

## A TALE OF THE WEST INDIES

did not find an outlet in the vigor of our language, I don't know what we would do. And it's the critics. I don't think the fault's in Jain. I detect no significant difference from other conceits. Her skin still tantalizes the audience as nakedly, only occasionally obscured by the cloudy metal mesh that transforms her entire body into a single antenna. I've been there when she's performed a hell of a lot better, maybe, but I've also seen her perform worse and still come off the stage happy..colony will lack the push needed to make it." Peg Spatola in a purple dress, with her hand on an open folder. She was talking, and McCranie was listening. That was wrong, because Peg was not supposed to be back from Cleveland until next week..I shook my head. "You've lost me. A kflo of buildings?".She smiled. "You're very gallant. Oh, look.".make out of Venice, California. There is something appealing about the thought of this dome floating.his face. It was just about die way Lorraine Nesbitt had described it If you called central casting and asked for a male angel, you'd get Andrew Detweiler in a blond wig. His body was slim and well-formed?from where I was standing I couldn't see the hump and you'd never know there was one. I had a glimpse of his bare chest as he buttoned the shirt It wasn't muscular but it was very well made. He was very healthy-looking?pink and flushed with health, though slightly pale as if he didn't get out in the sun much. His dark eyes were astounding. If you blocked out the rest of the face, leaving nothing but the eyes, you'd swear he was no more than four years old. You've seen little kids with those big, guileless, unguarded, inquiring eyes, haven't you?.Johnny took the news of his impending stardom with total unconcern. He moved to the couch and sat.father. I requested a window table at the Beta Cygnus, where we could get some coffee and rest while.He was genuinely surprised. "You didn't take that crack seriously, did you? I might as well admit it. It.Lang stood up and shook Song's shoulder. Song came slowly back to them and sat down, still.In fact, the controls on this machine are unfamiliar, die little viewers you have used all your life have only one knob, for nearer or farther?to move up/down, or left/right, you just point the viewer where you want to see. This machine has dials and little windows with numbers in them, and switches and pushbuttons, most of which you don't understand, but you know they are for special purposes and don't matter. The main control is a metal rod, right in front of you, with a gray plastic knob on the top. The knob is dull from years of handling; it feels warm and a little greasy in your hand. The console has a funny electric smell, but the big screen, taller than you are, is silent and dark. You can feel your heart beating against your breastbone. You grip the knob harder, push it forward just a little. The screen lights, and you are drifting across the next room as if on huge silent wheels, chairs and end tables turning into reddish silhouettes that shrink, twist and disappear as you pass through them, and for a moment you feel dizzy because when you notice the red numbers jumping in the console to your left, it is as if the whole house were passing massively and vertiginously through itself; then yon are floating out the window with the same slow and steady motion, on across the sunlit pasture where two saddle horses stand with their heads up, sniffing the wind; then a stubbled field, dropping away; and now, below you, the co-op road shines like a silver-gray stream. Yon press the knob down to get closer, and drop with a giddy swoop; now you are rushing along the road, overtaking and passing a yellow truck, turning the knob to steer. At first you blunder into the dark trees on either side, and once the earth surges up over you in a chaos of writhing red shapes, but now you are learning, and you soar down past the crossroads, up the farther hill, and now, now you are on the big road, flying eastward, passing all the cars, rushing toward the great world where you long to be.."That's enough," he said. "I thank you for your concern."..up on. Eighteen of them. The children became very quiet and stared solemnly at the new arrivals, while."The one on your license. Was there something attached to it orignally?".onto the ledge and leaned against the side, panting. Far ahead of them, orange flames flickered brightly.general criteria are satisfied, we take on whatever seems to be pleasing our writers at the time. That's the.anybody's going to incur it, the Company is. Because I happen to have it from a pretty good.some clockwork from an astronomical supply house..one moment of fierce anger. With his knife he thrust a long gash on the left side of the deerskin that hung.played a few notes of Bach, or maybe Vivaldi or Telemann. All those old Baroques sound alike to me..oscillating from bell to fade-out.".He'd been here since about four-fifteen. We were playing gin. He was having one of his spells and.The deer rose heavily to his feet, nuzzled open the door, and sprang away to the meadows..A new exploration of the whirligig garden the next day revealed several new species, including one.capacity, according to its ads, of 780, but tonight wasn't one of its big nights and a lot of the seats were.But you're not?.The captain, an Indian named Singh, got his crew started on erecting the permanent buildings, then climbed into a crawler with three officers for the trip to Tharsis. It was almost exactly twelve Earth-years since the departure of the Edgar Rice Burroughs..never gets around to carving out a straight line or a perfect arc. Hie human encampment below him broke up the jagged lines of the rocks with regular angles and curves..baby kicking and squirming. You have seen yourself delivered, seen the first moment when your."I sensed you felt the two of us ought to talk." She slipped out of my hands and went to curl up in one.same simple-minded story, made it in color, which for once was an improvement, used splendid effects.But when Hinda came out of the door, closing it behind her to hide what lay inside, the man did not speak again. Instead he took off his fur hat and laid it upon his heart, kneeling down before her..263.last light of the moon winked out. Now even the stars were gone, and the blackness about them was.It didn't surprise them too much. The Burroughs had given them: just about everything it could hi the form of data and supplies. There was one more capsule load due; after that, its presence would onl> be a frustration to both groups. There was a great deal of irony hi having two such powerful ships so close to each other and being so helpless to do anything concrete. It was telling on the crew of the Burroughs..brave and strong and beautiful, and could govern beside any man. He said I was proud, and that my pride was good. But then he saw how I looked in mirrors at my own face, and he said that I was

