

## THE OLD NORTHWEST THE BEGINNINGS OF OUR COLONIAL SYSTEM

She stared, then laughed and ran her hands along the back of a chair. It, too, changed color, to a pattern. DC. The knife turned toward her own chest. Selene's hand leaped to Intercept, closing on Amanda's wrist. Amanda screamed inarticulately. Her whole body convulsed with the effort to tear loose. Selene held on. Slowly, Selene twisted the wrist back and down while the poly around them swirled in wave after wave of color pulsating with every labored breath of the struggling body. The maelstrom spread out across the floor and up the walls, even affected the chairs so that they, too, raged with color and pulsed to ? the time of Amanda's breathing. .from his eyes, and I could see his thin chest throbbing. He gave me a blank look that meant he'd never. But when he said it, it sounded false. It wasn't false. .thank you very much. . "You take us in to talk to the Sreen," the captain tells them, "you take us in right now, do you hear me?" His voice is like a sword coming out of its scabbard, an angry, menacing, deadly metal-on-metal rasp. "You take us to these God-damned Sreen of yours and let us talk to them. ." "Nonsense," said the grey man smoothing his grey gloves over his wrists. "If you're going to be up this afternoon, you'd better go to sleep right now. ." ? Tomorrow I'm going back to Center St. and take the exam again. . Oregon, who still can't remember the blocking for Lovely to Look At, which she has been dancing since. I raised my brows. "That's dedication. ." "Brethren," he said in that rich resonant voice of his, and instantly he had everybody's complete. them, either through the mail or by purchase, used them to spy on their neighbors and on people in hotels. . I almost missed the next step turning to stare at her. "You're Selene?" . cleaning brushes. When he sat, the split in his shorts opened and exposed half his butt, which was also. members of the expedition were sleeping. The blowout was over in ten seconds, and she then had the. the brig, and told me that he and his nearest and dearest Mend would find the mirror all for themselves. . "It was one of the fruit," she said, gasping for breath and coughing. "I was heating it in a beaker, turned away, and it blew. I guess it sort of stunned me. The next thing I knew, Marty was carrying me out here. Hey, I have to get back in there! There's another one . . . it could be dangerous, and the damage, I have to check on that?" She struggled to get up but Lang held her down. . Her laugh is easy and unstrained now. "Kid games. Did you do the usual things when you were a kid. ." "It will work as long as the silver-white unicorn guards the fragment of the mirror," said Amos, "and the grey man doesn't have his hands on it. Now dive. ." . sideways at Ike and Eli and Zeke and me. Finally he singled me out and came over to where I was. In the cottage Brother Hart cried out in his sleep, a swift sharp cry. His hand went to his side and. , Gordon, too, and began saying Matthew. I would have preferred Matt, but when I brought that up she. From somewhere there was the sound of knocking. . New York 10014. elongated, the wide mouth accentuating the ugliness of her face. How could he have coupled with this. Women don't understand about strikes, about how important it is for workers to show who they're working for that they mean business. "Would you kill for me?" . his feet! . Baird Searles is part owner of New York City's Science Fiction Shop and has been keeping track of. friendly with him, felt sorry for him, I guess. . "I am also enclosing the rules for Two-Person Zorphwar, a version of the system that Hazeldorf has just completed. Up until now, play of Zorphwar has been possible only against a set of Zorph warships under the unimaginative control of the computer. With the two-person game, one player commands the Avenger while the other commands the Zorph fleet. The player terminals may be anywhere, as long as they are connected to our central computer. Thus, one player could be out there in California and the other back here in New York. . the poster. rainbow looped above them to the far horizons. . The sailor leaned his chin on his mop handle awhile, then said, "If you want to avoid it, don't go down." "What's wrong?" I asked, walking in. . asleep now. . curiously, does not echo in the vast antechamber. "Sreen! SREEN!" . Megalo Network Message: August 26, 1977. machine is halted while Zorphwar computations are completed. As you may have noticed, it took. "We've got company," Eli announced. . Nina? it wasn't her name, but he felt a need to somehow identify this wide-mouthed, pink-tongued. by tears rake fingers across the sky. It is an old, old song: . "Hi," said the girl in a tone intended to convey a worldly-wise satiety but achieved no more than blank anomie. "What's up?" . For a moment, Amos was just a little afraid. . bare, heading for the fateful rendezvous . . . Curtis Brown Ltd. for "Zorphwar!" by Stan Dryer and "Brother Hart" by Jane Yolen. alibis. . away, someone waved back. . people. What one does is legally binding on the other. . "I don't know what we'll have to do, specifically, but I know we'll find the answers." . In their room, Darlene lay shivering on the bed, eyes closed. Her head moved ceaselessly on the. each other and being so helpless to do anything concrete. It was telling on the crew of the Burroughs. . In the sky the clouds swirled and bumped each other, trying to upset the rain. . Robert F. Young has written thirty-nine stories for F&SF over the years, and we can think of only three writers who have contributed as much fiction as Mr. Young (Poul Andersen, A warn Davidson, and Ron Goulart). A Robert Young story is always a pleasure because its high quality is as predictable as its subject matter is unpredictable. Here he gives us the real story behind why a certain tower in Babylon was never finished and why all great builders, from Nebuchadnezzar to Moses (Robert), have such a rough time. . "Then I am the prince to save you," said Jack. . "You have done very well," said the grey man pointing to the wall where he had hung the first two pieces of the mirror together. Now they could make out what the shape of the third would be. "And if you get the last one, you will have done very well indeed." . She sat down close to him and whispered into his ear, "If anyone, such as Freddy, for instance, . Moises frowned. "As I told you, there is the matter of the repairs. Perhaps this afternoon?" . \*\*Not at all." . too sharp to ignore. At last I reach the summit. . Stella Vanilla? Fve never learned exactly what her real last name. Sue" (a Nebula award winner), and the gripping story you are about to read. He also wrote a. It took me a second to realize what he meant "You mean stamp collecting? Not much." . that evening? to catch a bus to San Diego, to visit his ailing mother. The landlord had felt sorry for him, . She was gone, but the hate remained. Nolan felt its force as he. In the morning Brother Hart rose, but his movements were slow. "I wish I

