

## BARGAINS

I became aware of the wind. It was blowing steadily up from the south. I could smell the sea in it. The Project swayed, ever so slightly. But that was all right. The engineers had allowed for the wind. I'd felt it sway lots of tunes, and I was no stranger to the wind..off." I don't think the fault's in Jain. I detect no significant difference from other conceits. Her skin still.In another hah\* hour I said I had to call it a night. I had to get up early the next morning. I always spent Sunday with my mother in Inglewood. My mother was touring Yucatan at the time, but that was neither here nor there. I looked at Johnny. He nodded. He was to make sure Detweiler stayed at least another twenty minutes and then follow him when he did leave. If he went anywhere but his apartment, he was to come and let me know, quick..started toward the slope of the mountain. Once the grey man raised his glasses as he watched them go."There is my closet full of jewels," said the grey man. "Wear as many as you want." immune to the inevitable despair of the castaway. Ralston in his laboratory was the picture of carefree."What staple?" she countered, becoming in an instant rigid with suspicion, like a hare that scents a predator..we've been here nine days, spouting out water vapor, carbon dioxide, and quite a bit of oxygen into the.that you are still in charge down there and that all of this is merely some kind of poor-taste humor..We'll have to find a way to conserve it a lot more than we're doing. Offhand, I don't know how. Song, do you have any ideas?"..adult found he had a limping heart or fading pancreas or whatever, or if a leg had been lost in an accident.Here is yet another treat from the master of the contemporary chiller. And speaking of chills, Robert Bloch's latest book is a collection of scary stories published by Doubleday and titled Cold Chills..The Intermediaries shrink before him, fluttering their pallid appendages in obvious dismay, and bleat."You'll stay right here," Lang barked, "We know there's not enough power in them to hurt the ship..Then she hung the hide up by the antlers beside the door, with the legs dangling down. It would hang.I have tried to speak to general issues rather than "defend" my own criticism. Issues are, in any case,.Plato have been pointing out, aesthetic and moral matters are usually not susceptible of such "hard" proof..The package comes later, along with a stiff legal letter from a firm of attorneys. The substance of the message is this: "Jain Snow wished you to have possession of this. She informed you prior to her demise of her desires; please carry them out accordingly." The packet contains a chrome cylinder with a screw cap. The cylinder contains ashes; ashes and a few bone fragments. I check. Jain's ashes, unclaimed by father, friends, or employer..in town, but the eyes said he wasn't. I guess the old broad liked his hair that way..soft for me to catch, and lay face down on the couch with his feet toward me. The light from the opened.which, he said, was his nearest and dearest friend. He said if I would work for him and carry his trunk, he..Corporation and their ability to respond quickly to any technical challenge..handle. She seemed to hear the heavy breathing of Brother Hart coming at her through the walls. "Come.The grey man went over and picked up a tangerine-colored alley cat that had been searching for fish.She pulled the shawl tighter around her. "When I got up this morning, that chair you're sitting in was bright blue. It's always brown or yellow for you. Selene has to have been sitting in it."..the way of your work, are you?"."Not much. He's only been here since Sunday night. He's very handsome, like an angel, a dark angel. But it wasn't his handsomeness that attracted me." She smiled. "I've seen many handsome men in my day, you know. It's difficult to verbalize. He has such an incredible innocence. A lost, doomed look that Byron must have had. A vulnerability that makes you want to shield and protect him. I don't know for sure what it is, but it struck a chord in my soul. Soul," she mused. "Maybe that's it. He wears his soul on his face." She nodded, as if to herself. "A dangerous thing to do." She looked back up at me. "If that quality, whatever it is, would photograph, he would become a star overnight, whether he could act or not. Except ?of course?for his infirmity."..up. She humphed..CAMPBELL'S There Goes Who?.Selene sent it out of reach with a swift kick of her left foot "You'll have to learn."..165.Samuel R. (Chip) Delany has for some time been one of sfs most interesting novelists (Dhalgren, Triton, et cetera) and one of the field's more thoughtful critics (The Jewel-Hinged Jaw: Notes of the Language of Science Fiction). He has not written much short fiction recently, and so we are especially pleased to offer this fresh and magical change of pace..His first endorsement proved to have been beginner's lock. Though he went out almost every night to a different speakeasy and practically lived at Partyland during the weekends, when it was at hs liveliest, he never again had such a plum fall in his lap. He didn't get within sniffing distance of bis heart's desire. Most people he met were temps, and the few Permanent License holders inclined to be friendly to him invariably turned out, like the MacKinnons, to have already disposed of their allotted endorsements. Or so they said. As the weeks went by and anxiety mounted, he began to be of the cynical but widely held opinion that many people simply removed the stickers from their licenses so it would seem they'd been used. According to Jason MacKinnon, a completely selfless endorsement, like his from Ed, was a rare phenomenon. Quid pro quos were the gen-."Fifteen," she countered..Mama's voice sank to a murmur. "It concerns the one outside."..command. We'll do all we can to minimize social competition among the women for the men. That's the.Barry shook his head. ?Twenty different ideas? Impossible."..Several people at the back stood up and started clapping. The applause spread and turned into a standing ovation. Congreve grinned unabashedly to acknowledge the enthusiasm, stood for a while as the applause continued, and then grasped the sides of the podium again.."I love you very much,"..three wheels, suited for sand, and something that's a cross between a rubber-band drive and a..So the grey man turned to one of his sailors and said, "You know where yon can get him such a suit."..Because it was just Harry Spinner at the Brewster Hotel on the wrong end of Hollywood Boulevard, the cops took over hah\* an hour to get there. While we waited I told Birdie everything I knew, about the phone call and what I'd found..paused to scan them for comments. There were none. She stripped to her skin and reached for the light..practice and no more." I sighed. "You seem to have all the best of it".I gave her a suspicious frown, got up, and walked over to the bathroom door. I turned around, crossed

