

THE POEMS OF WILLIAM MASON

not work, the glamor fades, the sublime aristocrats turn silly, the profundities become simplifications, and his hand up in hers and at the sight of the blood grew pale. It was the second time she had seen Brother. "Listen, Jain?" "Fifteen," she countered. crushed and pulpy thing sprawled shapelessly beside the rocker, its sightless eyes bulging from the. When the ship finally did show up, it was no longer a NASA ship. It was sponsored by the fledgling International Space Agency. Its crew came from all over Earth. Its drive was new, too, and a lot better than the old one. As usual, war had given research a kick in the pants. Its mission was to take up the Martian exploration where the first expedition had left off and, incidentally, to recover the remains of the twenty Americans for return to Earth. "I've come to help you," she said. "You have gotten two thirds of the broken mirror. Now you must get the last piece." but nonetheless jealous and possessive husband, who was a patent attorney employed by Dupont in. "Hurry, hurry, step in! We can't keep it open too long." They groped their way in, scraping frost. Prudently he didn't spring them on her all at once, but waited until she'd finished each one before telling her what the next had to be about. She didn't raise any further objections until he came to Number 8, whereupon she insisted she didn't have any feelings about beets whatsoever. He refused to believe her, and to prove his point he cooked up a quick dinner on her hotplate of Spam and canned beets (it was rather late by then, and they were famished). Before she'd had three mouthfuls, the poem started coming to her, and by the time she'd got it into final shape, five years later, it was far and away the best of the lot. know?". Joanna Russ. 48. "The true and indisputable masters of the universe," the Intenne-. wrong, because Peg was not supposed to be back from Cleveland until next week. GutS, LESTER DEL REY. There was no emotion in his voice. He was detached, talking about someone else. "He kept me alive. I'll. "Negative, but for a moment it felt like it" He pauses. "You're not allowing your emotional life to get in." "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. "Thanks again." She snickered wanly. "I have a plan," said Amos, who could think very quickly when he had to. "Simply do as I say." Selene managed their dual existence, but because neither personality gave interviews on the subject, it. All the mouths that were hanging open about the tavern closed. Yet in one specialized way cloning can take place in even the most advanced animals-even in the human being. "No reason to stay. When I was eight, my parents were killed in a fire. Our house burned down. I. On your screen you will be given a display of your current sector of the galaxy and the stars in that. rope, then, and perhaps you can spare a man to go with me. A rope is not much good if there is a person. The inner nest was free-form. The New Amsterdamites had allowed it to stay pretty much the way the whirlibirds had built it, only taking down an obstruction here and there to allow humans to move around. It was a maze of gauzy walls and plastic struts, with clear plastic pipes running all over and carrying fluids of pale blue, pink, gold, and wine. Metal spigots from the Podkayne had been inserted in some of the pipes. McKillian was kept busy refilling glasses for the visitors who wanted to sample the antifreeze solution that was fifty per cent ethanol. It was good stuff, Captain Singh reflected as he drained his third glass, and that was what he still couldn't understand. breathing grows a little ragged; that is all And yet she is more demanding of me than ever before. even without cloning, and the ordinary process of supplying new soldiers for despots is infinitely cheaper. months. become much more fluent these past months." And come he did, neither silently nor slow, but with loud purposeful steps. He stood for a moment at the clearing's edge, looking at Hinda, measuring her with his eyes. Then he laughed and crossed to her. Then he went back upstairs. About twenty minutes later he came down with his old suitcase and checked. I'm done with the circuit chips. Now the easy staff. I wryly note the male and female plugs Fm. signs of forced entry? but then, my BankAmericard hadn't left any signs either. The window was open, PROLOGUE. "The other end of the rainbow?" asked Hidalgo. "Just before you came down." If the first trip had been an ordeal, this one was an agony: a frantic thrust through the sultry night on. 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. "Your bank statement came today." Project Hi-Rise by Robert F. Young 231. "I'm no swimmer but I prefer hot water to ice," Amanda said. process. In the place of the removed egg cell nucleus, you insert the nucleus of a somatic cell of the same. category (that, historically, is what it is) of heroic fantasy. I don't need to bad-mouth Pool Andersen, ripped up meter-square sheets of it. hours poring over them." instructions for its use. One sentence read cryptically: "Keep Time Control set at zero." It was like "Wet. I'm not used to this much open space; it scares me a little, though I'm not going to admit that to Jain. We're above timberline, and the mountainside is too stark for my taste. I suddenly miss the rounded, wooded hills of Pennsylvania. Jain surveys the rocky fields rubbed raw by wind and snow, and I have a quick feeling she's scared too. "Something wrong?" The nice thing about guilt is that it's so easy to repress. Within a day Barry had relegated all. The clue was in the orrery, of course." "Sure, when I was really young." I repeat by long-remembered rote: "Rock breaks scissors, scissors." "What ecological balance?" Song shot back. "You know as well as I do that this trip has been nearly a zero. A few anaerobic bacteria, a patch of lichen, both barely distinguishable from Earth forms?" start downriver to meet them, escort them here. He'd had his qualms about their

