given you enough time, I shall return and eat my eggs and sausages."..Darlene's eyes fluttered open; she'd heard.."Ever see a claustrophobe deliberately walk into a closet and shut the door? If I don't fight it this way?" Her fingers dig into my arms. Her face is fierce. "This has got to be better than what I do on stage." She swings away from me. "Shit!" she says. "Damn it all to hell." She stands immovable, staring down the mountain for several minutes. When she turns back toward me, her eyes are softer and there's a fey tone in her voice. "If I die?" She laughs. "When I die. I want my ashes here."..I was disturbed by her vehemence and the implied criticism of Selene. "You don't know Selene is like..see his face, but he lay in sleep like a man who was no stranger to the bed..our fingers crossed..pointed to the lander. The two of them changed course and scrambled up the rope ladder hanging over.Far Rainbow, and when you go down into the garden, you can hear the water against the wall just like..Not long afterward I left. I didn't want to be hung-over on my first spell of picket duty. It was a cool..He turned to move out of my way and I saw the hump. I don't know how to describe what I felt I suddenly had a hurting in my gut I felt the same unfairness and sadness the others had, the way you would feel about any beautiful thing with one overwhelming flaw..Now I must get back to Zorphwar. Twenty more successful missions, and I move up to Sector Commandant!.6 Damon Knight..He redesigned the whole device, built a prototype and tested it, tore it down, redesigned, built another. It was Christmas before he was done. Once more he locked up the device and all his plans, drawings and notes..Amanda's wrist bent back farther. Her fingers fought to hold on to the knife, but with each moment they loosed more.."I can't let you ruin my dancing career."..The jab left her untouched. With perfect calm and not even a pause in her movement, she said, "He."Hello, hello, hello? No good on this one, Mary. Want me to try another channel?"..A Box of Scruples, JAMES BLISH.They started forward again toward the fires. It was so dark and the cave was so big that even with.."Haven't I?" said the grey man. He reached under the table and.They're probably from the Blue Orion Theatre up the street Would you like to see the show there..female and allowed to come to term there.."Won't work.".."You're really hi a mood, Rob."..clothing, have never seen any adult shit or piss, and would be embarrassed or disgusted if they did. Why..said, "Never mind Come to lunch."..Deep in a wood, so dark and tangled few men dared go, there was a small clearing. And in that..bona fide starship, in which the captain and I were to have accelerated through normal space to..with him?had gone to the brig himself..efficiently adapted to its surroundings, this is useful, but it is an extremely conservative mechanism that."I'm standing here, trying to be friendly," said Amos. "I was told there was nothing of interest down here. And since it is so dull, I thought I would keep you company."..The week following the departure of the Burroughs was one of hysterical overreactioo by the New Amsterdaraites. The atmosphere was forced and false; an eat-drink-and-be-merry feeling pervaded everything they did..stealing bricks. The gate's pretty wide, of course, but four pickets can guard it easily, and the wall's high..overworked, and a labor of love. The problem is usually to recruit reviewers, not discourage them.."PolySensitives," she said. "I haven't seen any of these since I was a little girt." She sat down in the.."He's not implying it, he's saying it," Ike said. "You guys just can't wait to grease old Yahweh's palm, can you? You can't wait to tell him you think the King is a kook."..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.."Where were you climbing to?"..It was like a rerun. He lived a block away from where a man was mugged, knifed, and robbed in an alley on the 13th?though the details of the murder didn't seem to fit the pattern. But he was sick, bad an alibi, and moved to Silver Lake..and galleries of The Cavern, carved into the cliffs above the Lunamere, and the jigsaw-stacked rooms of..scooping it up and stuffing it into the maw of their own craft, establishing communication with us through their Intermediaries, then issuing their incredible edict. They do not appear to care that they have interfered with Humankind's grandest endeavor. Our vessel is Terra's first bona fide starship, in which the captain and I were to have accelerated through normal space to light-velocity, activated the tardyon-tachyon conversion system and popped back into normal space in the neighborhood of Alpha Centauri. I can understand how the captain feels..the steel spikes anchoring the dome to the rock. The dome now looked like some fantastic Christmas..You are thirteen, chasing a fox with the big kids for the first time. They have put you in the north field, the worst place, but you know better than to leave it..Friday night when I see them lining up out there, I think I might go someday, but I never seem to get around to it. (You might think I'd see a few movie stars living where I do, but I haven't I did see Seymour occasionally when he worked at Channel 9, before he went to work for Gene Autry at Channel 5.)..Cinderella, however, considered the question from a literal standpoint. "Well," she said, "we haven't..chair. She turned her head sideways and addressed the old woman behind the refreshment counter..I am performing stupidly, like an amateur. Gently I bring up two stim balance slides..By day, in his deer shape, Brother Hart would go out and forage on green grass and budlings while..come back I shall show you a man living through

the happiest moment of his life. Then I will put you and Intermediary is left limping along after the captain. Through the clear pale skin of its back, I see that some and intensify. It can get pretty hairy, which is why not just anyone can do the job. It helps that I seem to small pickax they had used to help them climb the mountain. 4th. As the man started to go, Amos said, "It seems a shame to take someone's clothes away, especially of color pulsating with every labored breath of the struggling body. The maelstrom spread out across the. I'm surprised there's any problem what to do. Your dancing has already won critical acclaim." "Andy?" He frowned slightly. "Come on in. I'm David Fowler." He held out his hand. It was after a Popular Concert which had included all of Bach's Suites for Unaccompanied Violoncello that I ventured to remonstrate with my Mentor. "That's the land of the Far Rainbow!" cried Jack. "We could almost step through into it!" And he began to go forward, mouth and lifted it in a kind of salute. "So long. And Merry Christmas." him what this contract would mean to the Megalo Corporation and how I expected him to assume a. only three writers who have contributed as much fiction as Mr. Young (Poul Andersen, A warn. 1 See You 3. "Nonsense. You haven't even finished your beer. You mustn't hold what I write against me. Poets can't be held responsible for what they say in their poems. We're all compulsive traitors, you know." Singh and everyone else was silent for a while. He found he really was beginning to believe in the

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