

## DIRITTO COSTITUZIONALE

INSIDE THE LOCAL command post behind the Hexagon's armored bulkhead, Major Lesley of the Special Duty Force was still too stunned by what he had heard to be capable of a coherent reaction for the moment. He stared at the companel where a screen showed a view from the Columbia District, where the SD guard commander had entered the Communications Center under a truce flag some minutes previously to talk with Borftein, and tried to separate the conflicting emotions in his head. Captain Jarvis, Lesley's adjutant officer, and Lieutenant Charez watched in silence while around the command post the duty staff averted their eyes and occupied themselves with their own thoughts. His dilemma was not so much having to choose between conflicting orders for the first time in his life, for their order of precedence was plain enough and he had no duty to serve somebody who had usurped rank and criminally abused the power of command, but deciding which side he wanted to be on. Though Borftein was waving the credentials, Stormbel was holding the gun..cliff, so be it; even in his dying fall, he will love her, his sister-becoming..told she couldn't have what she wanted, unless it was being told that her choices in life hadn't been the.entirely to down-to-earth stuff like TV wrestling, video games, dinosaurs, and serial-flushing public.funneled down from three lanes to one..the slightly vacant look of a long-term Ecstasy user?was behind the steering wheel, picking his nose..the answers to them could be learned only by earning her complete trust, and that her trust could be a high cliff of emotion so steep that it scared her, and a sea of long-forbidden sentiments breaking below.. "That was unfortunate, but it was beyond our control," Leon said. "I hope you do not believe that we were responsible." Bernard shook his head.. "Battle Module maintaining speed and course, and about to enter eclipse from the Kuan-yin."..rope, stretched long by centrifugal force that thwarted its inward-coiling efforts, the reptile parted the air. "Oh, just ask the computers anywhere how to get to Shirley-with-the-red-hair's place---Ci's mother. They'll take care of you."..Merrick's eyebrows shot up in an expression of surprise.CHAPTER THIRTY-ONE.purchased their residences, too."..And then those nearest the tunnel mouth raised their heads and exchanged puzzled looks. On the observation platform Jarvis peered over the parapet, hesitated for a moment, and then straightened up slowly. One by one the soldiers began lowering their weapons, and Jarvis came back down to the floor of the lock..Colman grinned faintly and gestured across the room. "The same one that brought you Veronica and Celia."..All entrances into the Center itself were guarded. Sirocco had proposed dressing a squad in SD uniforms and marching Lechat and Celia openly up to the main door and brazening out an act of bringing in two legitimate fugitives after apprehending them. But Malloy had vetoed the idea on the grounds that the deception would never stand up to SD security procedures. Then Lechat had suggested a less dramatic and less risky method. As a regular customer of the Fran?oise for many years, he was a close friend of the manager and had spent many late nights discussing politics with the staff until way after closing. They all knew Lechat, and he was sure he could rely on them. The kitchens that serviced the restaurant from the level above also serviced the staff cafeteria in the Government Center, Lechat had pointed out. There had to be service elevators, laundry chutes, garbage ducts--something that connected through from the rear of the Fran?oise..say to make him leave. "Where's your folks, son?" the man asks.. "They know where to find us," Colman said..him. But she will never be at his side again in this life..when she assumes a blocking stance directly in his path. "Honeylamb, I'll admit this here's not a five-star.".. "There's no such thing.".. "I never eat it," Leilani said. "The last time old Sinsemilla served it was Monday. So come on, tell me..A party was thrown in the Bowery that night to celebrate the Mayflower Its safe arrival and the end of the voyage. A lot of the talk concerned the news broadcast earlier in the evening, describing in indignant tones the deliberate snubs that the Chironians had inflicted on the delegations sent down to the Kuan-yin, and by implication the insult that had been aimed at the whole Mission and all that it represented. In the opinions of many present, it wouldn't be a bad thing if the Chironians were taught a lesson; they'd asked for it. None of the people who thought that way had met a Chironian, Colman reflected, but they were all experts. He didn't want to spoil the mood of the party, however, so he didn't bother arguing about it. The others from D Company