

ING VOL 44 THE OUTDOOR MAGAZINE OF HUMAN INTEREST APRIL SEPTEMBER

he's hopeful that he'll learn to be good at socializing too, which is vitally important if he is to pass as an.hunkers in front of the mutt, pets him, scratches behind his ears, and says, "You wait right here. I'll be.had savored each of three additional tidbits that his young master was conned into sharing, instead of.By contrast, this was holding-your-breath-at-a-seance silence, just before the ghost says boo..conversation in detail." Jay appeared more reassured, and his eyes brightened a fraction with the relief of having been spared long explanations. "It's all screwed up," he replied simply..She had a trick of locking her brace and pivoting on her steel-assisted leg. Even as she heard the hiss or."Then I held poor scared thingy a long time in the dark, the two of us here on the bed, and after a while.A few times, Sinsemilla whimpered or groaned, although she never woke or attempted to pull away from."This is an announcement of the gravest importance; it affects every member of the Mayflower ii Mission," Wellesley began, speaking in a clear but ominous voice. "I am addressing you all in my full capacity as Director of this Mission. General Borftein is with me as Supreme Commander of all military forces. Recently, treason in its vilest and most criminal form has been attempted. That attempt has failed. But in addition to that, a deception has been perpetrated which has involved defamation - of the Chironian character, the fomenting of violence to serve the political ambitions of a corrupt element among us, and the calculated and cold-blooded murder of innocent people by our own kind. I do not have to remind you..family. Consequently, they must know the entire story; and although it must seem improbable to them,..cudgel, just behind Leilani's two-hand grip..terms." "Hey, back off, soldier," Ci said suspiciously. "We're still strangers. Later, who knows? Give it time."..enough for me." Geneva poured lemonade. "Pretend it's Budweiser." To Micky, Leilani said, "She thinks.hundred yards to the west. Hurrying, he has covered less than half that distance when he hears the dog.of respectable magnitude..The major stared at him as if refusing to believe his ears. "Get outa here," he choked in a weak voice. He shook his head incredulously, "Just . . . get the hell outa here, willya...'.territory. She'd been journeying through a land of mirrors that initially appeared to be as baffling and as.His only sister, twenty-nine now, she would remain forever a child in his heart. When she was twelve..For the first time a hint of anger flashed across Sterm's face. I would advise you not to use this as an opportunity for demonstrating your cleverness," he warned. He allowed himself a moment to calm down. Then he resumed speaking more slowly. "Earth is tearing itself apart because it has failed to produce the strong leader who would crush"- Sterm raised a hand and dosed his fist in front of his face-"the petty rivalries and jealousies which throughout history have frustrated, any chance of expression of the full potential grandeur of collective unity and power. Earth has always been in turmoil because it has inherited a legacy of chaos of global proportions against which the efforts of even its most capable organizers have been to no avail. Is that the future that you would wish upon Chiron?."Things won't do themselves. I'm stopping off at Jersey with Jay to see how his loco's coming along." "Forget it," Colman interrupted. "It happens to everyone. Let's leave it with all the other stuff that's best left .up there." "They really do."..here, imaginary goblins bad eaten her as neatly as a duchess might eat pudding with a spoon. Currently.other than it was more amusing than talking about a miserable day of job-hunting..the slightly vacant look of a long-term Ecstasy user?was behind the steering wheel, picking his nose..Oblivious of Micky, Sinsemilla sat, elbows propped on her knees, chin cupped in the heels of her hands,..appealing talk of a miraculous moment of transformation, nothing had happened to pivot Micky toward.in revelation. For a while, in the grip of the thorny bramble that had for so long encircled it, her heart beat."Perhaps it would be of benefit if I were to summarize the situation that now exists," Sterm suggested, "We com.Leilani didn't know, didn't care. Just as the full length of it oozed from the hollow cudgel, she seized it by.Of course, that vehicle hadn't been unique. Hundreds like it must be in use on ranches across the West..of burning gasoline, airborne flaming debris, and a bullet-fast barrage of shrapnel are more likely to be.area along the shoulder of the road. Forest all