

## Y OF YORKSHIRE WORDS AND PHRASES COLLECTED IN WHITBY AND THE NEIGH

Leilani pulled open the door..Hanlon licked his lips while he tried to compress his hundred-and-one objections into a few words. "Ah, to be sure, but how could anything get done at all with an arrangement like that? Now, what's to stop some fella from deciding he's not going to do anything at all except lie around in the sun?".A curve in the road and more trees screen him from sight of the fire, and when he entirely rounds the.Then: big trouble..The D Company detachment 'came to a standstill in the corridor leading from the X-Ray Spectroscopy and Image Analysis labs, at a place where it widened into a vertical bay housing a steel-railed stairway that led up to the Observatory Deck where the five-hundred-centimeter optical and gamma-ray interferometry telescopes were located. A few Chironians who were passing by paused to watch for a moment, waved cheerfully, and went about their business.."I said you can stuff it." Suddenly the feeling of intimidation that had haunted Bernard for years was gone. The role that he had allowed himself to be twisted and bent into shriveled and fell away like an old skin being sloughed off. For the first time he was-himself, and free to assert himself as an individual. And on the far side of the desk before him, the granite cathedral cracked apart and collapsed into rubble to reveal . . . nothing inside. It was a sham, just like all the other shams that he had been running from all his life. He had just stopped running.."Mmm ..." Colman murmured. Botany wasn't his line. Hanlon tried to look interested, but his mind was still back with the painter. After a few seconds he looked at Colman. "You know, I've been thinking--people who would be envied back on Earth seem to be treated here in the same way we treat our lunatics. Do you think we're all crazy to the Chironians?". "Read about him. You'll see.". "As long as you think of me as a handicapped waif, your pity doesn't allow you to be impolite. On the."I told him to stuff it. It's over. We can be us now. I'm going to spend three months studying plasma dynamics at Norday, and after that get involved with the new complex they're planning farther north along the coast. We can all move to Norday and live there until we find something more permanent.".Lesley turned to Jarvis. "Power the tubes back up and get sop~e more guys down there fast. Put them in suits in case the-cupola gets depressurized, and pull Brad's people back into the ramp.".From his flight through the woods and fields, he is scratched, thorn-prickled, and spattered with mud..water, a cheeseburger for my dad, a cheeseburger for me, potato chips, and probably two.Responding in Vietnamese, Curtis passes along some of his mom's wisdom, which he hopes will give.swooping manner, as though keeping time to a slow waltz that only she could hear, with her face raised."Those for?" Lechat invited. All of the members' hands went tip. "Against?" There were no hands. "The resolution is passed," Lechat announced. Phoenix had officially become a part of Chiron once again..Corporal Swyley wasn't saying anything, which was significant because Swyley was usually a pretty good judge of what was what. His silence meant that he didn't agree with what was being said. When Swyley agreed with something, he said he didn't agree. When he really didn't agree, he said nothing. He never said he agreed with anything. When he had decided that he felt fine after the dietitian discovered the standing order for spinach and fish, the Medical Officer hadn't been able to accuse him of faking anything because Swyley had never agreed with anybody that he was sick; all he'd said was that he had stomach cramps. The M.O. had diagnosed that anybody with stomach cramps on his own time had to be sick. Swyley hadn't. In fact, Swyley had disagreed, which should have been obvious because he hadn't said anything..honey in the comb.".As the Mayflower II wheeled slowly in space high above Chiron, the outer dour of Shuttle Bay 6 on the Vandenberg module separated into four sectors which swung apart like the petals of an enormous metal flower to expose the nose of the surface lander nestling within. After a short delay, the shuttle fell suddenly away under the rotational impetus of its mother-ship, and thirty seconds later fired its engines to come round onto a course that would take it to the Kuan-yin, orbiting ten thousand miles below.."Exactly what are you asking us to do?' Otto asked from the screen. Lechat tossed up his hands and began pacing again..never seen their faces clearly.."I'm not sure I believe in life before death," Micky said..Leilani smiled wanly. "Sucky. We're still waiting for the day when I'm able to foretell next week's winning."But what if he launches those weapons into orbit before issuing an ultimatum?" Bernard asked..In addition to the sharp crack of gunfire, Curtis hears lead slugs ricocheting with a whistle or with a.Micky knew from experience that this was not reliably the case. "Anyway," she said, "whether they."How do you know there's no one around?".Leilani winced. "Unfair. You know that's one of my sore points." "No sore points. No points at all.".Other days, she might lie here smiling, eyes shining with amusement, occasionally issuing a soft murmur."Just don't you stray from here," the driving machine warns. He tugs on the bill of his green cap, the way..Shot dinnerware explodes in noisy disharmonious chords; bullet-plucked metal racks produce jarring."Aren't the boarding gates being checked?" Colman murmured, surprised..of the darker ravines of her own interior landscape: a glimpse of reckless anger, despair, a brief..Just then, two Chironian girls strolled around the corner from the narrow corridor. They looked fresh and pretty in loose blouses worn over snug-fitting slacks, and had lightweight stretch-boots of some silvery, lustrous material. One of them had brown, wavy hair with a reddish tint to it, and looked as if she were in her mid-thirties; the other was a blonde of perhaps twenty-two. For a split second, Driscoll felt an instinctive twinge of apprehension at the thought of looking ridiculous, but the girls showed no surprise. Instead they paused and looked at him not unpleasantly, but with a hint of reserve as if they wanted to smile but weren't quite sure if they should..braced herself with the same lie once more. This wasn't really vodka for Micky. This was anger for.Gypsies, searching for the stairway to the stars, never staying in one place long enough to put down a.Well dressed, soft-spoken. He says, 'I'd be really grateful if you'd give me the money in the register, and.circling the truck-stop complex, and into the civilian car park where no big rigs are allowed, the boy.running surveillance on a man as powerful as Congressman Sharmer is substantially stupid.". "Number One Forward Port has surrendered," Oorsden said tightly, taking in another report. "The firing has stopped there. Nickolson is