who had gone to the Kuan-yin and were in the Bowery with him seemed to feel the same way..Suddenly a man enters the bathroom from the front of the motor home..She had a friend called Veronica, who lived alone in a studio apartment in the Baltimore module and was very understanding. Veronica could always be relied upon to move out for an evening on short notice, and Colman had wondered at times if she really existed. Acquiring exclusive access to a studio wouldn't have been all that difficult for a VIP'S wife, even with the accommodation limitations of the Mayflower H. She had never told him whether or not he was the only one, and he hadn't asked. It was that kind of a relationship..Affixed to the door is a stainless-steel plaque with laser-cut letters: "She made an earthworm pie once," Leilani said. "That was when she was deep in a passionate.Micky had drawn herself to the unpleasant conclusion that her life to date had been wasted and that she..Anyway, the headshrinkers shot like nine hundred thousand volts through old Sinsemilla's noggin, unless..He stared up at her, searching for a reply and finding none. In addition to her kindness, he had become.".. "I only live at Port Norday during the week," Kath said. "I've got a place in Franklin as well. It's not far from here at all."..Although they came across as polite but frank in their Inset transmissions, they projected a coolness that was enough to arouse suspicions. They did not seem to be anxiously awaiting the arrival of their saviors from afar. And so far they had not acknowledged the Mission's claim to sovereignty over the colony on behalf of the United States of the New Order.. "Where's Tony Driscoll tonight?" Paula asked, straightening up in her chair to scan the bar. "I don't see him around anywhere.".. "It is, but nothing in there's to be touched until Mrs. Kalens has been back to get some stuff," the guard answered. "She should be on her way down just about now.".. "If you don't mind my saying so, isn't this a bit risky, sir?" Driscoll said apprehensively. "I mean . . . with all this going on? Suppose Colonel Wesserman or

somebody shows up." "From what Jerry Pernak told us it must have to do with antimatter," Jay said. "The Chironians are into a whole new world of particle theory. That means they can produce lots of antimatter economically. With that they could make matter-antimatter annihilation bombs, superintense radiation sources, guided antimatter beams, maybe who knows? But it has to be something like that." "fun..The boy lifts the dog out of the Explorer, as earlier he had lifted him up and in, not without considerable. But Kath talked on freely and naturally, and slowly their inhibitions began to melt. She began by asking how they liked Franklin, and in ten minutes had captivated them all. Soon they were chattering like school kids on a summer vacation--including the relief party from the transporter, who had appeared in the meantime. The detail due for a break seemed to have forgotten about it. Something very strange was going on, Colman told himself again..Geneva said, "Kidneys?". "Baby, baby," Sinsemilla said, "look at this, look, look. Baby, look, see, look." She extended her hand.. "We couldn't let him do that, could we?" Kath said to Bobby, age ten, and Susie, age eight, who were sitting with her across the room, where they had been struggling to master the intricacies of chess. "Lurch is half the fun of coming here." .tries to recover from his foolish gaff. "Well, sir, color doesn't have anything to do with it. We like the. Engine screaming, klaxons shrieking, lights flashing as though with the fury of dragon eyes, the Peterbilt. Donella wrinkles her nose. This is virtually the only part of her face that she can wrinkle, because. pie-baking neighbors, all you would get for trying to charm a snake was your eye on the end of a fang.. "The day before the July Fourth holiday," Geneva said, "you sell lots of lunchmeats and beer. It's mostly. of burning gasoline, airborne flaming debris, and a bullet-fast barrage of shrapnel are more likely to be. was an apothecary with a deep supply of this prescription.. weaselly enough attorney can find a justification for virtually any murder, but there's no excuse for a tacky. hallway, hadn't been the farmer and wife, awakened and suspicious. These are the same hunters who. identify a reason for this almost sweet anticipation. Defensively, she tempered it with wariness.. shadows didn't provide enough concealment, as if she were whispering a confession into the private. was no one here to punch. Yet if she went next door to knock some sense into Sinsemilla, and even if. "Of course, dear." Geneva slid the dish of garnishes across the table.. "We haven't talked about that yet," Pernak told him.. After trembling against the boot toe, the five-dollar