

WALES AND COMMON SENSE IN LONDON A NOVEL IN FOUR VOLUMES BY CORDELIA

I was brought up in a candy store under a father of the old school who, although he was Jewish, was. "Thanks." Setting the tray on the table, she contrived to brush against his left foot. "I see you're more and more, that he was keeping score and the old fart was being tested, an attitude that did not bode well. Finally, with ten minutes left on the clock, he'd just up and left, which was not, strictly speaking, a violation. It did imply that some kind of closure had been achieved, which definitely was not the case; he'd panicked, pure and simple. A fiasco from which he'd naturally feared the worst in the form of a letter addressed to Dear Applicant. ("We regret to inform you, etc. . . .") But possibly the old fart had been making things deliberately difficult, testing him, possibly his reactions hadn't been that entirely inappropriate. Possibly he'd passed. . . era! rule, in the form either of cash on the barrel or services rendered. Barry said (jokingly, of course) that he wouldn't object to bartering his virtue for an endorsement, or preferably two, to which Michelle replied (quite seriously) that unfortunately she did not know anyone who might be in the market for Barry's particular type. Generally, she observed, it was younger people who got their endorsements by putting out. . . look up at the sleeping loft, each place her feet touched a patch changed color to a pale, clear yellow. . . 169. He smiled at her. "Special circumstances. Short-term problems." . . always survived: by staying warm, by eating, by drinking. To that list we have to add 'by breathing. . . plastic. At this distance he would have been unable to tell who it was if it weren't for the black face. He. Smith got his consignment of Ozos early in the week, took one home and left it to his store manager. "Now don't be like that. Treason is a necessary part of the job, the way that handling trash cans is a. . . minus a little green patch from the sleeve and a strip from the crimson cape; he had stood behind some. . . made any attempts to communicate; she kept to herself, sleeping in the catamaran moored beside the bank across the river and not even venturing into the company store by day to purchase food. . . She was quiet for a long time, then shuffled her feet awkwardly. She glanced at him, then at Song and Marvin Kolodny at once intuited the reason behind Barry's suddenly seizing up. He was in the business, after all, of understanding unspoken meanings and evaluating them precisely. He smiled a sympathetic, mature smile. "So they are," said Amos. "What do you make of that?" . . The Organizer was using us." . . 109. Sometimes the repetition of what we have just said will suggest a new meaning or possibilities of meaning we did not at first suppose to be there. We think we have understood our words, then learn that we have not, since their essential meaning only dawns on us the second tune round. . . better, just bigger. . . opinion is that they are good, interesting, minor authors. And so on. [Or oddities that entered the. . . they loosed more. . . I bit my tongue but it was too late. She shrieked like a stricken animal and came at me swinging. . . prove I'm in the same league, but it does indicate the persistence of the issues involved and that they were led to the brig. . . I did extract a promise that she would let me show her more houses another day; then I made myself leave. I drove home reflecting what pleasant and restful company she was. A man could do far worse than her for a companion. I wondered, too, when I might see Selene again. . . "Your bank statement came today." "I don't recall seeing your name anywhere. Miss Nesbitt said it was Andrew Detweiler?" . . Smith set the device down on the bench with care. His hands were shaking. He had had the thing. . . line. . . and boxes of paint tubes. Architecturally, however, it was almost identical. The terrace was covered with. "Well have to get cutting tools from the ship," he told his crew. "They're probably in there. What a place this is! I can see we're going to be busy." He walked along the edge of the dense growth, which now covered several acres. He came to a section where the predominant color was purple. It was strangely different from the rest of the garden. There were tall whirligig derricks but they were frozen, unmoving. And covering all the derricks was a translucent network of ten-centimeter-wide strips of plastic, which was thick enough to make an impenetrable barrier. It was like a cobweb made of flat, thin material instead of fibrous spider-silk. It bulged outward between all the crossbraces of the whirligigs. . . entreaty. Her hands reached out. . . cut just a little, but he never was able to race again." . . wooden leg and a mouth full of stories that he chewed around and spit out all evening. Billy Belay would. . . wear shoes till I was ten. You wouldn't believe it." He shook his head, remembering. "Always kinda. . . figures got out. They started for the dome, hesitantly, in fits and starts. One grabbed the other's arm and. . . He returns to the motorcade, watches as the second shot strikes the President. He freezes time again. . . But when he said it, it sounded false. It wasn't false. . . losers habitating that rotting section of the Boulevard east of the Hollywood Freeway. She bossed them, cursed them, loved them, and took care of them. And they loved her back. (Once, a couple of years ago, a young black buck thought an old fat lady with one eye would be easy pickings. The cops found him three days later, two blocks away, under some rubbish in an alley where he'd hidden. He had a broken arm, two cracked ribs, a busted nose, a few missing teeth, and was stone-dead from internal hemorrhaging. . .) was on the floor behind the bed, scrunched down between it and the wall. The almost colorless chenille. "Damn it," said the Admiral, "I don't want technical expertise. I want a working system." . . lowered the leg and hooked her hair behind her ears while fixing me with a speculative topaz gaze. Her. "I certainly would," said Jack. "But tomorrow evening it will not be so easy, for there will be no mist. 18. "It's a . . . what's the word? Orrery. It's an orrery." Crawford had to stand up and shake his head to. . . She simpered. "Oh, Johnny! Come on in. This detective was asking about Andrew Detweiler in number seven." She turned back to me. "This is my protege, Johnny Peacock? a very talented young man. I'm arranging for a screen test as soon as Mr. Goldwyn returns. The captain wheels savagely, face mottled, teeth bared, arms windmilling with rage. I have never seen. . . bade." Amos jumped out of his rags and handed them to the sailor who trotted off toward the. . . Lying there wide awake on the rough mattress, side by side in the warm air with Mary Lang, whose black leg was a crooked line of shadow laying across his body, looking up through the port at the sharp, unwinking stars? with nothing done yet about the problems of oxygen, food, and water for the years ahead and no assurance he would live out the night on a planet determined to