could stay," he said to his. "In this mill, fine white flour is made. All unwholesome parts of the grain are removed and certain." At Intensity Five I'm just plain Columbine, honey. The same as you're just Larry. And not knowing isn't much of an answer. Here I am exposing myself in front of you, and you come back with \*No Opinion.' I don't buy that." .isfy their curiosity in here where we can watch them, she reasoned, than have them messing things up outside..that's what you said.". "Look, I've never had one, and never planned to. I'm thirty-four years old and never, never felt the lack. I've always wanted to go places, and you can't with a baby. But I never planned to become a colonist on Mars, either. I... things have changed, don't you see? I've been depressed." She looked around, and Song and Ralston were nodding sympathetically. Relieved to see that she was not the only one feeling the oppression, she went on, more strongly. "I think if I go another day like yesterday and the day before?and today?I'll end up screaming. It seems so pointless, collecting all that information, for what?".My face must betray my confusion. I don't know how I should react.. "He didn't know nothin' about nothin'." I found myself laughing also. I got up and walked to the glass doors. I slid them open and then shut again. "Did you ever think one of these was open when it was really shut?".30."Nonsense," said the grey man. "I have more emeralds and diamonds and gold and pearls than I know what to do with," and he opened a closet door..Thomas M, Duck.He sat for a moment then solemnly held out his hand. I took it He shook my hand, then opened the.Tom Reatny.He examined the dome as he walked back to camp. There was a figure hazily visible through the."Yes, I see," Singh said. "And it's all very wonderful, almost too much to believe." He was distracted for a moment, looking up to the ceiling where the airberries?white spheres about the size of bowling baUs-oung in dusters from the pipes that supplied them with high-pressure oxygen..sports, and politics with other men and bottled up all his deeper feelings. She was introspective, outgoing,.Thank you, Barry. I know you mean that, and I'm flattered Well, then?" He took his pipe from his mouth and lifted it in a kind of salute. "So long. And Merry Christmas.". "Hello, can you hear me now?". "That's what you meant, all right. And you meant women, available to the real colonists as a reason to live. I've heard it before. That's a male-oriented way to look at it, Crawford." She was regaining her stature as they watched, seeming to grow until she dominated the group with the intangible power that marks a leader. She took a deep breath and came fully awake for the first time that day.. "What you can do with your stickers," Barry said resolutely, "is stick them up your ass. Your asses,.letting in the muffled roar of traffic on the Boulevard. I stuck my head out and looked, but it was three.She could have sent Teddy on his way with a few polite words instead of making an incident of it. Still, I.to blows with Lang, aided by McKillian. McKillian renounced men forever and had a brief, tempestuous." "That means," said Lea, " I was put here to be the nearest and dearest friend to all those grim, grey.some reason beyond the Grand Canyon for her wanting to move to Arizona? She insisted it was strictly.He looked at me with an expression I'd never seen before, and I knew why Lorraine said he had a lost, doomed look. "Well, we can't live forever, can we? Are you ready to go?".arises from sexual reproduction (except where self-fertilization is possible) has two parents..supposedly humorous complications. I didn't think it was very funny then, and I didn't think it was very.in return for a favor he did me a million years past, for it was he who made this cave for me by artful and.171.It wasn't a pretty job. Halfway through it, Song came down the ladder with the body of Lou Prager..it through all its stages, is coextensive with the critic's entire education. So critics tend to suppress it in.glamor of the place. Partyland was an endless middle-class living room, a panorama of all that was."You people want to take a walk around the dome with me? Maybe we could discuss ways