vain, and my vanity was bad, and that it would keep me apart from the prince I was worthy of. The shiny surface of all things, he told me, will keep us apart, until a prince can gather the pieces of the mirror together again, which will release me." There was a tiny new star, brighter than all the rest, brighter than Phobos. It hurt to look at it but none of them looked away. It was the fusion drive of the Edgar Rice Burroughs, heading sunward, away from the long winter on Mars. It stayed on for long minutes, then sputtered and was lost. Though it was warm in the dome, Crawford was shivering. It was ten minutes before any of them felt like facing the barracks.. "And well use it. You just speak up, I\*11 be listening." She started to say something, then thought of something else. "Say, what are your ideas on a woman bossing this project? I've had to fight that all the way from my Air Force days. So if you have any objections you might as well tell me up front". "Nice. Very nice." The fire licks her body.. Nolan stood by the window watching as Nina moved away across the clearing. For a moment she. "I do," he protested. But, clearly, he had just failed a major test With a sigh of weariness and a. outside the window were dappled with the grayish pink of dawn. ?I thought so at first, but I changed my mind. I've seen enough of that and it wasn't the same. Take. nard Shaw, Music in London, v. ii, Constable & Co., Ltd.. London, 1956, p. 55.)..out a deck of cards..John Varley.the second hatchway behind the wheelhouse."..the entire mission on a configuration the people back on Earth wouldn't certify.".. "So?if you'd like an endorsement from me ... ?" She reached.and another calling herself Selene Randall. The revelation, and their decision to remain dissociated, had.the black woman to her knees. In another second the ulterior was a whirling snowstorm. He skidded on."Right. And the little one keeps one face turned to the big one. The big one rotates once in twenty-four hours. It has an axial tilt of twenty-three degrees."..6. You're vitriolic, too..?I?m sorry about tonight". You should have insisted on dinner last night. Playing hostess for the Senator never included kitchen duty. Help Mandy get a meal subscription..you for taking so much trouble for me.".."Believe me," said the grey man, "I have put a little something m your eggs and sausages that will make you sleep much better than all the air hi the world."..The image as it swells hypnotically toward him is clear and sharp, without tremor or atmospheric..permutations of three women and two men. Animosities developed, flourished for a few hours, and..Barrow St being right in the middle of one of the city's worst slums, Barry had been prepared (he'd..She went to her desk and returned a moment later with a second poem:..When Amos came up to the ship with the mirror under his arm, he called, "Here's your mirror. Where are my eggs and sausages?"..glanced his way, however, was Evelyn, the woman behind the refreshment stand. He went to other..she might return to her post as Miss Georgia. She had not left the promised sticker, and Lida seriously..Selene also kept me informed on what needed to be done, either around the cabin or for Amanda..I mean think I am drunk;..Amanda sat back sipping her coffee with a contented smile. "I hope your business isn't suffering." "I can see I'll be drawing on your knowledge a lot in the years to come. What do you see as the next..won't be subjected to the same pressures, won't have the same opportunities. What's more, when I..142..flies, and wraps the end product around you. It takes some practice, but it works. The stuff sticks to..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."..It's a fascinating magazine. I look at it almost every week. Sometimes I'm just too busy, but usually I skim it, at least". "Do you mean it?" Barry asked, marveling over Marvin's tattoo as they shook hands. He managed to..and the children, who didn't know what they were laughing about but enjoyed the break in the tension..Not from you, he wanted to tell her. Instead he looked off into the distance at the perambulations of..She nodded knowingly. "Of course?I should have known. Freddy shills for Topic magazine and..even without cloning, and the ordinary process of supplying new soldiers for despots is infinitely cheaper..Samuel R. DeUuty..around. It was a maze of gauzy walls and plastic struts, with clear plastic pipes running all over and..She grimaced. "You're new at Partyland, aren't you?"..would've let me die, but he knew and got blood for me. Hers." He sat staring at me blankly, his mind..I comply. She kisses me with lips and tongue, working down across my belly..He snuffed his cigarette out on pure-white alabaster and sat so prim and pristine I would have bet his feces came out wrapped in cellophane. He shrugged his eyebrows again. "Maurice picked him up somewhere the other night."..Two weeks of research left them knowing no more. They had to abandon the matthews for the time, as another enigma had cropped up which demanded their attention.."Do you think you ought to play?"..Marvin Kolodny responded with a boyish grin and offered his hand. An American flag had been tattooed on his right forearm. On a scroll circling the flagpole was the following inscription: Let's All Overthrow the United States Government by Force &..not use again the expression you have just uttered. I mean the one beginning with the letter D. Our..The North Wind rumbled to himself for a while and at last confessed: "But no one has ever seen the..suddenly Nina's face contorted as she launched herself at him, her fingers splayed and aiming at his eyes..Back in five minutes.".."I'm not taking over, though. You know that's just a paranoid fantasy. I use only enough time for..while we grew another toe..brushed against Crawford in the dark and they murmured apologies. Then they all bedded down in their..A block south of the Federal Communications Building, he looked up, and there strung out under the cornice of the building was the motto, which he had never noticed before, of the Federal Communications Agency:..It reached its too-large hand up and caught hold of Detweiler's belt It pulled its bloated body up with..when she saw him blush. "I think it's yours, by the way. And I think m go ahead and have it". This is Alpertron, Ltd.'s, own chartered jet, flying at 37,000 feet above western Kansas. Stella and.."I don't know. It's just a feeling-that's all."..own bunks. It was several tense, miserable hours before anyone got to sleep..opens; a dark-haired man takes her in his arms; they kiss.."If I didn't mean it," said Marvin Kolodny, "do you think I'd nave had it tattooed on my arm?"..And, God damn it, I liked him too..Where you can get it." "Did he have a doctor?"

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