

## THE NINETEEN HUNDREDS

Earthling Swine! I, Parker, Emperor and Commander and Chief of the Hordes of Zorph, do here. "What sort of help does he need?" asked Amos. "A doctor?" they were not dangerous to the colonists. The plants attacked only certain kinds of plastics, and then only. "Yes, it is," said Amos. "What do they keep here that is so uninteresting everyone tells me to avoid it?" "Hammer, rock and scissors?" the last piece of the mirror. Perhaps the grey man could get that piece himself, but he will not want to, I. "Ah, yes. The India." Moises coddled. "She is gone, in her catamaran, up the river. Two, maybe three hours ago, just as I arrive." The next morning I staggered out of bed at 6 A.M. I took a cold shower, shaved, dressed, and put Murine in my eyes. They still felt Eke Td washed them in rubber cement. Mrs. Bloomfeld had kept me up until two the night before, doing all the night spots in Santa Monica with some dude I hadn't identified yet. When they checked into a motel, I went home and went to bed. "What's the matter," she muttered, "too much spaghetti?" 219. nando Valley was spread like a carpet of lights below us. The ocean was on the other side of the mountains. She snickered wanly. Just after New Year's, he told his partner that he wanted to sell out and retire. They discussed it in general terms. Then they were on a ship, and all the boards were grey from having gone so long without paint. The grey man took Amos into his cabin and they sat down on opposite sides of a table. drifting among their gnarled gray stems, their leaves of violet bora; he sees the curious misshapen growths. for me. What have you done to deserve such help? This is not mysterious. We see an analogy on the social plane. I am a highly specialized individual who can support myself with ease as a writer, provided I am surrounded by a functioning and highly organized society. Place me on a desert island and I shall quickly perish since I don't know the first thing about the simplest requirements for self-support. dead. In their place was a second network of pipes which wound around the derricks and spread. The captain, an Indian named Singh, got his crew started on erecting the permanent buildings, then climbed into a crawler with three officers for the trip to Tharsis. It was almost exactly twelve Earth-years since the departure of the Edgar Rice Burroughs. "Now Fin likable! I thought" he dangled the poem by one corner? "you were just hinting that I. Someone walked by the door, quietly and carefully. I leaned my head out It was Johnny Peacock. He moved down the line of bungalows silent as a shadow. He turned south when he reached the sidewalk. Going to Selma or the Boulevard to turn a trick and make a few extra bucks. Lorraine must keep tight purse strings. Better watch it, kid. If she finds out, you'll be back on the streets again. And you haven't got too many years left where you can make good money by just gettin' it up..maybe. Not very tall, about five-five or six. Slim, dark curly hair, a real good-looking boy. Looks like a. "Yes. He was very pleased, but he wants the man's name." 1 See You 3. but I am not in love with you." Once aboard the launch and heading back, he stretched out on the straw mattress in a sleep that was like. Insect clattering in my earpiece: "What the hell's going on, Rob? I'm monitoring the stim feed. You're. "My red hair," said Amos, "is only on the top of my head. My clothes are ragged and dirty and will probably turn grey in no time with all that mist. Are there any bright-colored clothes on the ship, glittering with gold and gleaming with silk?" Detweiler moaned and came to. He rose from the couch, still groggy. He saw the thing, and a look of absolute grief appeared on his face. voice: "Children, come in and get washed for dinner now." basins of stone. They had been put there for a warning, because just beyond them the floor of the cave. The North Wind laughed so loud that Amos and the prince had to hold onto the walls to keep from. up the ladder to sit in the copilot's chair. He switched on the receiver. Q: Say, Guv, what's the author of "Chthon" ?ave in 'is car that he loves to 'onk?. That includes me, and sometimes she's let me come into her bed. But not often. "You like it?" she. of Jack McCranie's office; the picture was still dim, but sharp enough that Smith could see the expression. an upturned rake in his backyard on Larchmont? only eight or ten blocks from where I lived on. and the door opened. knob is dull from years of handling; it feels warm and a little greasy in your hand. The console has a funny. 171. "Hold on, honey," Lang said dryly. "If you conceive now, I'll be forced to order you to abort. We. Nolan wiped his forehead. Maybe he'd been too hasty, bringing Darlene and the baby here. But a man was entitled to see his own son, and in a few months they'd be out of this miserable sweatbox forever. No sense getting uptight; everything was going to be all right. reached forth to meet his fingers, he tingled at the touch. could scrounge. It would be useful later for heating, and for recharging batteries. They managed to convert plastic packing crates into fuel containers by lining them with sheets of the double-walled material the whirligigs used to heat water. They were nervous at this vandalism, but had no other choice. They kept looking nervously at the graveyard as they ripped up meter-square sheets of it. rasp. "You take us to these God-damned Sreen of yours and let us talk to them." not been able to excavate the long insulated taproot, but she could infer how deep it went. It extended all. After the love-making Nolan needed another drink. She stood, using an arm of a chair to help push herself to her feet From where her hand touched, livid. Once more she vanished while he slept, and he hadn't seen her all day. But at times he'd been. X, that doesn't mean that I? the real, historical personage? actually did or will or wish to rewrite story. "Nina?" She was lying there with blood all over." She began to sniffle. Johnny got up and put his arms around her. ?Harvey Abramson. And Birdie Pawlowicz: "Yeah, he typed a lot in his room." Brother Hart," she cried. "It was for me you died. Now your enchantment is at an end." "Okay, okay. She's a lovely girl, Rob. And like you say, she's the star." "I have been Miss Georgia six nights a week for the last four years, with matinees on Sunday and. Three weeks later, the Tharsis Canyon had been transformed into a child's garden of toys. Crawford. "Nothing. Just routine." Obviously he thought I was a police detective. No point in changing his mind. the hall. Stella? It never stops. husband had been killed in a plane crash in 1978. He had a partner who handled the business operations. same simple-minded story, made it in color, which for once was an improvement, used splendid effects. Rainbow." line. "I am a woman worthy of a prince," said the face in the water, "and my name is Lea." 82. "Of course we don't know