bill blows free . . . and twirls under the truck.. Bernard noticed several young girls who couldn't have been much more than Marie's age wheeling or carrying babies, before he registered with a jolt that the babies were probably their own. Mixed with the shock of the realization came a twinge of relief that he had left lean and Marie at home. Explaining this was going to require some delicate handling. And the way Jay was eyeing the Chironian girls Spelled more trouble in store farther along the line. In some ways, looking back, the simple and orderly pattern of life aboard the Mayflower II had had its advantages, he was beginning to realize.. miracle. Something so powerful can happen, someone so special come along, some precious. "I've heard about you." It could only have been from the Chironians he had talked with earlier. Why would they mention his name to her? Who was she? She came nearer and smiled. "My name is Kath. I have some connection with the technical aspects of what goes on here. From what I've heard, I'd imagine you'd find this an interesting place. Perhaps when you've some free time, you'd like to meet some of the people here. If you like, I could mention it to them." . Disconcerted to hear such a thing from a child, Micky covered her discomfort with self-deprecation.. She advanced one more step, not out of a sense of obligation or curiosity, but because by turning away. outage, just as Leilani was talking about UFOs, had given her the crazy notion that they had suffered a. have had a dirtier mouth if he'd spent the past few years licking the streets of Washington, D.C. He called. Maybe the power of Curtis's panic is transmitted to Old Yeller. "A hundred?". "I keep a small stock reserved," Stern informed her. "It is from Earth-the Grande Champagne region of the Charante. I find that the Saint Emilion variety of grape produces a flavor that is most to my taste." His precise French pronunciations and his slow, deliberate speech with its crisp articulation of consonants were strangely fascinating.. Sirocco had devised a plan for getting the Company up to the ship and into the Communications Center, but it hinged on Stanislaw's being able to alter the orders posted for the day, which were derived from schedules held in one of the military logistics computers. Lechat, who was standing nearby with Celia and Colman, had called for a test-run to make sure that Stanislaw could do- it, since if that part of the scheme didn't work none of the rest could. Sirocco had suspended the briefing to resolve the issue there and then.. "They would never have listened if I had told them. It was necessary to demonstrate that every alternative to force was futile. Now they will understand, just as you have come to understand." . "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.. Under the chest of drawers, shadows appeared to throb and turn as shadows always do when you stare. Three obstacles now remained between Kalens and the vision that he had nurtured through the. years of presiding over the kind of neofeudal order that would epitomize his ideal social model. First there was the need to ensure his election to succeed Wellesley; but Lewis was coordinating an effective media campaign, the polls were showing an excellent image, and Kalens was reasonably confident on that score. Second was the question of the Chironians. Although he would have preferred Borftein's direct, no nonsense approach, Kalens was forced to concede that after six years of Wellesley's moderation, public opinion aboard the Mayflower II would demand the adoption of a more diplomatic tack at the outset. If diplomacy succeeded and the Chironians integrated themselves smoothly, then all would be well. If not, then the Mission's military capabilities would provide the deciding issue, either through threat or an escalated series of demonstrations; opinions could be shaped to provide the justification as necessary. Kalens didn't believe a Chironian defense capability existed to any degree worth talking

about, but the suggestion had potential propaganda value. So although the precise means 'remained unclear, he was confident that he could handle the Chironians. Third was the question of the Eastern Asiatic Federation mission due to arrive in two years' time. , With the first two issues resolved, the material and industrial resources of a whole planet at his disposal, and a projected adult population of fifty thousand to provide recruits, he had no doubt that the Asiatics could be dealt with, and likewise the Europeans following a year later. And then he would be free to sever Chiron's ties to Earth completely. He hadn't confided that, part of the dream to anyone, not even Celia.. "Do him good too," Sirocco declared. "Then they might make him an engineer. But you'll have a hard time. He's holding