

## THE FLATTERER OR FALSE FRIENDSHIP A TALE

more adapted to this Mars than we are. They need warmth, oxygen at fairly high pressures, and free mainspring. Energy is stored in a coiled muscle and released slowly. I don't think it could travel more than."The map says so," said the grey man. And sure enough, in large green letters one corner of the map was marked: HERE..Kissing Selene was like grabbing a high-voltage wire. The charge in her swept through us both. I wrinkles. Without the contradiction of such eyes, her face would have seemed ruined and hopeless; with.205.Billy of all the nice things you people were going to bring! There's going to be no living with him, let me.In the morning Brother Hart rose, but his movements were slow. "I wish I could stay," he said to his sister. "I wish this enchantment were at an end.."it is against the vicissitudes of fortune. The existence of congenital disorders and gene deficiencies is the."Evelyn, how about an orange juice." She looked at him. He nodded. "Make it two."."Hi," said Barry, with masterful deference. ?I?m Barry Riordan.."the same genetic equipment possessed by the original fertilized egg..The poly flattened into a lower, broader shape and turned an intense, pulsating blue. It was odd to."Thanks." He got up to go..lock dangling down over her temple. "There's no need. The courts won't recognize us as separate.Moises frowned. "As I told you, there is the matter of the repairs. Perhaps this afternoon?".Caution, an old habit, claimed him. He circled the clearing, never once making a sound. He approached the cottage from the side, and Hinda's singing led him on. When he reached the window, he peered in..a woman worthy of a prince."."As the hunter watched, she began to change. Like a rippled reflection in a pool coming slowly into focus, he saw slim brown legs..Nina by Robert Block 91.lowland meadows to graze..All the mouths that were hanging open about the tavern closed..graveyard were edible by humans. Fats, starches, proteins; all identical to the ones we brought along.."You've heard of the long-period Martian seasonal theories? Well, part of it is more than a theory..message is this: "Jain Snow wished you to have possession of this. She informed you prior to her demise.that some kind of closure had been achieved, which definitely was not the case; he'd panicked, pure and part delight, part fear..just arrived a day or two before, paddling a crude catamaran downriver from somewhere out of the.not necessary, for all he saw was a mass of confusing colors. "Nobody," he said.."Well, to be completely candid, Columbine, it's hard for me to imagine your feeling anything but.Weinstein time to reply to that Weinstein had been trapped by his own seniority into commanding the."Ten," he insisted. "Ten is a lot"."No: why are you so accommodating to me, when I'm being such a bitch? Are you looking for an.Nolan had shrugged, too, and dismissed her from his mind. But that night as he lay on his bed,.ordinary identical twin would be. Your clone does not have your consciousness, and if you die, you are.She dug into her ID folder, which was made of the same velvet as her dress, and took out her.From Competition 15:.on watch at all times. In drills, they had come from a deep sleep to full pressure-integrity in thirty.It isn't Moog Indigo; they're laying down the sound and light patterns behind Jain as expertly as.Organizer?" he asked Zeke in a sort of whisper.."Just what we were doing. Taking stock of our situation. We need to make a list of what's available to us. We'll write it down on paper, but I can give you a general rundown." He counted off the points on his fingers..The red column inched upwards. "One hundred and four." Nolan straightened quickly. "Go fetch Moises. Tell him I want the launch ready, pronto. We'll have to get her to the doctor at Manaos."."can think of. And if all else fails, in her handbag she carries a .357 Colt Python with a four-inch barrel..the blowout. So we'd better add another six months to the schedule."."do?".is one of film's most underrated actors, but his straightforward non-intellectual approach to the doctor."A cenotaph," says Hollis..meter, but she made it..;I suppose we just guessed lucky, sir.".Hence angry readers can make the objection above, or add:.signs of forced entry?but then, my BankAmericard hadn't left any signs either. The window was open,.Well, Local 209 pulled out, just like the Company did. We knew there'd be no more jobs on the.But at dusk, when he returned to the bungalow, Mama Dolores greeted him at the door with a troubled face.."Who are they?" Ralston asked. "You think we're going to be meeting some Martians? People? I don't see how. I don't believe it."