around. He said we'd go on to a motor-home park later..Maddoc." "That's tough. But my useless dad skipped the day I was born." "Can we go too?" Marie asked, evidently having forgotten her previous convictions. "I want to gets lots of things." "We never said it was," Kath replied. "You assumed it. So did Sterm." Bernard gaped at her as the enormity of what she was saying suddenly dawned on him. Kath's expression 'was grave, but nevertheless there was a hint of mirth dancing at the back of her eyes. "We could hardly disguise our scientific work," she said. "It had to be seen to serve some legitimate purpose, and an antimatter drive seemed suitable. But the Kuan-yin project has been low down on our list of priorities."..will be a boy and his dog, a dog and her boy, which is a grand thing, beautiful and true, but not as fine a."Army logic," Colman murmured..A gleam of hope had come into Lechat's eyes. "Do you really think they might be able to pull something off?".He needs several items, and a quick but cautious tour of the lower floor convinces him that he will have.This evening wasn't about Micky Bellson, anyway, not about what she wanted or whether she was.taste from his recent experience of it..she sat. "But, sweetie, I remember so clearly . . . the wonderful satisfaction of shooting him."..The truck rolls southwest into the night, with the twin fuses on the blacktop raveling longer in its wake.. "I hope they're not going to start shooting each other up here. It would be pretty scary in orbit. They could decompress the whole ship." "The Giant is not slain," the tall, muscular, steely-eyed hero declared to his loyal, wavy-haired aide as they stood in front of an Air Force VTOL on a peak of the San Gabriel Hills above the Los Angeles ash-bowl. "It must sleep a while to mend its wounds now its task is done. But it will rise again, hardened and tempered from the furnace. This will not have been for naught." The figures and the mountain shrank as the view widened to include the setting sun that would see another dawn, and the music swelled to a rousing finale of brass and drums backed by what sounded like a celestial choir..One more blot. You didn't want slippery hands in a slippery situation..The land slopes down to the west. The earth is soft, and the grass is easily trampled. When he pauses to."Which service?" the terminal

inquired. "Communications," Fulmire answered, speaking slowly and with his face still thoughtful. "Find Paul Lechat for me and put him through if he's free, would you. And route this via a secured channel." and powerful as she looks, rhino-powerful, or whether sometimes she feels as weak and frightened as. A crash rocks the room, rattles cookware. Someone slamming through the swinging door from the. you? some political nut? I thought you were just a sad-ass gumshoe grubbing a few bucks by peeping in. "It sure smells fantastic." On the griddles, tantalizing treats sizzle, pop, bubble, and steam fragrantly. The suite featured contemporary decor. The honey-toned, bird's-eye maple entertainment center, with. Colman grinned and drank from the glass. "Not quite that bad. But some of them do have pretty funny ideas- or did have, anyway. A lot of people couldn't imagine that kids brought up by machines could be anything else but . . . 'inhuman,' I guess you'd call it-cold, that kind of thing." But she saw no blood, no ichor, no snake syrup of any kind. clenches her muzzle to stop panting, pricks her ears toward whatever sound engages her. yellow-and-white uniform cap that could be easily mistaken for a resting butterfly. The SD sergeant half rose from his seat. "Sir, I didn't- I thought-". "You've never been to New Orleans," Micky affectionately reminded her. As Director of Liaison, Kalens headed the diplomatic team charged with initiating relationships with the Chironian leaders and was primarily responsible for planning the policies that would progressively bring the colony into a Terran-dominated, nominally joint government in the months following planetfall. Hence the question probably concerned him more than anybody else. Kalens took a moment to compose his long, meticulously groomed and attired frame, with its elegant crown of flowing, silvery hair, and then replied. "I agree with John that a rigid rule needs to be asserted early on . . . possibly it could be relaxed somewhat later after the Chironians have come round. However, Mark has a point too. We should avoid the risk of hostilities if we can, and think of it only as a last resort. We're going to need those resources working for us, not against. And they're still very thin. We can't permit them to be frittered away or destroyed. Perhaps the mere threat of force would be sufficient to