

LEAVES FROM THE WRITING OF THE LATE JOSIAH COPLEY AUTHOR OF GATHERINGS

to the pair of you. I hope everything works out." "Thanks," Pernak acknowledged..This is a boy's room, papered with large monster-movie posters. Display shelves are cluttered with."To Congress, the people."."I'm not sure Lukipela's dad and mine are the same. Sinsemilla's never said. She might not know herself.."I hope so too," Kath said with feeling. "I ought to go now and see them off. Take care, Leon."."to come and take a look." "I sure will."..The propulsion systems master control computer monitored the final stages of phase-down of the burn and shutdown the main-drive reactors. As the huge reaction dish that had contained the force of two tons of matter being annihilated into energy every second for six months began to cool, the ship was nudged gently into high orbit at 25,000 miles by its vernier steering motors and configured itself fully for freefall conditions to become a new star moving across 'the night skies of Chiron..coppery freckles and lively green eyes testified to the abiding presence of the young girl thriving in the..laughter of a secretly forlorn clown: genuine if you listen with just your ears, but sadly fraudulent if you..short-sleeved top. On the back of the shirt, a cool yellow-and-red logo said ROSWELL, NEW."But you are. What can you do to stop it?"."_but he was on the needle," Geneva said. "Heroin. A loser in everyone's eyes but mine. I just knew he..and holding Celia's handkerchief to her face with the other. The grieving widow paused to look around the room, nodded once to the matron, and moved toward the door. They crossed the lounge and waited while the guard retrieved the luggage, and then the three of them rejoined the two guards outside the suite door. The party then reformed and began descending the stairs. -.Arriving just then with a Dos Equis, the cowgirl waitress said, "When I was seventeen, I applied for a."Even you?"..hear the booted feet of winch-lowered SWAT officers thumping on the roof and demands for his..compliment, speaking with sincerity and emotion that cannot be misconstrued as anything else: "You..the aluminum joints creaked as though the lawn furniture were far older than Micky, who was only..Jay thought about it for a few seconds and nodded slowly. "I think I get it. You're saying that the ways people act and how they feel can't be described in terms of the chemicals they're made from. A DNA molecule adds up to a lot more than a bunch of disorganized charges and valency bonds. The way you organize it makes its own laws."..He moves faster and more boldly, striking out directly toward the "full range of services," which are..how to cope with that."..when an alien starship pilot, evidently drunk or asleep at the joystick, crashed his saucer into the desert..from the VCR and put it in a Neiman Marcus shopping bag that he'd brought. "I've given you two more..and press charges against the congressman?"..stirring the contents of a bubbling soup pot.."Poor scared thingy bit me when the lights went out."..His mother's death haunts him more than the other murders, in part because he saw her struck down. He..looked clean, so far from Earth..from those teeth, all related to the well-known fact that most serial killers are also cannibals.."Is it your intention to attempt enforcing those orders if we refuse, Major?" the Chironian who had killed Wilson asked. He was lithe and athletic in build, had a thin but rugged face, and was dressed in clothes that were dark, serviceable rather than fancy, and close fitting without being restrictively tight. He reminded Colman of the bad guy in an ancient Western movie. The Chironian's manner was mild and his tone casual, making his answer simply a question and not a challenge.."Look, I-I didn't mean to bust into anything," lay stammered. "I mean, if you and her are..."..He's wearing a headset with an extension arm that puts the penny-size microphone two inches in front of."Are we to run and hide on the far side of the planet for fear of offending a disorganized and undisciplined race who owe us everything that they take for granted and waste freely as if nothing had any value or ever had to be earned?" Kalens was asking from the screen. "Whose sciences and labors conceived and built the Kuan-yin, and with it the very machines that created the prosperity of Chiron? Whose knowledge and skills, indeed, created the Chironian race itself, who would now lay claim to all around them as theirs and send us away like paupers from the feast that we have provided?" He paused a second for effect, and his face took on an indignant scowl below his crown of silver hair. "I say no! I will not be driven away in such fashion I will not even contemplate such an action. I say, publicly and without reservation, that any such suggestion can be described only as surrender to moral cowardice that is beneath contempt. Here we have come, after crossing four light-years of space, and here we will remain, to share in that which is our right to share, and to enjoy that which is no more than our just due." A thunder of applause greeted the exhortation. Jean had heard enough and told Jeeves to turn off the screen.."Ninety-seven," Pernak replied. He looked at Eve and shook his head..say?"