kill him? Crawford realized he had never been happier in his life..she could pick up the hem, her left hand stiffened..The commission agents who had handled the orders for the first Ozo were found out and had to."Look, I've never had one, and never planned to. I'm thirty-four years old and never, never felt the."I know. I'll call you back tomorrow." She switched the set off and sat back on her heels. "I swear, if chair. She turned her head sideways and addressed the old woman behind the refreshment counter..went around colliding with each other..-get started easy. And then things'll get hard. Yeah?*.coiled-spring tension.."You stay around and nudge some more poems out of me. I'm feeling the wind in my sails, but I need a muse. If you give me twenty good ideas for poems, I'll give you your endorsement."..machine is halted while Zorphwar computations are completed. As you may have noticed, it took.They worked all day and tried their best to ignore the Burroughs overhead. The messages back and forth were short and to the point Helpless as the mother ship was to render them more aid, they knew they would miss it when it was gone. So the day of departure was a stiff, determinedly nonchalant affair. They all made a big show of going to bed hours before the scheduled breakaway..enough to frustrate their efforts to push through and enter the old ship. But both lock doors were open..He moved out into the clearing, more boldly now. Then suddenly he stopped. He saw a strange shape hanging by the cottage door. It was a deerskin, a fine buck's hide, hung by the antlers and the legs dangling down..ledge. When they climbed the rock, they saw that the light came from behind another wall of stone further.The North Wind was happier than he had ever been since the wizard first made his cave..badly needed washing, as did all their clothes. For a moment, as he watched her shadow stretch and..viewer on him), your library, your school. Before puberty you watch other people having sex, but even."When I blew the wizard here a year ago," said the North Wind from above them, "he left it right there, but the snow and ice have frozen over it."..for a moment, looking up to the ceiling where the airberries?white spheres about the size of bowling..into the slot of a gray machine which responded with an authoritative chunk. She slid the validated license.knowing exactly what will come up in forty thousand years. When it starts to get cold here and they.Zorphwar. I tried to get him to try using the program, but he was too upset to listen to reason. He gave.Robert F. Young.^Tomorrow I'm going back to Center St. and take the exam again."..compromising or ludicrous activities were widely distributed in the press.."Tell me anyway. If he and Harry were friendly, he might know something. Why do you keep calling.The Brewster ran heavily in the red, but Birdie didn't mind. She had quite a bit of property in Westwood which ran very, very heavily in the black. She gave me an obscene leer as I approached the desk, but her good eye twinkled.."Exactly." She squinted across the vast tasteful expanse of Party-land, then stood up and waved. "I..playing Scrabble with the cat, but Detweiler was so normal and unconcerned they soon settled down..*Tm not promising anything, you understand. Unless we hit it off. If we do, then fine, you have my endorsement. Fair enough?"."Mary, I wanted. . . is it all right if I call you Mary?"."Could I have one of your shoes?"..no reports on the progress of the Zorphwar project from you people. Please get the necessary input into."Sure," Song said, peering along his pointed finger. "Just show me the damn thing and I'll immortalize you."..sofa could say what had become of them. He flopped into the empty settee with a sense of complete..He laughed and almost dropped his coffee cup. "I don't think Roy can talk."..feeling is not the word; it is passion. . . ." (Music in London, v. i, Constable ft Co., London, 1956, pp..When he reached the apron of the second stage, he strode across it and began ascending the second.the box. From inside came the mew of a cat that ended with a deep, depressing: Elmlmpf..?As Atropos raises the terrible, cold-shining blades of the Norn-shears and with only the barest hesitation cuts the wires. Limbs.He had walked a long time, and even through his dark glasses he could make out the green and red blossoms, the purple fruit on the..never see baby pigeons? All the pigeons you see out on the street are the same size-full-grown. But.n."That is not much for true friendship," said Amos.."You know," Barry burst out in a sudden access of confessional bonhomie, "I feel confused most of."You're right," she said. "Your opinion doesn't mean anything." She slapped his knee delightedly.She snickered wanly..course, are directly based on Mary Shelley's novel itself; of these, only one besides the great classic of..neither you nor I need worry about him."".257."Sciatica. Which is more a disorder than a disease. Let's not talk about it, okay?"..formless doubts..We know his name. Patient researchers, using advanced scanning techniques, followed his letters back through the postal system and found him, but by that time he was safely dead..He continues to shout and I don't answer. On the stage Nagami and Hollis look at each other and at the rest of the group, and then Moog Indigo slides into the last number with scarcely a pause. Jain turns toward my side of the stage and gives me a soft smile. And..and laughing. She had known a lot of famous people and was a fountain of anecdotes, most of them.The Thief of Bagdad may set some sort of record with three acceptable productions, all using widely different variations on the story of a thief who saves a princess. The silent 1924 Thief, with Douglas Fairbanks, looks pretty primitive in places but also has some special effects that can still awe. Alexander Korda's 1940 Thief doubles that in spades (the giant flying genie is just one of many), plus it has monumentally lavish sets. Even the Steve Reeves version seems to have been made with more care and wit than the rest of Mr. Reeves' spaghetti spectaculars, containing some good film magic of its own and a resounding score with one of those epic romantic themes (based, it must be said, on a theme from the Rozsa music for Korda)..A: Friends Come in Boxes.out. He looked fine, all over his spell."..Left to himself he couldn't stop thinking about the staple he'd seen on her license. It was like the seemingly insignificant clue in a detective story from which the solution to the whole mystery gradually unfolds. For didn't it strongly suggest that she too had been given the benefit of the doubt that she'd got her license not because her score entitled her to it, but thanks to Bylaw 9(c), Section XII? The cha..hours poring over them."..least an acknowledged one). They should have left well enough alone in this case. Color instead of b&w.."And which am I?"..I was sorry to hear That you've got to be going. But you're not? Then I'm sorry to hear that."Get out of my way."..They began again, climbing faster than ever, but in another hour the bottom of the moon had already sunk below the edge of the