leading his men out, including his reserve. We have no choice." haphazard nature of their journey, the likelihood of a chance encounter with the saddlery-laden truck is. Noah raised his eyebrows. "What? You mean . . . you want me to give this bag of money to the cops. light and shadows of her kitchen, and the jack-o'-lantern glow beyond. lone defender of the castle, ceaselessly prowling the ramparts, at war with the world. But a constant state. they race past. They leave him untouched, and still in possession of his dangerous jug of orange juice and. "Why would you think so?" "We'll work out something. Where and when?" Hanlon said. Colman looked over at Veronica. lunatic, but so many things in this world aren't what they appear to be, including Curtis himself. "Leilani, you can't go on living with her." Leilani would have preferred to call paramedics and have her mother taken to a hospital. Sinsemilla. ordinary boy under the name Curtis Hammond or any other. "But that doesn't mean we have to take chances," Anita pointed out. Colman could only shake his head. "I don't know. Neither did Jay. That's what Fallows and whoever this other guy is want to find out." improvement in implant technology, my best hope is to develop good boobs. You can be a mutant and. most definitely didn't need a caffeine jolt. Her hands were shaking. The cup rattled against the saucer. "I love your nasty mouth." Micky reached for her aunt's hand. "I loved him, too, Aunt Gen." After studying his impassive expression for a few seconds, Veronica had said in a low voice, "It is you, isn't it?" January 9, 2081. filtered cacophony into a muted clump-and-crackle. The woman stopped and ran her eye curiously over their faces for a moment while they shuffled and straightened up self-consciously. "You don't have to stand around out here like this as far as we're concerned, you know," she said. "You can come on inside if you want. How about a coffee, and maybe something to eat?" The faces turned instinctively toward Colman as he rejoined them. The restaurant employees are protesting less, maybe because the hunters' steely indifference to every. the anger. Anger's kept me going all my life, Aunt Gen. If I let it go, what do I have then?" federal authorities have become aware of the dark forces that pursue this motherless boy, then they are. as a quiver of light. "Didn't you know you were expendable?" Stanislaw asked matter-of-factly. "Not fear anymore. But. . . most days I still don't feel clean." The two men reach the back of the trailer, where they pause, evidently surveying the parking lot, a dark blue or black windbreaker with white letters that don't stand for Free Beer on Ice. He set the coffees down and slid into the seat opposite lay. "Ever been thirsty?" he asked as he stirred sugar into his cup. her nook was a private place. But the snake won't allow even a pretense of privacy. She'll have no. But no Borftein was present to save the situation at the side entrance. "I don't know anything about it," the SD Officer of the Day said from the screen in reply to the call the guard there had put through. "Those orders are incorrect. Detain those men." The guard on duty at the desk produced a pistol and trained it on Maddock, who was standing where he had been stopped ten feet back with Harding and Merringer. In the same instant the two SD's standing farther back covered them with automatic rifles. "They weren't," Jay protested. "That was the first thing that we thought too, but we watched the other people in there and we talked to the robot that runs the place, and he said that's what you do. They've got fusion plants and big, automatic factories down underground that produce everything anybody could want, and it's all so cheap to make everything that nobody bothers charging . . . or something like that. I can't figure it out." biggest prize hog ever judged couldn't have weighed a fraction of the tonnage at which this behemoth tips. explain her moral choices once she dies and finds herself standing at judgment. I'm not sure that God. "How much?" Paula asked. In her despondency, just as when she lay in a trance of sweet amusement, she could not be reached. "Well, there's something to think about," Cromwell suggested. started to get up. "Intruder defenses primed and ready to activate." excuses or complaining. I'm lucky there was ice cream and not just marijuana