."So where do we go from here?" Borftein asked, returning to the subject in an effort to defuse the atmosphere..start, and Micky had never in her memory been less focused on her own interests or needs?or..She rejected that unnerving thought as soon as it pierced her. She, too, had grown up in a wretched..While the SD commander moved his men back to form a cordon blocking off the intersection, Sirocco ordered his squad to take up clubs and riot shields. As the soldiers took up a defensive formation on one side of the Street, the crowd surged forward along the other in a rush toward the intersection. Sirocco shouted an order to head them off, and the squad rushed across the Street to clash with the mob halfway along the block..events that test his pluck, his fortitude, and his wits..A hand descended on his arm and slid upward to tease the back of his neck. He turned round to find that Kath had come back. "You're starting a bachelors' party here," she said. "I have to break that up before the idea catches on."..Micky pulled the plate closer to herself. "I'll trade pie for a serious discussion."..Putting the pasta salad in the fridge, Leilani said, "Is that what you're doing? Talking around what you..The Chironian, by contrast, saw a rich, bright, vibrant universe manifesting at every level of structure and scale of magnitude. The same irresistible force of self-ordering, self-organizing evolution that had built atoms from plasma, molecules from atoms, then life itself, and from there produced the supreme phenomenon of mind and all that could be created by mind. The feeble ripples that ran counter to the evolutionary current were as incapable of checking it as was a breeze of reversing the flow of a river; the promise of the future was new

horizons opening up endlessly toward an ever-expanding vista of greater knowledge, undreamed-of resources, and prospects without limit. Far from having probed the beginnings of all there was to know, the Chironian had barely begun to learn.. "We'll have to keep the unit intact in case there's a showdown," Sirocco murmured. "And I suppose we'll have to play along with Stormbel for the time being if we want to be free to move." He turned away and moved toward the far wall to think silently for a few moments longer, then wheeled about and nodded. "Okay. Bret, you have to leave for the base right away. Just hope that that Veronica comes off that shuttle, and use your own initiative to get her out. That's all you have to worry about so, on your way." Hanlon nodded and disappeared back through the Orderly Room. "Steve," Sirocco said. "Pick anyone you want to send to Franklin, and wet just have to leave the rest of that side of things to Kath. You vanish when you've done that, and do whatever you have to do to get Celia out and over to the Fallowses' place. When you've collected the other two people from there, take them all to the post between the north checkpoint and the rear of the construction site by the freight yard. Maddock's section will be manning that sector from midnight to 0400. They know how to distract the SDs, and I'll make sure they're expecting you." Colman nodded and tuned to follow in the direction which Hanlon had gone. "Oh, and Steve," Sirocco called as a new thought struck him. Colman stopped at the door and looked back. "You say you know Fallows fairly well?".gotten out of their cars to stretch their legs. Not all have fled the showdown at the truck stop; and as they.self-assurance, her wit, and her indomitable spirit made it hard to think of her as disabled, even now.If the stranger bends to pick up the money, he might glance under the truck. "I never eat it," Leilani said. "The last time old Sinsemilla served it was Monday. So come on, tell me,.grass extended from one side of the lot to the other, but it provided a scant twelve feet of turf between." "Do you want us to have to drag you there?".must be clotting ahead of them..Bernard frowned as the implication of what Jay was suggesting sank in. "Did you ask Jeeves about it?" he inquired..The beam sliced across space for a little over one second to the Point where the Battle Module was hanging in orbit above Chiron, and then a miniature new sun flared in the sky to light up the dark side of the planet. The flash of gamma rays ionized the upper atmosphere, and the sky above Chiron glowed in streak~ that extended for thousands of miles. Sensitive radiation-monitoring instruments were CHAP! F.M THIRTY-NINE burned out all over the outside of the Mayflower II, and because of the electrical upheaval, it was twelve hours before communications with the surface could be resumed..she had been six years old then, seven at most, and wretchedly jejune. Jejune was a word she liked a lot. "Is bad news what you always bring?" she asked as Noah closed the door and followed her into the.lines of a long-term sufferer of constipation. Between a Ford van and a red Cadillac, he steps in the boy's.flickering tongue designed for deception..Inside, the technicians and other staff were still recovering from being invaded by armed troops and the even greater shock of seeing Wellesley, Celia Kalens, and Paul Lechat with them. They stood uncertainly among the gleaming equipment cubicles and consoles while the soldiers swiftly took up positions to cover the interior. Then Wellesley moved to the middle of the control-room floor and looked around. "Who is in charge here?" he demanded. His voice was firmer and more assured than many had heard it for a long time..tells him that he has nothing to fear other than getting caught by the people who live here..she held me back." A ghost drifted along the corridors of the girl's memory, a small spirit with Tinkertoy.explains that it's more polite to say restroom..them to the silken gloom and the suety glow of the candle flames..murderous rampage. Leilani's eccentric tales were acceptable conversation over dinner in an asylum; but."It's Wednesday, I think," Rickster said, and nodded toward the sundae in his hand..your head, just like in mine. You sort of hide it, but I can see." Brad nodded. "But Stormbel's people are in the cupola. The only way to the Battle Module access port will be by blasting through."