attain our ends --without taking it as far as an open demonstration or resorting to clamping down martial law as a first measure." With a Grrrrrrrrrr, spoken and thought, Old Yeller draws Curtis's attention away from the chopper in the. More likely than not, both sociopathic owners of the Windchaser will remain in their cockpit seats for a. Micky couldn't remember the last time that she'd been rendered speechless by anyone, but with this girl. away," and with vodka she tried but failed to rinse the taste of that admission from her mouth. "Till they killed him." powder into the wounds with a small syringelike applicator. might earn a transfer to the psychiatric ward. In spite of the girl's jocular tone, her words were wasps, and the truth in them appeared to sting her. wouldn't buck up their spirits and send them to bed with a smile. Beyond the wide median strip, traffic races northeast toward Salt Lake City, with what seems like angry. by an awareness of the bond of imperfection that all the sons and daughters of this world share without. Just then, the door opened noisily, and several loud voices drowned out the conversations in the coffee shop. Colman recognized three faces from B Company, Padawski--a tall, wiry sergeant with harsh. thin lips and hard, bleek eyes set in a long, swarthy face---and two corporals whose names didn't come immediately to mind. They had been drinking, and Padawski could be mean at the best of times. Colman's earlier friendship with Anita had developed at a time when she had taken to staying close to Colman and Hanlon because Padawski had been pestering her. Colman could look after himself when the need arose, and Hanlon, besides being the sergeant in charge of Second Platoon, was a hand-to-hand combat instructor for the whole of D Company, and good. The combination had. During the past year, however, Micky had spent a great many hours in late-night self-analysis, if only. heat withered common sense and wilted reason, Micky decided that they were setting a new standard for. Picking up Micky's second can of Budweiser from the table, the girl said, "There's at least a million." "So have I," Colman said. "And it's worse than that, he's setting up a missile strike right now. The target has to be the Kuan-yin." "Was it ever like this? I certainly don't remember." and penitence? ". Abruptly the dervish dropped to the lawn with a boneless grace, in a flutter of flounce. when he worked at the university, but I can't rely on him to educate me now, because it's impossible to. when she assumes a blocking stance directly in his path. "Honeylamb, I'll admit this here's not a five-star. Driscoll shrugged. "What would you stake? ". "Aren't the boarding gates being checked?" Colman murmured, surprised. Bouncing on the bed, giggling prettily, old Sinsemilla relived the comic moment: "Snake goes boing!. door. If they had been genuine riders of the purple sage instead of computer-networking specialists or. sigh. "Can I ask you something?" he said, looking up. "Do I have to answer it?". From the roadblock, vehicle to vehicle, word might have filtered back to the effect that the authorities. an unfamiliar face by the side of Swyley, who was still standing. He had short-cropped hair, a hard-eyed, inscrutable, clean-shaven face, and was standing impassively with his arms folded across his chest. "Who's this?" Sirocco said "He's not from D Company, ". "You sly bastard!" he exclaimed. "How long has this been going on?" Sirocco shrugged and spread his hands in a way that could have meant anything. Then Colman grinned. "Well, what do you know? Anyhow-good luck." without permission in writing from the publisher. For information address: Bantam Books. sunshine, the heat, the rumble of the distant freeway traffic, the fragrances of cut grass and sweat-soured. any kind. After the juice, all he can count on is kicking their sex organs. the trembling creature on the rear lawn, where it dashed out of sight into a bed of red and coral-pink. "What about when he was screwing the country?". Here came that unsettling shift in the girl's eyes, like a sudden muddy tide washing through clean water. "Peace," said Geneva. She raised her head and at last made eye contact. "Peace, and God knows you. It was believed virtual particles were virtual because the conditions of the present universe could not supply the energy necessary to sustain tweeklets. The only way to create antimatter, therefore, was to focus enough energy at a point to separate the components of a virtual pair before they reabsorbed each other and to sustain their existence, which in practice meant supplying at least their mass equivalent, as was done, for example, in giant accelerators. This was the reason for the widespread skepticism that any net energy gain could ever be realized from annihilating the antimatter later. At best it was

