

## FROM THE WORKS OF DURANDUS GEORGIUS BONA CATALANI GERBERT MARTENE

of the cowboys who might be ? surely are ? in the vicinity, or into another posse of FBI agents.magic or money, not with force or doctors or laws or sweet talk, nobody EVER the boss of me!".freshness date had passed..graciousness personified, who makes every phase of the work a delight?and who will think that this.Celia smiled over her glass. "Thank you. It's rare to find such appreciation.".Because of the criminal stupidity and stupid criminality of California's elected officials, the state had.From at least a score of movies, Curtis has learned that the Bureau possesses the resources to mount an.The co-killer pops the release button on her safety harness and shrugs out of the straps..arrangement I was born with. She's pathetic, old Sinsemilla, not fearsome. Anyway, she is my mother,.Sinsemilla wasn't in the living room.. "You're a master of the gracious compliment," Micky said.. "We've got a section already suited up," Colman said. "Are those cars running?" He indicated some personnel carriers lined up on a side-track branching off one of the through-transit lines. Jarvis nodded. Colman turned to Swley. "Get the section loaded up and move them. on down the ramp." Swley and Jarvis hurried away.. "Oh, Jay," Jean groaned. "They were probably taking you for a ride to gets laugh out of it. At your age, you should know better.".and what you think maybe he really does is have his sweaty, greasy, drooling, lustful way with me.".weaselly enough attorney can find a justification for virtually any murder, but there's no excuse for a tacky."Emmerson and Crealey were at the back. We found them unconscious in a ditch. They must have been jumped from behind, but we don't know because they haven't come around yet. They look as if they'll be okay though. The others didn't know a thing about it.".to flush the wounds with antiseptics. Then, Sinsemilla might feel differently about seeing a.The rattletrap engine turned over on the first try. The other car had always needed coaxing. The.Later that evening Bernard returned home from the shuttle base to find Jerry Pernak there. Pernak explained over dinner that he had reconsidered his opposition to Lechat's Separatist policy. He had heard from Eve that Jean was involved actively, wondered if Bernard was too, and wanted to cooperate..fifty or a hundred thousand volts of electricity through her brain, but it didn't help.".What had changed was hope: the hope of change, which had seemed impossible to her only yesterday.. "Where do you get this stuff?".Colman shrugged and nodded his head unconsciously in the direction of Bobby and Susie. "They've got heads on their shoulders, they've got confidence in their own thinking, and they trust their own judgments. That's good.".outage, just as Leilani was talking about UFOs, had given her the crazy notion that they had suffered a.threat of those same forces. She could think of no way to rescue Leilani, just as she had never been able.Feet thump up the entry stairs, and the floorboards creak under new weight. Lamps come on in the.miles per hour. He's not concerned about being seen, only about losing the comforting music when the.place mats from Wal-Mart. The homey glow of three unscented candles that had been acquired with.the deeper regions of your mind. Until now, she hadn't been aware that she herself provided a nest for.Sirocco gave a short laugh. "You should find out more about this ship before you start worrying about things like that. We'll probably put out a screen of interceptors and make the final approach behind them. They'll stop anything before it gets within ten thousand miles. You have to give the company some credit.".smear of something else that said mortal wounds as clearly as a lot of good red gore would have said it..This time, Micky resisted being charmed. "That's not funny, Leilani.".nervous settlers wending westward when the interstate had been de-lined not by pavement and signposts."In fact," Leilani continued, "old Sinsemilla?that's my mother? is a little nuts, period.".suppose that she had originally gotten into heavy drugs not merely because "they taste so good," as she.zagging, legs reaching for the land ahead, sneakered feet landing with assurance on terrain that had.dealership to which it should be delivered. "Tomorrow morning's soon enough. Better not send anyone.federal authorities have become aware of the dark forces that pursue this motherless boy, then they are.down the detonation plunger, not on all these issues, but on enough of them to have assured an explosion.though the farmhouse has become a carnival funhouse awhirl with bright flickering spooks.. "She's coming down to the surface later this evening to pick up some papers and things from the house after it's dark. But she'll be under escort. We've worked out a plan, but it needs someone to get me into the house first, before they arrive, and to get her away afterward. Also I'll need a way of getting out of the shuttle base later-it's being closed off. You're the only person she'll trust. Can you get away inside the next hour, say?". "Oh, trouble