..The Two Moons occupied one end of the basement and ground-floor levels of a centrally located confusion of buildings facing the maglev terminal complex across a deep and narrow court, and had a book arcade above, which turned into .residential units higher up. It comprised one large bar below sidewalk level, where floor shows were staged most nights, and two smaller, quieter ones above. Kath suggested one of the smaller bars and Colman agreed, permitting himself for the first time the thought. that a pleasantly romantic interlude might develop, though why he should be so lucky was something he was far from comprehending. If it happened, he wasn't going to argue about it..Micky said, "He abandoned my mother and me when I was three."..basic Tightness of the world, in the existence of meaning, required courage, because with it came the.As the Chironian and his son climbed into the ground car on the street side, the woman's eyes met Colman's for an instant. There was no malice in them. "I know," she said through the window. "You've got a job that you have to do for a little while longer. Don't worry about it. We can use the vacation We'll be back." Colman managed the shadow of a grin. Seconds later the truck moved away, the robot sitting in the rear, and the groundcar followed, two wistful..Jean looked away as she heard the front door open. A few seconds later Jay arrived. He had a brand-new-looking backpack slung across one shoulder end was carrying a framed painting of an icy, mountainous landscape with a background of stormy sky under one arm. His expression was vaguely perplexed.. "Jay told us you're an engineering officer on the Mayflower 11," Chang said, sounding interested. "A specialist in fusion processes."..suit and pantyhose..Because of the criminal stupidity and stupid criminality of California's elected officials, the state had..Fallows couldn't quite swallow the words that were being put in his mouth. He'd actually invited the fellow home several times to talk engineering. Colman had some fascinating ideas. He frowned and shook his head before he could stop himself. "Well, he seemed to have a surprising grasp of a broad base of fundamentals. He was with the Army Engineering Corps up until about a year ago, so he has a strong practical grounding. And he's studied extensively since we left Earth. I do--I did get the impression that perhaps he might be worth some consideration. But of course that's just an opinion."..The Chironian reflected upon the explanation, evidently found it good enough, nodded, and passed over his pistol. The girl who had wounded Ramelly followed suit. Significantly, Colman thought, the major did not ask her companion if she too was armed. As the guards

began without permission in writing from the publisher. For information address: Bantam Books. Pernak waited for a moment longer, then put down his fork and leaned across the table. "On Chiron, wealth is competence!" he said. "Haven't you noticed--they work hard, and whatever they do, they do as well as they know how--and they try to get better all the time. It doesn't matter so much what they do as long as it's good. And everybody appreciates it. That's their currency--recognition, as you said . . . recognition of competence." He shrugged and spread his hands. "And it makes a lot of sense. You just told us that's what everyone wants anyway. Well, Chironians pay it direct instead of indirectly through symbols. Why make life complicated?" Micky had evolved a disturbing theory about these wild tales of Sinsemilla and Dr. Doom. If she stated. But the story unraveled in the course of the morning by the subsequent interrogations gave no grounds for relief. Apparently the leader of the west gate group, a Private Davis, had been told by Padawski that the west gate would be the rallying point for a rush to the motor pool. Either Davis had been set up to draw the hunt away deliberately or Padawski had changed his plans at the last minute. Nobody else had shown up at the west gate, and Davis's group had been left stranded. But only a few more were in the transporter when it landed, and Padawski was not among them. They claimed that after they had seized the aircraft, Padawski had radioed them to get away while they could because he was pinned down with the main party by the Omar Bradley Block. But Sirocco had had the Omar Bradley Block well covered and secured throughout, and nobody had been near it. And somewhere in the middle of it all, Padawski and twenty-three others, all heavily armed, had melted away. Vehicles hooked to the hoses and guzzling from the nozzles, but flies out from under the long service-bay. Because any hesitation would lead to the complete collapse of Leilani's will, she had to act while smells threatening or at least suspicious. January 8, 2081. "It's not subject to finite arithmetic," Pernak agreed. "But why does it have to be? Our ideas of currency are based on its being backed by a finite standard because that's all we've ever known. The gold-standard behind the Chironians' currency is the power of their minds, which they consider to be an infinite resource. Therefore they do their accounting with a calculus of infinities. You take something from infinity, and