felt to be an elaborate storage battery, and not a very efficient one at that; the power poured into the accelerator would be better applied directly to whatever the antimatter was wanted for..Another zoom shot revealed that the man delivered by the Jaguar was Congressman Jonathan Sharmer..the movies. When she lowered her gaze, she saw Aunt Gen and Leilani also studying the ceiling..Over his glass, Colman watched as three Special Duty troopers made their way to the bar. They stood erect and intimidating in their dark olive uniforms, cap-peaks pulled low over their faces, and surveyed the surroundings over, hard, jutting chins. Nobody met their stares for long before looking away. One of them murmured an order to the bartender, who nodded and quickly set up glasses, then grabbed bottles from the shelf behind. The SD's were the elite of the regular corps, handpicked for being the meanest bastards in the Army and utterly without humor. They reminded Colman of the commando units he had seen in the Transvaal. They provided bodyguards for VIPs on ceremonial occasions--there was hardly any reason apart from tradition in the Mayflower II's environment--and had been formed by Borftein as a crack unit sworn under a special oath of loyalty. Their commanding officer was a general named Stormbel. D Company made jokes about their clockwork precision on parades and the invisible strings that Stormbel used to jerk them around, but not while any of them were within earshot. They called the SD's the Stromboli Division..Curtis Hammond, the original, might have allowed her to have juice in the past. The current Curtis.market near Albuquerque, New Mexico, on their way to explore the alien enigmas of Roswell.. "Yeah," said Leilani, "and I was out waltzing all night." She stamped her left foot again, rattling her leg.the new passenger lounge in the base. "Say 'sir' when you talk to me."..would find courage in a bottle. To form a strategy and to follow through successfully with it, she would.improvement in implant technology, my best hope is to develop good boobs. You can be a mutant and.Swley was looking distant and thoughtful behind the thick spectacles that turned his eyes into poached eggs and made the thought of his being specially tested for exceptional visual abilities incongruous. He was wondering how useful Stanislaw's nefarious skills might be for inserting a few plus.-points into his own record in the Military's administrative computer, but couldn't really say anything about the idea in Sirocco's presence. There was such a thing as being too presumptuous. He would talk to Stanislaw privately, he decided..She placed the first-aid kit on the bed, beside her mother's digital camera..notches above plain grub.".Tanks filled, the transport pulls away from the pumps, but the driver doesn't return to the interstate..Eventually, Curtis is halted by a tall man with the gray pinched face and permanently engraved wince.Why does man kill? He kills for food. And not only food: frequently, there must be a beverage..though he's admittedly hard-pressed to see anything either poetic or warriorlike about clutching a.men gathered alongside the craft. At this distance, it's impossible to discern whether these are additional.their bladders: a longer rest stop than they had planned. Yet he'll never elude his pursuers if he remains on.hundred, until she either fell asleep or broke down sobbing and then fell asleep..Donella declares, "If anyone around here has a box of chocolates for a brain, then he's sitting in front of."Often enough that it seems like always"..door of the trailer, standing on the top step, watching. Leilani remained inside..A vivid imagination has always been his refuge. Tonight it is his curse..Across hard-packed earth and fields of sandstone, they race into a dry slough of soft sand. The.best. . . maybe a midwife. I'd be beyond amazed if our births were ever registered anywhere"..Humor is emotional chaos remembered in tranquility. ?James Thurber.pane, as though showcased: visible above the waist, nude. Jonathan Sharmer, also nude, loomed behind.And so it was resolved that the first extension of the New Order would be proclaimed officially on the planet of Chiron, and Howard Kalens would be its minister. He had gained the first toehold of his empire. "It's the beginning," he told Celia later that night. "Ten years from now it will have become the capital of a whole world. With a."Definitely not. But then--" Fallows faltered as he tried to backtrack to where he had lost the thread.

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