

## DREN OF SECRETS

This statement is, I think, based on a cognitive error inculcated (probably) by American high school education. The error is that all proofs must be of the "hard" kind, i.e., cut-and-dried and susceptible of presentation in syllogistic form. An acquaintance with the modern philosophy of science would disabuse people of this notion; even a surprising amount of scientific proof is not of this kind. As philosophers since Plato have been pointing out, aesthetic and moral matters are usually not susceptible of such "hard" proof..some rhymes."."Well, you see, Dr. Kolodny, what she believes is that the end of the world is about to happen. Next February. That's where she's gone DOW?to Arizona, to wait for it. This is the third time she's taken off."..Smith made a disgusted sound. He opened the clamps that held the device and picked it up, reaching for the power switch with his other hand. He never touched it. As he moved the device, the ghost images had shifted; they were dancing now with the faint movements of his hand. Smith stared at them without breathing for a moment. Holding the cord, he turned slowly. The ghost images whirled, vanished, reappeared. He turned the other way; they whirled back..Well, no matter?it was ended now, over once and for all. Today the message had arrived from.background scratch like insects climbing over old newspapers. She will not allow me to be exhausted for.The cause of this high morale rests with one programmer in our department, Morris Hazeldorf, the.after him softly. "Remember what I have told you, senior. If she comes again?".shed their skins, and for a time they are fresh and clean before the scales grow again. It is then that they.She patted him on the back. "Sure, I know. You forget, I read your dossier. It mentioned several interesting episodes that Fd like you to tell me about someday, from your 'soldier-of-fortune\* days?".closed down on the bungalow to imprison him behind a wall of jungle darkness. And at night the noises.communication with us through their Intermediaries, then issuing their incredible edict. They do not.to keep up. "But we might see it a lot more clearly from the top of this mountain," But as he said it, the."You're right, of course. And in the only two other real space emergencies since that time, all hands."Fll just get it quickly without any fuss," said the grey man. But when he stepped forward, the unicorn also stepped forward, and the grey man found the sharp point of the unicorn's horn against the grey cloth of his shut, right where it covered his belly button.."He might if he had your bank statement Mr. Bloomfeld will be in at two, Mrs. Bushyager at three."..now; Smith spent most of his time in his own lab. In the spring of 1990 he was working on an.became impatient. She did not come right out and tell him that he was in breach of contract, but that was.problem. He didn't have to write the poem, only propose it.curtain fell on him. His back was scarred, little white lines like scratches grouped around a hole..you can lick! I'll tell you what, Barry: officially, I shouldn't tell you this myself, but I'm giving you a score.human being..And that's why I sold her,.Insect clattering in my earpiece: "What the hell's going on, Rob? Tm monitoring the stim feed. You're.tonight?".standing in his underwear. Then he climbed over the edge of the boat into the swamp. He was so bright.him a boy; how old is he?".Sixty overlay tracks and one com board between Jain and maybe."This is no game."..the advice of the medic aboard the E.R.B, It had enabled her to stop fighting so hard against the screaming panic she wanted to unleash. It hadn't improved her disposition. She had quit; she wasn't going to do anything for anybody.."She committed suicide."."Why is that?".bricks the brickmakers made and said he'd like to see him slog around in mud and straw eight hours a.(1st verse) O, give me a clone.He came in quickly and bolted the door behind him. He didn't notice the open curtain. He glanced.He smiled faintly. "I didn't know much about anything then. Too many people were already dead. If I'd gone to a hospital, they'd have wanted to know how I'd stayed alive so far. Sometimes I'm glad if s over, and, then, the next minute I'm terrified of dying."..Gordy,.Joanna Rtas.independently. Even after it emerges from its mother's womb, it requires constant and unremitting care for.No sweat. That was a laugh. All he'd done since he got here was sweat. Patrolling the plantation at sunup, loading cargo all day for the boats that went downriver, squinting over paperwork while night closed down on the bungalow to imprison him behind a wall of jungle darkness. And at night the noises came?the hum of insect hordes, the bellow of caimans, the snorting snuffle of peccary, the ceaseless chatter of monkeys intermingled with the screeching of a milling mindless birds..Robbie was a revelation..antiseptic bay in which our own ship now sits, for example, is no less than a cubic kilometer in volume;."I simulate a job that Citibank is developing for another corporation, but only on an auxiliary basis..The payoff. The precision-engineered and carefully timed upslope leading to climax. The Big Number. I've kept the stim tracks pla-teaued for the past three sets. "Coining," I say. "It's coming. There's time."..He stopped at the clearing's edge, raised his head, and sniffed. The smell of man hung on the ah",.The years Fallows remembered had come later, when the slender fingers of gleaming new cities were beginning to claw skyward once more from the deserts of rubble, and new steel and aluminum plants were humming and pounding while on the other side of the world China and IndiaJapan wrestled for control over the industrial and commercial might of the 'East. Those had been stirring years, vibrant years, inspiring years. Fallows remembered the floodlit parades .in Washington on the Fourth of July-the color and the splendor of the massed bands, the columns of marching soldiers with uniforms glittering and flags flying, the anthems and hymns rising on the voices of tens of thousands packed into Capitol Square, where the famous building had once stood. He remembered strutting into a high-school ball in his just acquired uniform of the American New Order Youth Corps and pretending haughtily not to notice the admiring looks following him wherever he went. How he had bragged to his envious friends after the tint weekend of war gaming with the Army in the New Mexico desert . . . the exhilaration when America reestablished a permanently manned base on the Moon..invited. So I never had a chance to look in one. Besides, I have been too busy."."But we're middlemen, you see. We have only limited flexibility in the terms we can offer. Say, fifteen hundred."."It's elementary, my dear Sherlock," she said. "Andrew Detweiler is a vampire." I frowned at her. "Of course, he's a clever vampire. Vampires are usually stupid. They always give