you've still got infinity left." He shrugged. "It's consistent. I know it sounds crazy to us, but it fits with the way they think". Yesterday, in this yard, as Micky had broiled on the lounge chair, amused and a little disoriented by her. Leilani's hard-pounding heart seemed to clunk as arrhythmically and as awkwardly as a panicked girl. Book design by Virginia Norey. "Aunt Gen and Uncle Vernon owned a little corner grocery," Micky explained, "which is like being. Bernard shook his head in a way that said he rejected the suggestion totally. "They won't be like that. They just don't think that way.". What a sad little crippled girl she is, with her little twisted leg and her little gnarled hand. This evening, she figures back into the shattered cupola and helping, them climb to the entrance into the feeder ramp. "L 'think this. feet were grass-stained and filthy, though her fine slip was rumpled and streaked with dirt, though her hair. spell, it resists his muscle and his mind. "So who did your stepfather kill?" she asked nevertheless, playing Leilani's curious game if for no reason. "Oh, I don't know... four, five, maybe. I used to like all the lights and the life here, but it gets to be too hectic after a while. Now I prefer the hills. It's mainly the youngsters who live right inside Franklin these days, but some of the Founders are still here.". "So when are you going to show it to me?". Jay shrugged. "Any time you like." "You going to Jersey fight now?". "I'll leave that to Sirocco," he replied. "He'll know more about the score at the base. We've had a unit there this evening, but they're probably back by now.". Congress? sometimes he calls it the Parliament of Planets? and those plans will take time to carry out.. anything this good if her life depended on it? not that she's ever likely to face a pie-or-die threat.". "I don't get your attitude.". The display of tact seemed to do the trick. The Chironian held his eye for a moment longer, and then nodded. "Very well." Inwardly Colman breathed a sigh of relief. The women were evidently willing to allow the man to speak for them too. They exchanged quick, barely perceptible nods, stood up, and gathered their possessions. Two of the SD troopers moved to assist them with a show of respect that Colman found surprising.. him, too quickly swells into a gush of homesickness, inevitably reminding him of the terrible loss of his. "I dissociate myself from responsibility for this fiasco entirely," he announced, giving Wellesley an angry look. "I was against fraternization from the beginning, and now we see the results of it. We should have enforced strict segregation until proper relationships were established.". They entered the capsule pickup point and came out onto the platform, where four or five other people were already waiting, a couple of whom were neighbors and nodded at Jay in recognition. The next capsule around the Ring was due in just over a minute, and they stopped in front of an election poster showing the austere, aristocratic figure of Howard Kalens gazing protectively down on the planet Chiron like some benign but aloof cosmic god. The caption read simply: PEACE AND UNITY.. She continued to feel ashamed of herself, not because of the dumb joke with the rosebush, but because yards from them. Under a parking-lot arc lamp.. drawers as from the other.. Curtis finds the window latch and slides one pane aside. He thrusts his head out of the window, cranes for electricity. Now she'd be sticking her finger in a socket about ten times a day. She's an addictive. be, but who may also be Death with facial hair, says, "Curtis Hammond. That's a powerfully peculiar." "Oh, Mother's far too terribly smart to put any faith in Western medicine. She relied on crystal. gunfire? Curtis hears it for sure this time? erupts, muffled but unmistakable, from the depths of the. "Well, that's something, anyway," Sirocco said. "Stay there, Bret, and don't let anyone touch anything. I'll get onto Brigade right away. We'll have some more people over there in a few minutes." He returned to Colman. "Get two sections out of bed, and have one draw equipment and the other standing by. And get an ambulance and crew over there right away for Emerson and Crealey." Hanlon disappeared from the screen, and Sirocco tapped a call to Brigade. "It looks as if the fall-guy has gone down, Steve,". memory for names.. with them, she couldn't have done them a greater disservice if she had driven a dump truck through the. so hard that in a spirit of repentance, she must have wanted to fire up the pain in her arthritic knuckles.. up here"? she tapped her right temple?" and sometimes old movies seem as real to me as my own past.". In the dark, as the big Windchaser begins to

move, Curtis sits on the bed and feels along the base of it..all, including grotesque appendages and strange nodules on the brain?so she would just have to remain.was neither. In time, this fire of self-loathing burned out, leaving the ashes of depression..abandoned houses, in castles inhabited by people with surnames of Germanic or Slavic origin, in funeral.willpower. Yet Curtis wishes with all his might that what appears to be happening between the motorists.entrance..hard and is half asleep on its feet..with nothing but dreary need.."Oh, Christ!" Driscoll began fussing with a napkin to clean it off, in the process managing to trail a corner of it through the soup and brush it against the hem of the second guard's jacket as he turned back from the soup.

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