my arms, and leaned against the doorframe. "Well?" 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." "The luminous pool!" cried the prince, and they ran forward. Each of us adds to the other's pleasure, and it's better than the other times. But even when she comes, she stares through me, and I wonder whose face she's seeing? no, not even that: how many faces she's seeing. Babe, no man can fill me like they do. boy, I've run across something very peculiar. I don't really know what to make of it." her arms, then used one hand to hold it while she began pinning it in place. The poly turned a bright. Immediately he let the lid drop again, and the sailor with the iron key locked the lock on the top of. to get started on their analyses. Song knelt again and started digging around one of the ten-centimeter. And there was much work to do. Most of the physical sort devolved on Crawford and, to some extent, on Lang. It threw them together a lot. The other three had to be free to pursue their researches, as it had been decided that only in knowing their environment would they stand a chance. 115. "Ken and Nell, you come down ahead of him by the springhouse. Wanda, you and Tim and Jean." "I think," said Amos, who thought quickly and was quick to tell what he thought, "that everything is not quite right in there." stopped and turned to face me. "I'll have to ask you for a favor. Mandy doesn't know about my practice. The truth, senior. This one you call Nina? this girl? is not a ghi. She is of the ancient race from the high peaks, where the great serpents dwell. Your workers here, even Moises, know only the jungle, but I come from the great valley beneath the mountains, and as a child I learned to fear those who lurk above. We do not go there, but sometimes the snake-people come to us. In the spring when they awaken, they shed their skins, and for a time they are fresh and clean before the scales grow again. It is then that they come, to mate with men." meet you." "No, no, you must go," Hinda said again. "I cannot have you here at night. If you love me, go." Then Lang groaned. "All the air-lock seals, for one thing." There were grimaces from all of them at the. "The staple on your license? why is it there?" Hinda buried her face in her hands, and everyone else in the tavern turned away and began to look. "Have you considered a divorce?" Marvin Kolodny asked. rope, then, and perhaps you can spare a man to go with me. A rope is not much good if there is a person. Barry proffered his most harmless smile. "I wasn't even thinking of that." other creatively." played a few notes of Bach, or maybe Vivaldi or Telemann. All those old Baroques sound alike to me. closed down on the bungalow to imprison him behind a wall of jungle darkness. And at night the noises. (2nd verse) O, give me a clone. An organ replacement would be grown and since it would have precisely the same genetic equipment. artists inspire me with the warmest possible regard. . . . When my critical mood is at its height personal. "Andrew." mottle of yellow and orange. Nolan gestured quickly. "Get that engine started? we're going after her." Again those black and burning eyes of his seemed to absorb the Project from its bottommost brick to. "Not at all," laughed Jack. "They didn't even notice that the jailor was gone." For what they had done last night after we left them, was to take the jailor's key, free the prince, and tie up the jailor and put him in the cell under all the grey blankets. In the morning, when the sailor had come to exchange clothes, Jack had freed himself again when the sailor left, then slipped off the ship to join Amos. "Probably." I fell head over heels just four evenings ago. The grey man scowled and contemplated and cogitated, but could not make anything of it. At last he. "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." "That's right," said Jack. "And nearer than you think is a great, grey, dull, tangled, boggy, and baleful. chuckled. and there was light on each face. For all the cold wind their faces were still shiny with the sweat of the. Prismatic. slitted eyes unblinking above high cheekbones, her thin brown body relaxed and immobile. Hard to. "Did you see her?" "This is it, babe," she says. "It's tonight. Will you help me?" Company's gone! They've struck their tents and left! before he was due; as compensation, he was redelivered into another man's body, with all sorts of. source? and you can quote me on this if you like? that somebody up there doesn't want the Project. "They'll just keep tossing men and women at the stats until someone does come back. Sreen or no." Jesus," said Barry. "Yeah, sure." "That's Topic's feature story this week?" "How did they get along? Did they quarrel or fight?" business for its health. Accounting is depending on Program S723 to keep track of profitability in the. We're in the Central Arena, the architectural pride of Denver District. This is the largest gathering place in all of Rocky Mountain, that heterogeneous, anachronistic strip-city dinging to the front ranges of the continental divide all the way from Billings down to the southern suburb of El Paso. both sides had walked out. demonstrated. "The most unique collection of architecture in the world." "He didn't know nothin' about nothin'." I found myself laughing also. I got up and walked to the glass. cubits above the world. The Project, if it is completed, will reach a height of 205. works. I'd seen him interviewed on some talk show where he'd worn a jumpsuit zipped to the neck. book?" he asked craftily. The crawler skidded to a stop, nearly rolling over, beside the deflated dome. Two pressure-suited figures got out. They started for the dome, hesitantly, in fits and starts. One grabbed the other's arm and pointed to the lander. The two of them changed course and scrambled up the rope ladder hanging over the side. Now it shows exploitation and double-feature horror films. Only Grauman's Chinese and the once. Worse, he was only half suited. Pragmatically she should have left him and moved on to save the ones. center of the screen: a thing like a hairy beetle, its body covered with thick black hairs or spines; it stands. edge of the frostcap. The limb of the planet reappears; he floats like a glider over the dark surface tinted with rose and violet-gray; now he can see its nubby texture; now he can make out individual plants. He is drifting among their gnarled gray stems, their leaves of violet bora; he sees the curious misshapen growths that may be air bladders or some grotesque analogue of blossoms. Now, at the edge of the screen, something black and spindling leaps. He follows it instantly,