of giving people a little privacy.".for him. "I wasn't lagging at you, young man," she told him, taking the same coolly aggrieved tone she'd.them in the pool.by JOHN VARLEY.crucial point. He signed off and they joined the other survivors..The DetwtUer Boy 47.Beachwood. And a couple of Chicano kids had had a knife fight behind Hollywood High. One was dead.unguarded, inquiring eyes, haven't you?.presents problems legally, if nothing else. He's the captain of a ship and should not leave it. That's what."Oh, I've got till March.".began to go forward..stand up, be wasn't interested in the Burroughs. He forced his mind away from her..talkers, which was a further attraction of their store, since one's exchanges with them were limited to such."Good." As though of its own volition her coat slipped off her shoulders onto the back of the folding.you will be expected to pay tribute in measure of your standing. The requisite payment for your.He smiled faintly. "I didn't know much about anything then. Too many people were already dead. If I'd gone to a hospital, they'd have wanted to know how I'd stayed alive so far. Sometimes I'm glad if s over, and, then, the next minute I'm terrified of dying.".six or seven months?".So as a public service (and to save you from the embarrassing experience of talking about the 1969.Vpstart.taken toward the ice cream. "I was laughing at myself. Obviously, I was asking for pity. So if I should get.the same genetic equipment possessed by the original fertilized egg.. "You must obey the edict of the Sreen," the Intermediaries have told us repeatedly, "there is no.He grinned with pleasure. "Thanks. It's for a paperback cover.\*\*.the neighborhood of Alpha Centauri. I can understand how the captain feels.. "Great," said Barry. "Fine. Terrific. I could use some company..".Samuel R. Delany.ornament, filled with snowflakes and the flashing red and blue lights of the emergency alarms. The top of.Every single cell in your body, in other words, has the genetic equipment of every other cell and of.227."Now before you play," I said, "you must understand that we did not wish it known we were working on a proposed naval system. Thus, we have pretended that we are fighting a space war of the future against the mythical race of Zorphs. The weapons you will be using will not have the standard Navy nomenclature, but you'll have no trouble recognizing what they really are.\*.better, just bigger.. "How?".I backed away, throwing my arms up to protect my head. Amanda might not be athletic, but she had.except hi the cramped sleeping quarters. Song Sue Lee was at the radio giving her report to the Edgar.tattooed on his right forearm. On a scroll circling the flagpole was the following inscription: Let's All.artists..180 Lee Killough.She took a deep breath and plunged in, only to collide with Ralston as he came out, dragging Song..adapted to these longer cycles. It hibernates in spores during the cold cycle, when the water and carbon.It was Nina..?Al

Sarrantonio.it yourself." "Amanda!" I crawled toward the kitchen, dragging the weight of my head with me. "Amanda, what. Detweiler wouldn't need anything out of it before I found out what was going on. If he did, the only thing, the surface, then disappear when their function was over. Our fingers crossed.." "Constable, all this culture may be very well, but sometimes a fellow needs, well, d-sh it! What do ordinary people nowadays do for amusement?" "About a day," Crawford said. "You have to destroy them to get out of them. The plastic strips don't cut well, but there's another specialized animal that eats that type of plastic. It's recycled into the system. If you want to suit up, you just grab a whirlbird and hold onto its tail and throw it. It starts spinning as it flies, and wraps the end product around you. It takes some practice, but it works. The stuff sticks to itself, but not to us. So you spin several layers, letting each one dry, then hook up an airberry, and you're inflated and insulated." "Tin not sure. I've never been more than three days. I can't stand it any longer than that. He knew. He always knew when I had to have it. And he got it for me. I never helped him."

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