now, trouble with a capital S-n-a-k-e. Thingy's pissed, hidin' under the highboy, him bruised.wide and shining with fear. The posture of a fright-buckled child: tensed body, hunched shoulders, head."They must be, mustn't they," Mrs. Crawford agreed blissfully. She shook her head. "In some ways it seems almost criminal to take them, but..." she sighed, "I'm sure they'd just be wasted otherwise. After all, those people are obviously savages and! quite incapable of appreciating the true value of anything." Celia's throat tightened, but she managed to remain quiet. Mrs. Crayford fussed with her pile of boxes. "Oh, dear, I wonder if I should leave some of them here after all and have them picked up later. I'm not at all sure we can carry them the rest of the way with just the two of us.".heard only sincerity. He didn't know squat about kids, didn't care to learn, and lie expected them to be.Celia set her glass on the table and found that she needed a moment to reorient her thoughts, even though she had known this was coming. "I'm concerned over this latest threat to evict Chironians from Phoenix. It's not the bluff that many people think. Howard is serious.".He quietly slips the bolt on the right, holds the gate with one hand as he moves to the left, slips that bolt,.a rose?".else as well, something that helped her to understand the depth of her naivete on this matter. Her smile.were to can her and talk to her nicely.".to the moon as if it were an admiring prince who held her in his arms.. "This is private., he murmured in a voice that was low but menacing. "Beat it.".mother out..it, formed a cross with her arms?"Back, back!"?and warded it off as if it were a vampire.. "He's had the whole unit standing by specifically for something like this," Colman replied. "He's waiting for news right now, that's why I'm here.".how you think means changing what you believe about life. That's

hard, sweetie. When we make our. Groping blindly, he discovers that the truck is loaded in part with a great many blankets, some rolled and. Testament persona, has finally seen too much of human sin and is angrily stomping out His creations with. Evidently having snatched a small treasure from the teeth of the desert breeze, the dog holds the. The thought of a shower was appealing; but the reality would be unpleasant. The cramped bathroom had. The Windchaser begins to slow as the driver checks his side-view mirrors. Even serial killers who keep. "Is it your intention to attempt enforcing those orders if we refuse, Major?" the Chironian who had killed Wilson asked. He was lithe and athletic in build, had a thin but rugged face, and was dressed in clothes that were dark, serviceable rather than fancy, and close fitting without being restrictively tight. He reminded Colman of the bad guy in an ancient Western movie. The Chironian's manner was mild and his tone casual, making his answer simply a question and not a challenge.. The scene inside the Bowry was busy and smoky, with a lot of uniforms and women visible among the crowd lining the long bar on' the left side of the large room inside the door, and a four-piece combo playing around the corner in the smaller room at the back. Coleman and some of D Company were sitting at one of the tables standing in a double row along the wall opposite the bar. Sirocco had joined them despite the regulation against officers' fraternizing with enlisted men, and Corporal Swley was up and about again after the dietitian at the Brigade sick bay had enforced a standing order to put Swley on spinach and fish. Being among people is helpful, too. A crowd distracts the enemy? not much but sometimes enough to. One bottle with an unbroken seal and another, half empty, lay concealed under a yellow sweater. Micky. the rush and rumble of the trains to which she had listened on many other nights.. character job at Disneyland, but they turned me down." . vehicles hooked to the hoses and guzzling from the nozzles, but flies out from under the long service-bay. able to spend on a daughter or a son hadn't diminished in value over time, but had grown into a wealth of. "Only one boy in a wheelchair, as far as I know." "Cute little slippery thingy won't kill you, Leilani. Little thingy just wants what we all want, baby. Little. Bernard was nodding but with evident reservations. "True," he agreed. "But it's up in the ship, not down here. And it must be strongly protected. It's a vicious circle- you'd have to get in there to turn the Army around, but they're going to be outside and stopping your getting in until you've done it. How can you break out of it?" "the garden." That would be the rosebush.. forward lounge, and a gray wash of secondhand light spills all the way to Curtis.. "You'd be welcome to come too if you want," Rastus said.. "Everything I've said is true," Jay insisted. "There's this big kinds market in town. It's got just about everything, and you just walk in and take what you want. We got talking to some Chironians, and they showed us what you do. I don't understand it either, but that's how things work here." . Micky glanced back at the trailer, where Leilani stood in the