finds it, brings it hugely magnified into the center of the screen: a thing like a hairy beetle, its body covered with thick black hairs or spines; it stands on six jointed legs, waving its antennae, its mouth parts busy. And its four bright eyes stare into his, across forty million miles..a box number at the Hollywood post office. The title of the story was "Deathsong." I wished I'd had time."And this was obviously such a time," said Hidalgo, "for you are back now and we are to be."Wes and Lynn Pederson.by THOMAS M. DISCH.most dependable and trustworthy person I know.". (chorus).?This way," she said, beckoning them into a tunnel formed from more strips of plastic. They twisted.the bulletin board in the other's kitchen. On the bulletin board was a note that said "OK." If there was any.about to go for the third mirror himself.".Tired but smiling, the prince lifted it from the ice and handed it to Amos. Then he went to pick up his shirt.heads up, sniffing the wind; then a stubbled field, dropping away; and now, below you, the co-op road.Yet in one specialized way cloning can take place in even the most advanced animals-even in the human being.. "You take us in to talk to the Sreen," the captain tells them, "you take us in right now, do you hear.they are connected to our central computer. Thus, one player could be out there in California and the.Selene also kept me informed on what needed to be done, either around the cabin or for Amanda.. "The hunter was here," he said as he crossed the door's threshold..rather late by then, and they were famished). Before she'd had three mouthfuls, the poem started coming. "Why write?" I asked Selene..his third glass, and that was what he still couldn't understand..of pastel greens and yellows..with Crawford's assessment..The clerk had the license with his name on it, Barry Riordan, right there in her hand. She inserted it.hall. It was comfortable and cluttered, and dominated by a drafting table surrounded by jars of brushes."These 'fruit' are full of compressed gas," he told them. "We have to open up another, carefully this time. I'm almost afraid to say what gas I think it is, but I have a hunch that our problems are solved.. "Jain!" I scream at the sky until my voice is gone and vertigo destroys my balance. The echoes die. A s Jain died..hand in hand.. "Oh, I'm not drunk. I discovered long ago that one needn't actually drink in order to have the satisfaction of behaving outrageously.. "Just after New Year's, he told his partner that he wanted to sell out and retire. They discussed it in.cut paper, paper covers rock.. "would come..effect, indivisible from the community."

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