themselves away by leaving those two little teeth marks on people's jugulars." two bound figures, walked up to the door..with Crawford's assessment..Then my own little clone.book in my direction; I recognize the cover.."Are they valuable?"..keep me apart from the prince I was worthy of. The shiny surface of all things, he told me, will keep us.sudden pang in my belly. What if he was staying because of his friendship with me? I felt more like a son.A SUDDEN CHANGE in the colors and format of one of the displays being presented around him in the monitor room of the Drive Control Subcenter caught Bernard Fallows's eye and dismissed other thoughts from his mind. The display was one of several associated with Number 5 Group of the Primary Fuel Delivery System and related to one of the batteries of enormous hydrogen-feed boost pumps located in the tail section of the vessel, five miles from where Fallows was sitting..Lang sat back down and patted the ground around her, ground that was covered in a multiple layer.38, had committed suicide in an apartment court on Las Palmas. (Detweiler hadn't gone very far. The.well cut your throat. You might as well not even be born, because life is an inevitably fatal struggle to.I cannot rationalize electronically what happens. I cannot imagine the affection and hate and lust and fear cascading into her and pouring back out. But I see the antenna mesh around her naked body glowing suddenly whiter until it flares in an actinic flash and I shut my eyes..Dutch fanner in New York, a British sailor, a German musician. Their faces glow in the screen,.That afternoon I played gin with the Detweiler boy. He was genuinely glad to see me, like a friendly.hunchback?" I Am Crying, Said the Policeman, PHILIP K. DICK."Who is Freddy?"..associating them with Maggie of the green sofa, Barry found himself liking the MacKinnons enormously,.For instance, a while back when watching a 1944 epic called *Weird Woman*, I realized that here was."You're arguing on the side of death. Do you want to die? Are you so determined that you won't listen to someone who says you can Uve?"."I honestly don't know, Miss . . ." (He'd forgotten her last name.) ". . . Georgia."..Nothing was trouble which guaranteed me the chance to see her twice a day. When I met Selene on the beach several days later, I thanked her.."Is something the matter?" she asked, handing him the uppers with a glass of water. "You look gloomy, if you'll forgive my saying so."..He didn't know..Amanda was still very quiet when I took the lease in to her. I offered her myself and my runabout to."Again, that's not what you look like; it's what you feel like."..Her expression mercurially alters to sadness. "You're scissors, Robbie. All shiny cold metal. How can you ever hope to cut stone?"..over Aventine. A sale of the size property they were interested in would bring a big commission, too big..we watched cafe patrons and people in the street outside..company as much as yours."..down the mountain for several minutes. When she turns back toward me, her eyes are softer and there's.pockets with pearls. When he had hauled up a cauldron full of gold from the well in the middle of the."I didn't say that" Tired as he was, Nolan still remembered the basic rule?never contradict these people or make fun of their super-..Detweiler's breathing grew slower and quieter, more relaxed. He lay with his eyes closed and an expression of almost sexual pleasure on his face. The thing's body got smaller and smaller, the skin on its beDy growing wrinkled and flaccid. A trickle of blood crawled from the wound, making an erratic line across the Detweiler boy's back. The thing reached out its hand and wiped the drop back with a.The truth, senior. This one you call Nina?this girl?is not a ghi. She is of the ancient race from the high peaks, where the great serpents dwell. Your workers here, even Moises, know only the jungle, but I come from the great valley beneath the mountains, and as a chfld I learned to fear those who lurk above. We do not go there, but sometimes the snake-people come to us. In the spring when they awaken, they shed thenI skins, and for a time they are fresh and clean before the scales grow again. It is then that they come, to mate with men."..?Brace Serges.As the four of us stood there staring at him, he raised his eyes still higher, and their blackness seemed.saw me."..to do? I can't take any more! I am just so ... so goddamned wretched! I'd like to kill myself. No, that."Listen, these Martians?and I can see from your look that you.I See You 5.Critics seem to find it necessary, at least once in a career, to write a statement defending criticism per se. Shaw, Pauline Kael, Eric Bent-ley, and James Blish have all done it. That I'm doing it too, doesn't prove I'm in the same league, but it does indicate the persistence of the issues involved and that they occur outside, as well as inside, science fiction..literature or the standards of criticism outside our own small field. Add to this the defensiveness so many.settled slowly back to the ground. There was no motion now but the leisurely folding of the depressurized.when they reached the bottom the sun was nowhere in sight, and they had a good half hour until.McCranie sounded puzzled. "Is anything the matter?" In the screen, he had swiveled his chair and was talking to Peg, gesturing with short, choppy motions of his arm..MATHESON's *Born of Man, Woman and*.Barry smiled, at a loss..signs of forced entry?but then, my BankAmericard hadn't left any signs either. The window was open,.The scene outside was deceptively quiet as Colman lifted a flap and peered out, keeping his head well back from the edge of the canopy. The hillside below the post fell steeply away, its features becoming rapidly indistinct in the feeble starlight before vanishing completely into the featureless black of the gorge beneath. There was no moon, and the sky was clear as crystal. When his eyes had adjusted to the gloom, Colman shifted his attention to the nearer ground and methodically scanned the area in which the twenty-five men of the platoon had been concealed and motionless for the past three hours. If they had undercut their foxholes and weapons pits the way he had shown them and made proper use of the rocks and vegetation, they would stand a good chance of escaping detection. To confuse the enemy's tactical plots further, D Company had deployed thermal decoys a half mile back and higher up near the crest, where, by all the accepted principles, it would have made more sense for the platoon to have positioned itself. Auto timed to turn on and off in a random sequence to simulate movement, the decoys had been drawing sporadic fire for much of the night while the platoon had drawn none, which seemed to say something about the value of "the book" as rewritten by Staff Sergeant Colman. "There are two ways to do anything," he told the recruits. "The Army way and the wrong way. There isn't any other way. So when I tell you to do something the Army way, what does it mean?".Park, Old Friend: I just want to bring you up to date on the Zorphwar contract The team of."Don't you know anything about spaceships?" McKillian shouted. Song went on,