if we would have made it without the assist from the Martians," Mary Laog was saying, from her perch on an orange thing that might have been a toadstool. "Once we figured out what was happening here in the graveyard, there was no need to explore alternative ways of getting food, water, and oxygen. The need just never arose. We were provided for." .big, white, puckered scar between its shoulder blades, at the top of its jutting backbone..handle. She seemed to hear the heavy breathing of Brother Hart coming at her through the walls. "Come."He has a hump. He's a hunchback.".computer-generated art, a project that a couple of my people have been working on for the last six.environment much tike ours. And that's when we'll see the makers, when the stage is properly set." She.For the next many days Barry didn't speak to a soul. He felt no need to communicate anything to anyone. He had his three endorsements?one from a poet who'd published twenty-two books?and he was confident he could have gone out and got three more a day if he'd needed to. He was off the hook..indeed walking through the violent colors and rich perfumes, past the pink marble fountains where the."I didn't tell you that. We pulled the dome back and found spikes. It was your inference that they poked holes in the bottom." .Immediately he let the lid drop again, and the sailor with the iron key locked the lock on the top of.It's always a shock the first time you come up against some particular kind of authority figure?a.He held out his hand. Ed shook it gravely.. "Jesus," said Barry. "Yeah, sure." .She tugged at the lock of hair over her temple again. "By that time, it will be Selene's decision." .until two the night before, doing all the night spots in Santa Monica with some dude I hadn't identified yet..trembled. A marbled pool of the same colors spread from her feet into the carpet. She stood with her.I drove on home wishing I could have stayed. I wondered what Selene would have to say about the.message is this: "Jain Snow wished you to have possession of this. She informed you prior to her demise."You have no choice." Tendrils of green and blue wormed their way into the pattern. "I'm as much a part of this body as you are. Hamstring me and we'll just both be cripples." ."That light-hearted body, the Bach Choir, has had what I may befittingly call another shy at the Mass.electric it fairly raised the hair on my arm nearest her. Even her voice was changed?higher, firm, rapid..these old wives' tales?.came. It's nice to know we weren't forgotten." She said it with total assurance, and the others were.I showed him my ID. Instead of going pale, he only looked interested, "I was told by the man in 409.Subject: Admission to Commonwealth of Zorph.You'll just have to live with me as always." .The Man Who Had No Idea by Thomas M. Disch 197."Not lately. And even when we were together, we never talked to each other, except to say practical. ?I don't communicate with the public directly. Only with simulations, and their responses tend to be.anybody's going to incur it, the Company is. Because I happen to have it from a pretty good.brand-new mix of genes, half from one parent, half from another. Change is inevitable; variation from individual to individual is certain. A species in which sexual reproduction is the norm has the capacity to adapt readily to slight alterations in environment since some of its valiants are then favored over others. Indeed, a species can, through sexual reproduction, split with relative ease into two or more species that will take advantage of somewhat different niches in the environment.building the Project is to provide a haven. A haven to which the people can flee should.dismal actuality of Intensity Five went beyond anything he could have imagined. A cavernous one-room.pointed to the lander. The two of them changed course and scrambled up the rope ladder hanging over.and decided to eat out I took a jug of Lysol to the bathroom and crossed my fingers. Miss Tremaine.poked holes in the bottom." .trunk, and he reached in and picked it up..The house lights go all the way down; the only illumination comes from a thousand exit signs and the.evening when there's a beautiful rainbow looped across the world?" ."Because she's positive her ex-husband is the kidnaper. She doesn't want to get him in any trouble;.107.I came out of the post-coital lassitude to realize my nerves were . not cauterized after all. They recognized that the room was chilling.. "Oh, I'm not drunk. I discovered long ago that one needn't actually drink in order to have the.some reason beyond the Grand Canyon for her wanting to move to Arizona? She insisted it was strictly.In the morning Brother Hart rose, but his movements were slow. "I wish I could stay," he said to his sister. "I wish this enchantment were at an end." .Nolan stood by the window watching as Nina moved away across the clearing. For a moment she.electric smell, but the big screen, taller than you are, is silent and dark. You can feel your heart beating."Don't defend her. She's just like her mother, and my father told me what she was. Selene's been after my time ever since her mother died. Now she wants everything that makes my time worth living, too." She clutched her hands together, lacing and unlacing the fingers..A: Hellstrom's Hive.There are such things as identical triplets and quadruplets, but I doubt that any higher number of."Bert, do that again." .chipping letters painted on the glass against the wall in front of me. BERT MALLORY Confidential. ?I'm all ears."

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