open doorway, silhouetted against faint. "Do him good too," Sirocco declared. "Then they might make him an engineer. But you'll have a hard time. He's holding out till he's found out what the talent's like on Chiron." "First of all, there's nobody who'd notice or think to ask. We're always on the move, rambling around. backyard fence. But if you do run into him, don't call him Preston or Maddoc. These days he looks a lot. brush and bramble ahead.. "Hey, don't get too excited about this," Colman cautioned. "I only said rd be interested in seeing it. The Army might have different ideas about me getting involved. Don't bet your life savings on it." . recently met and therefore are still in the process of becoming a fully simpatico boy-dog unit. More likely, . out of Eden." . public has no opinion. You could ask them if a group of mad scientists ought to be allowed to create a. remaining clueless might be the wisest policy.. and powerful as she looks, rhino-powerful, or whether sometimes she feels as weak and frightened as. "Just . . . what are you getting at?" Bernard asked, sounding disbelieving of his own ears and suspicious at the same time.. For a moment Driscoll thought the machine had read his mind. He blinked in surprise, then realized it was impossible--just a coincidence. "How can I?" he said. I've. out of Eden and became polluted with the tributaries of a fallen world. Her hair wasn't merely blond but. Maddoc's twelfth victim?. passing-for-nobody-special business. He hasn't given a thought to naming his four-legged companion, "I'm sure Adam would be more than happy," Kath interjected. She looked at Bernard expectantly in a way that would have melted the Mayflower II's reaction dish.. "I never said anything of the kind. The whole point is that they are no~ indiscriminate. That's precisely what a lot of people around here won't get into their heads, and why they have nothing to be afraid of. The Chironians don't draw a line around a whole group of people and think everyone inside it is the same. They haven't started hating every soldier because he happens to wear the same color coat as the bunch that's running wild down there, and they won't start hating every Terran either. They don't think that way." . can in her good hand. "Anyway, Dr. Doom might have been an okay professor. Kalens chewed on a slice of orange but made a face as if the fruit was bad. "But we've been publicly insulted," he objected. "What are you saying--that we should simply forget it? That would be unthinkable. What kind of a precedent would we be setting?" . The closet door rattles. Probably just road vibration.. Celia sank back into her seat and closed her eyes with a nod and a sigh of relief. One of the figures in the darkness wanted to know how come somebody called Stanislaw knew how to fly something like this; Another voice replied that his father used to steal them from the government. "Yes, people have been doing aft kinds of things with it over the last ten, fifteen years or so." . Stanislaw took a long draught from his glass and made a what-the-hell? gesture. "My grandfather stayed alive in the Lean Years by ripping off Fed warehouses and selling the stuff. He could bomb any security routine ever dreamed up. My dad got a job with the Emergency Welfare Office, and between them they wrote two sisters and a brother that I never had into the system and collected the benefits. So life wasn't too bad." He shrugged, almost apologetically. "I guess it got to be kind of a tradition... sort of handed down in the family." . also on occasion under the soap-obscured surface of a full bathtub, and of course in spaceships whether. appearances, Burt Hooper is striving to quell a fit of giddiness, the boy now knows that this is like the. lodgers peer out in search of the source of the tumult.. "I told him to stuff it. It's over. We can be us now. I'm going to spend three months studying plasma dynamics at Norday, and after that get involved with the new complex they're

planning farther north along the coast. We can all move to Norday and live there until we find something more permanent." In a hastily convened meeting of the Congress, Howard Kalens again denounced Wellesley's policy of "scandalous appeasement to what we at last see exposed as terrorist anarchy and gangsterism" and demanded that a state of emergency be declared. In a stormy debate Wellesley stood firm by his insistence that alarming though the events were, they did not constitute a general threat comparable to the in-flight hazards that the emergency proviso had been intended to cover; they did not warrant resorting to such an extreme, But Wellesley had to do something to satisfy the clamor from all sides for measures to protect the Terrans down on the surface..THE WORLD IS FULL of broken people. Splints, casts, miracle drugs, and time can't mend fractured.someday?assuming he ever gets out of the state alive?to make restitution for this and for the hot dogs..A short silence fell while the meeting digested the observation. Kalens thought about the fusion complex that Farnhill had learned about in his largely unproductive talks with an assortment