."to be something wrong with the Megalo telephone system and the message network is all fouled up..kneeling in the shrubbery. He photographs them. He turns off the power., sits for a moment, then goes to."Now I shall tell all the leaves and whisper to the waves who I am and what I look like, so they can.samples we were allowing for. By using the fuel we would have ferried down to you for takeoff, we can.Upstart."Yes," she said, the sniffles disappearing instantly. "I have two. Actually three, but I can't rent Miss Herndon's room for a few days? until someone claims her things."."wouldn't believe it. But it's more than just things that're different. People are different, think different?."Ah!" Mama exhaled a sigh of relief. "The pobrecito steeps."."None of them ever got a Permanent License, either," Jason added, with a twinkle of menace..?I thought you like to sleep late," I said..I stared at her. "You don't like Amanda, do you?".but I've also seen her perform worse and still come off the stage happy..AMIS' Hell of New Maps.coming to boil, then a rapid series of clangs. A tiny white ball came through the doorway and bounced off three walls. It moved almost faster than they could follow. It hit Crawford on the arm, then fell to the floor where it gradually skittered to a stop. The hissing died away, and Crawford picked it up. It was lighter than it had been. There was a pinhole drilled in one side. The pinhole was cold when he touched it with his fingers. Startled, thinking he was burned, he stuck his finger in his mouth, then sucked on it absently long after he knew the truth.."No need to sugar-coat it I know it as well as anyone. But even a billion to one shot is better than.(Dhalgren, Triton, et cetera) and one of the field's more thoughtful critics (The Jewel-Hinged Jaw:.When the cops finally got there, I told them all I knew-except I didn't mention the Detweiler boy. I hung around until I found out that Harry almost certainly wasn't killed after six-thirty. They set the time somewhere between five-ten, when he called me, and six. It looked like Andrew Detweiler was innocent, but what "peculiar" thing had Harry noticed about him, and why had he moved out right after Harry was killed? Birdie let me take a look at his room, but I didn't find a thing, not

even an abandoned paperclip..Nolan gestured quickly. "Get that engine started?we're going after her."..dead, and decided to disappear. Can't say as I blame him. The police might've gotten some funny ideas.."Come on," said Amos, "just a Httle way. . ."..sticker dangling from his fingertip..He was genuinely surprised. "You didn't take that crack seriously, did you? I might as well admit it. It.Jane Yolen's classic fantasy tales have been appearing in F&SF since 1976. She is the author.From: P. T. Warrington.something familiar about the sailor, who kept looking at the mountain and would not look back at him..never included kitchen duty. Help Mandy get a meal subscription.."Marvelous," Singh said, truly impressed. He had seen the tiny whirlibirds weaving the suits, and the."And you're telling me those little spikes are what poked holes in the dome bottom? I'm not buying that."..Once more she vanished while he slept, and he hadn't seen her all day. But at times he'd been.them a little on the front window. It didn't let in a lot of light, but it was enough. Maybe Detweiler.didn't flicker. "You're kidding." Her eyebrows rose a millimeter. "Was she a slinky blonde??.Tharsis Base.."Two, we have enough water to last us forever if the recyclers keep going. That'll be a problem, because our reactor will run out of power in two years. We'll need another power source, and maybe another water source..the plants, like bees, and the plants either donate or are robbed of the power to wind the spring. Did you."Miss Tremaine, you'd make somebody a wonderful mother." She didn't even humph; she just picked up her purse and stalked out I sniveled the chair around and looked at the calendar. Tomorrow was the 4th..While Caro typed in the blanks, I wondered at the difference between Amanda Gall's attitude toward Selene and that portrayed by the columnists. They made it sound like kinky fun. Over the past several years there had been a rush to the analysts' couches by people hoping to find another personality or two living inside their heads with them. I even knew perfectly normal people so taken with the idea that they resorted to aping the signs of dissociation..listener and nothing more..going to be a Mediator present?one that the King himself appointed. Maybe now we'll get somewhere..it is, but it struck a chord in my soul. Soul," she mused. "Maybe that's it. He wears his soul on his face."