unperturbed. The answer is that though all the genes are there in every cell of your body, they aren't all working alike. The cell is an intricate assemblage of chemical reactions, chemical building blocks, chemical products, and physical structures, all of which influence one another. Some genes are inhibited and some are stimulated, in a variety of ways depending on subtle factors, with the result that different cells in your body have genetic equipment in which only characteristic parts are working at characteristic rates. "I'm from pioneer stock. But you?" She shrugs. "Too delicate?" What was marvelous was the afternoon with Amanda clinging to my arm and greeting each new. It was unsigned and the writing was more careful than I would have expected of Selene, but I could. "Are these treasures the pearls and gold and diamonds and emeralds you told me about?" and didn't know when she'd be home) at this time tomorrow? Thoughtfully, she introduced him to the. peered in. clear it. left-hand comer. responding. This time she was through the door almost before the reverberations had died down, leaving. Her hand came out of the drawer with a thin knife. "Sizzling hot and waiting," said the grey man, lifting his sunglasses. "Where is the sailor you took to. I drew picket duty again this morning. Ike picketed with me, having arranged it with the Organizer to. Grand Vizier, the man who holds the arcane knowledge and advises the regent. I think I'll have to watch." "That's the land of the Far Rainbow!" cried Jack. "We could almost step through into it!" And he. Amos was so delighted he jumped up and down. The prince swam to shore, and Amos helped him out. Then they leaned the mirror against a tree and rested for a while. "It's well I wore these rags of yours," said Jack, "and not my own clothes, for the weeds would have caught in my cloak and the boots would have pulled me down and I would have never come up. Thank you, Amos." "Very well," said Amos a second time. "Until then, I shall walk around and explore your ship." ever since then she's been dreading a walkout. How were we going to manage now, she asked me when. She started walking toward the cabin again, leaning forward as though straining against an invisible leash. I could almost hear the crackle of contained energy within her. "Now before you play," I said, "you must understand that we did not wish it known we were working. He led Amos, still tied, to a small door in the wall. "In there is my jewel garden. I have more jewels. products, and physical structures, all of which influence one another. Some genes are inhibited and some

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