of Chironians in Franklin. Kalens had sent Farnhill off to learn what he could through more casual contact and conversation, after Borftein's sarcastic remark to the effect that the Army's company of misfits seemed to be making better progress with the natives than the diplomats were managing. "Yes.. . I know what you mean," Kalens said, acknowledging Sterm with a motion of his head. "As a matter of fact, we have already begun inquiries along those lines." He turned toward Farnhill. "Amery, tell us again about that place along the coast." Geneva said, "Well, if it's the police asking after Luki?" "And you're Corporal Swyley, who sees things that aren't there," Kath said, moving round a step. "Your Captain Sirocco told me about your ability. I like him. He told me about the way you ruined the exercise up on the ship too. I thought it was wonderful." "Go, go, go!" Curtis urges, because the night has grown strange, and is now a great black beast with a.the slightly vacant look of a long-term Ecstasy user?was behind the steering wheel, picking his nose.."Deploy the advance guard, Colonel," General Portney instructed from the middle of the cabin.."Don't you want to come along?" Bernard asked Jean. "It would get you out and give you a break." Driscoll thought about it, and in the end was forced to shake his head helplessly. "Not a lot that you'd be interested in, I guess," he confessed..other people's personal space and never demanded respect for her own, perhaps because with drugs she.Colman had been expecting something like that. "I know one unit of the Army that could do it," he said. "And they operate best when nobody's trying to organize them." Just over four square miles but irregular in outline, Phoenix included most of Canaveral City with its central district and military barracks, the surrounding residential complexes such as Cordova Village that housed primarily Terrans, and a selection of industrial, commercial, and public facilities chosen to form the nucleus of a self sufficient community. In addition an area of ten square miles of mainly open land on the side away from Franklin was designated for future annexation and development. Transit rights through Phoenix were guaranteed for Chironians using the maglev between Franklin and the Mandel Peninsula, in return for which Phoenix claimed a right-of-way corridor to the shuttle base, which would be shared as a joint resource..The painter shrugged again. "That's okay. Different people value things differently. You can't tell somebody else when they've had enough to eat." Now she knew why Earth seemed so far away. And she knew too what her mind in its wisdom had been cloaking and shielding from her. It was fear.."Number One Forward Port has surrendered," Oorsden said tightly, taking in another report. "The firing has stopped there. Nickolson is leading his men out, including his reserve. We have no choice." "From what Jerry Pernak told us it must have to do with antimatter," Jay said. "The Chironians are into a whole new world of particle theory. That means they can produce lots of antimatter economically. With that they could make matter-antimatter annihilation bombs, superintense radiation sources, guided antimatter beams, maybe who knows? But it has to be something like that." .gazing out across the enormous kitchen, wide-eyed, watching the hunters. The white-uniformed cook."What about Veronica?" she whispered.."Okay, maybe not." A dry sour laugh escaped her as she said, "But I sure have done my best to wash it.COLMAN LEFT THE Fallows house shortly before midnight with Bernard. Lechat, and Celia. There were more people about in Phoenix than he had anticipated, and the party reached the post that Sirocco had specified without need for elaborate precautions..GENERAL JOHANNES BORFTEIN'S simple and practical philosophy of life was that everything comes to him who goes out and looks for it, and if need be, takes it. Nobody was going to give anyone anything for nothing, and nobody kept for very long what he neglected to defend. The name of the game was Survival. He hadn't made up the roles; they had been written into Nature long before he existed..Bernard looked from Kath, to Colman, to Jay, and then back to Colman. He was beaten, and he knew it. But after Kath's cryptic statement, he wasn't inclined to argue too much. "Hell, it's not so bad. He doesn't need anyone to stop him from getting shot," he replied. Beside him, Jay's face dropped. Then Bernard went on, "But he sure-as-hell needs someone to keep him away from those girls running all over town." He nodded at Colman, and the beginnings Of a wry grin appeared around his mouth. "Keep a good eye on him, Steve. He's crafty." He turned his head and stared resignedly at his son. "And you," he grunted. "Get home on time, and don't say anything about this to your mother." "I don't know," was all that Bernard could reply. "If they have, they haven't published it. But does it seem likely? Would Sterm be moving the way he is if they had? But you have nothing to lose by spelling it out to them. It has to be worth a try."

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