coming; they'd have to. We cut and I dealt "How long have you been in Hoflywood?". She shrugged, running in place while she talked to me. "Someone has to let you know when things need to be done." can't happen over and over, so that three or four or any number of organisms might not develop from the original fertilized egg. As a matter of practical fact, however, a mother's womb can only hold so much, and if there are multiple organisms developing, each is sure to be smaller than a single organism. The more organisms that develop, the smaller each one and, in the end, they will be too small to survive after delivery. I've known the question would come, though I hadn't known who'd articulate it? her or me. My hesitation stretches much longer in my head than it does in realtime. So much passion, Rob. . . . It seems to build. Would you kill for me? "Yes," I say. Crawford looked at it briefly, then squatted down beside the rest, wondering what all the fuss was. someone is watching you as you watch; and beyond that watcher another, and beyond that another. . . . time. use of cloning would be to reproduce genius. They ended up with a long cylindrical home, divided into two small sleeping rooms, a community. There was a special meeting tonight at the Union Hall. At it, the Organizer asked if everybody had read the minutes he'd distributed, and when everybody raised their hands, he asked did we want to take another strike vote. There was a big chorus of nays and not a single yea. That shows how Union brothers stick together when the chips are down. "I'm not Selene," Amanda whispered. The examiner, a wizened, white-haired fuddy-duddy whose name Barry instantly forgot, had been hostile. traveled far and seen much, but never a beauty such as yours. year. They seemed genuinely sorry, but he felt it had been a mistake to ask. waited for full summer to come. When it does, this whole planet will bloom. Then we can step outside. who wouldn't dream of challenging a dance critic's comments on an assoluta's line or a prima donna's. Crawford was not about to answer. He said, with a perfectly straight face, "Me? Maybe you should just assume I'm a chauvinist." "Where would that have come from?" Lang had asked. Someone entered the room. He stood leaning against the doorframe, looking at me with sleepy eyes. the air. It was Hinda's voice, and when the hunter heard it he smiled for she was singing tunes he had. pale, blurred look in the starlight, the six completed stages blending together, the uncompleted seventh. She stared, then laughed and ran her hands along the back of a chair. It, too, changed color, to a pattern. now; his head was throbbing with weariness. "The gate's going to be a lot bigger than last night," Jain had said. "Can you handle it?" "Of course before breakfast," said the prince, and fell to chopping. The ice chips flew around him. His first elation fizzled out and he was left with his usual flattened sense of personal inconsequence. represent the full situation. For example, nowhere in those reports is the well-being of our programmers. chilling quality comes from the very ordinariness of the people involved, and the professor's wife of. ahead. CAMPBELL'S There Goes Who?. When the moon lit the clearing, the hunter returned. He could not wait until the morning. Hinda's fear. sible, you being an examiner and all... but I wish I knew you in a personal way. Truly. You're a very heavy individual." Subject: Problems with Communications Network I am sending this message by mail as there seems to be something wrong with the Megalo telephone system and the message network is all fouled up. Enclosed are copies of the last two messages received from your installation. I shall assume that your screwball friend Ha-zeldorf has gotten into the guts of the message-switching system and reprogrammed it to produce these messages as a practical joke. If this is the case, correct the situation immediately and dismiss Hazel-dorf. Please contact me at once to apprise me of the status of corrective action. I assume that you are still in charge down there and that all of this is merely some kind of poor-taste humor. "Well, you see, Dr. Kolodny, what she believes is that the end of the world is about to happen. Next. ideas (among which is the idea that art ought not to be political), then such neutrality simply doesn't exist. 139. "But we're middlemen, you see. We have only limited flexibility in the terms we can offer. Say, fifteen. As if she had broken a spell, the man spoke at last "I am but a. and told me that he and his nearest and dearest Mend would find the mirror all for themselves." "If I might be able to-" "Any man who can walk out of a tavern one night with nothing and come back in a week with that?" and she pointed to the wheelbarrow full of gold and jewels "is a man to be taken seriously." from his eyes, and I could see his thin chest throbbing. He gave me a blank look that meant he'd never. "That's okay," she said. "I'm sure you'd have done just the same for me." "If there is anything I can do in return . . . ?" Tremaine stopped typing and lifted the receiver without breaking rhythm. "Mr. Mallory's office," she said. the bright image races toward you, trees hurling themselves into red darkness and vanishing, then the. The Podkayne was lowered to the ground, and sadly decommissioned. It was a bad day for Mary. directly before the gate. I knew from its length that here was no ordinary wealthy merchant, but I was. alike. The cell is an intricate assemblage of chemical reactions, chemical building blocks, chemical. it in and picked it up. She peered at the underside and laughed in wonder. These cells could serve as potential organ banks for the future. H the time were to come when an. They reached what must have been the center of the maze and found the people everyone had given. I'm wired to a test set fully as powerful as the costume Jain'll wear later? just not as exotic. I slide a. "I know,". After what seemed a long, long time, he saw a flicker of silver-white, and coming closer, he saw it was a unicorn. It stood in the little clearing, blinking. Just behind the unicorn was the last piece of the mirror. Mary Lang let it work itself out, only interfering when it got violent. She herself was not immune to. 235. "I wondered from the start why you were along, Crawford." She was pacing slowly back and forth in. It stops being easy after the frog, though. Frog eggs are naked and can be manipulated easily. They. 114. book?" he asked craftily. going to be a Mediator present? one that the King himself appointed. Maybe now we'll get somewhere. (thought) for a lesser degree of stateliness and bon ton than that achieved by Partyland, but even so the. ornament, filled with snowflakes and the flashing red and blue lights of the emergency alarms. The top of

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