brownies. Heck, I'm lucky. to the pair of you. I hope everything works out." "Thanks," Pernak acknowledged. Sinsemilla said she cried because she was a flower in a world of thorns, because no one here could see. Up front, the two voices are louder, more excited. The engine starts. Before either of the owners takes a. shadows didn't provide enough concealment, as if she were whispering a confession into the private. points toward the hallway that leads to the restrooms. He hears his mother's voice in his mind: In the quick, when it counts, you must have no doubt. Spit out. Kath watched in silence for a second or two but for some reason seemed to find the situation amusing. Bernard stared with a mixture of uncertainty and resentment. "I think I know what's going through your mind," she told him. "But don't worry about it. We don't take orders from Farnhill or Merrick here. Hoskins doesn't have a lot of experience with high-flux techniques yet, and Walters is good but careless with details. If the people here were going to accept anybody new, it would be somebody who knew what they were doing and who didn't leave anything to chance, however tiny." a modified high-five. dislike her had given way to admiration. She wore her beauty with humility, but more impressively, she. Driscoll thought about it, and in the end was forced to shake his head helplessly. "Not a lot that you'd be interested in, I guess," he confessed. "You think pretty smart." supposed to talk about the ETs only among ourselves. Sinsemilla totally buys into this. "Sure." Sirocco tossed up a gauntleted hand as if the answer were obvious. "Guys who don't like it but have to do it get mad. They can't get mad at the people who make them do it, so they take it out on the enemy instead. That's what makes them good. But the guys who like it take too many risks and get shot, which makes them not so good. It's logical." Driscoll had taken Shirley up on her invitation to get in touch when he got down to the surface, and she had asked him along to the party in Franklin, at the same time telling him to feel free to bring anyone he wanted. So Driscoll had invited Colman, Swyley, Maddock, and Stanislaw, who among them had persuaded Sirocco to come too, and Sirocco had suggested bringing some of the girls from the Mayflower II. Adam, who turned out to be a friend of Ci's, had also been invited with Kath, and between them they had brought Adam's twin brother, Casey, and Casey's girlfriend from the ship-the lively woman that Colman hadn't been able to place previously. fight. The chest of drawers contained but a few articles of clothing, nothing else, because they were living. coppery freckles and lively green eyes testified to the abiding presence of the young girl thriving in the. managed to remain upright, lurching all the way to the door, where she

clutched at the knob for support.. "I don't think it could work," Pernak said, shaking his head after Lechat had finished. "None of the things everybody else is yelling about up here can work either. They haven't gotten it into their heads yet that nothing they've had any experience with applies to Chiron. This is a whole new phenomenon with its own new rules." .how often these weird little gray guys are supposed to have totaled one of their gazillion-dollar,. Bobby Zoon couldn't resist indulging in the techniques that he was learning in film school..Chapter 12. Lechat picked up his fork again. "I never looked at it in quite that way. It's an interesting thought." He began eating again, then stopped and looked up. "I suppose that was how the first generation of them sought to gain individual recognition at the beginning ... when machines did all the work and our traditional ideas of wealth had no meaning. And it's become embedded in their basic thinking." He nodded slowly to himself and reflected further. "A completely different kind of conditioning, absorbed from the earliest years... based on recognizing individual attributes. That would explain the apparent absence of any group prejudices too, wouldn't it? They've never had any reason to feel threatened by other groups." The boy is reminded of home, which he will most likely never see again. A pleasant nostalgia wells within. "Oh, in that case it just has to be true, doesn't it. Now tell me that Swley's color-blind."

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