ocean. At last they gained a fair-sized ledge where the wind was not so strong. Above, there seemed no way to go any higher..cant be held responsible for what they say in their poems. We're all compulsive traitors, you know." "Matt?" she yawned. "What's. . . what is it? Is something-". "What do you want me to do?". "In a cage! Like a freak! I don't want to be a freak anymore. It's over. I want it to be over. Please." "Yes, it is," said Amos. "What do they keep here that is so uninteresting everyone tells me to avoid." "I swear, man, if you had touched me with a cattle prod you couldn't have got a bigger rise out of me than you did with what you said a few minutes ago. Do I dare ask?".around, clicking his tongue softly. His eyes caught on something at the end of the couch. He smiled. At.Milian, age 51, had fallen through the plate-glass doors leading onto the terrace of the high-rise where he.crucial point. He signed off and they joined the other survivors..hear Detweiler's typewriter tickety-ticking away inside. Okay, Mallory, this is what you've been breaking.same room, dressed in the same dress, and drinking (it seemed uncanny) another can of beer (though not.from the pages of a decorator magazine. A kitchen behind a half wall was on my right A hallway led.case, he went back and locked the trunk tightly..alibi, and moved to Silver Lake..On a day exactly eight months after the disaster, two discoveries were made. One was in the.by now, be asking yourself, "What's a clone?" It's been in the news a great deal lately, but recognizing a

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