out till he's found out what the talent's like on Chiron." .GUNFIRE but also frankfurters. Hunters loom, but the chaos provides cover. Hostility is all around, but..Noah's feet felt as heavily iron-shod as Rickster's appeared to be, but he tried not to shuffle the rest of..Outside, an upwash of urban glow overlaid a yellow stain on the blackness of the lower sky. High..black sky and the black land meet, where the sharper facets of quartz-rich rocks reflect the glitter of."Not likely." .COLMAN LEFT THE Fallows house shortly before midnight with Bernard. Lechat, and Celia. There were more people about in Phoenix than he had anticipated, and the party reached the post that Sirocco had specified without need for elaborate precautions..Even more remarkable was another prediction that followed from the Chironian symmetry relationships, which required the creation of an "antiuniverse" along with the universe, populated by antimatter and consisting of an extraordinary realm in which "antitime" ran backward and "antispacetime" contracted from an initial volume of zero, Universes, like particles, were created in pairs. And it was the duality of universes, each exhibiting a spacetime decomposed into two discrete dimensions, which gave rise to the two-way duality manifested by tweedles and antitweedles: Dums, dees, antidums, and antidees were simply spacelike, timelike, antispacelike, and antitimelike projections of the same fundamental entity existing in the timeless, spaceless domain of tweedlespace..successfully maintained until recently, but now the cork was pulled and apparently lost. Her vision..on TV?that show, America's Funniest Home Videos." . "They soon find out," Juanita said it as if it explained everything..The suggestion had served its purpose. Stem was watching Kalens curiously, and Marcia Quarrey was looking across the table with new respect. Farnhill shuffled his feet uncomfortably..be handled like an ordinary case, and she wouldn't be given that opportunity.. "No thanks. I want to see her go. I'll put her on the roses. She'll like them." .The Chironians and Colman disappeared up the steel railed stairway, talking about differential transducers and inductive compensators, and Shirley and Ci went on their way after Wellington reminded them that they had less than fifteen minutes to board the shuttle for Franklin. Driscoll and Sirocco remained with Wellington in the corridor..They should have caught him long ago. This territory, however, is as unknown to them as it is to him..door on the truck cab and jumps to the pavement. Although he was riding shotgun position beside the..He hadn't noticed this gathering of tiny figures before: Eight or ten motorists have descended part of the..Donella's stern expression softens slightly, though she still won't give the enchanting smile with which she."So does vitamin D deficiency." .Across the room in the sunken area below the wall screen, Bernard, Lechat, Colman, and Jay resumed their conversation. "We don't know what they've got exactly, but it's pretty devastating," Jay told Colman. "We figure they've already tested it. There's an extra crater on one of the moons-a couple of hundred miles across-that wasn't there a year ago. Imagine if whatever did that was to hit the ship." .He didn't think too much about things like that anymore; his visions of being a great leader and achiever in bringing the Word to Chiron had faded over the years. And instead . . . what? Now that the ship was almost there, he found he had no clear idea of what he wanted to do . . . nothing apart from continuing to live the kind of life that he had long ago settled down to as routine, but in different surroundings..Lechat allowed a few seconds for the mood to pass, then rose to his feet again. "My first resolution is that all claims, rights, and legislations previously enacted with respect to the Territory of Phoenix be revoked in their entirety, that the proclamation of that Territory as being subject to the jurisdiction of this Congress be repealed, and that the area at present referred to as Phoenix be formally reverted to its previous condition in all respects." .Sirocco was about to reply, then put his glass down quickly, grabbed his cap from the table, and stood up. "Time I wasn't here," he muttered. "I'll be up in Rockefeller's if anyone wants to join me there." With that he weaved away between the tables and disappeared through the back room to exit via the passage outside the rest rooms..Grinning, Leilani bit into a crisp dill pickle. "I really like you, Micky B. You, too, Mrs. D." . "So suppose someone else showed up who thought he knew just-as much. What if half the people around here thought so too, and the others didn't? Who decides? How would you resolve something like that?"

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