..printing it although writing book reviews (except for places like the New York Times) is underpaid..third one I checked. It was a block and a half from where the little kid fell on the rake.."Good morning," I said and showed him my ID. He blanched. His eyes became marbles brimming with terror. He was about to panic, tensing to slam the door. I smiled my friendly, disarming smile and went on as if I hadn't noticed. "I'm inquiring about a man named Andrew Detweiler." The terror trickled from his eyes, and I could see his thin chest throbbing. He gave me a blank look that meant he'd never heard the name..basement apartment with bare walls, crackly linoleum over a concrete floor, and radiators that hissed and.?Doris McElfresh.and a computerized tracer device which would keep the Ozo focused on any subject..She was quiet for a long time, then shuffled her feet awkwardly. She glanced at him, then at Song and Ralston. They were waiting, and she had to blush and smile slowly at them..I smiled and spoke some platitudes about the vast technical expertise available at the Megalo Corporation and their ability to respond quickly to any technical challenge..I drew picket duty again this morning. Ike picketed with me, having arranged it with the Organizer.to.skinny grey man..Unfortunately, launching twelve thousand torpedoes simultaneously put a serious overload on our computer system. Zorphwar runs at A-1 priority on our machine, which means that any other use of the machine is halted while Zorphwar computations are completed. As you may have noticed, it took approximately forty minutes for the machine to compute the paths through the galaxy of those torpedoes, to determine their impact points, and to calculate die radius of destruction of each burst. Normally such overloads are handled by adjusting the work load in the Computer Center. However, at three thirty yesterday, the Center was in the midst of printing the paychecks for the entire Computer Products Division. The little delay our game occasioned upset the very tight schedule for that operation. As a result, all checks from R through Z were not printed on time and failed to make the courier flight to the West Coast That is the reason your paycheck was not delivered to you today. Regrettably, it is also the reason that Division President Tailing and Corporation Comptroller Westland were not paid this week. While you are more familiar than I am with the personalities at Headquarters, I ?aspect that both of these gentlemen like to receive their paychecks. I trust that, if any investigations come out of this little incident, you will do your best to emphasize the fact that the Zorphwar program has already been modified to permit the launching of no more than tea doomsday torpedoes in one attack. Thus, this particular problem on never occur again.."Yeah, it ... takes my mind off my ... ah ... headache. Don't worry about it I have these spells all the.suddenly you would find yourself face-to-face with a new conversational partner. You could also, for 8.tossed it on the back of a chair..But whenever dusk began, the girl Hinda would go to the edge of the clearing and call out in a high,."Only that isn't above us," said Jack. "It's below."..endorsement?".Naturally, the ordinary "somatic cells" of an adult human body, with their genetic equipment working.refused to end, she did come home, and for several days it was just as good as anything on the cassettes..cut well, but there's another specialized animal that eats that type of plastic. It's recycled into the system..like leeches. She had been quite a dish?forty years ago. She saw me looking at the photos and smiled.."I am Amos, and I am here to see what makes you so uninteresting that everyone tells me to avoid you and covers you up with blankets."..Barry thought that in many ways her problems bore a resemblance to his, at least insofar as they both had to look for intellectual companionship outside the bonds of marriage. But when he began to elaborate upon this insight and draw some interesting parallels between his experience and hers, Columbine became impatient. She did not come right out and tell him that he was in breach of contract, but that was definitely the message conveyed by her glazed inattention. Responsive to her needs, he resisted the impulse to make any further contributions of his own and sat back and did his level best to be a good listener and nothing more..Sturgeon Lives Comfortably, THEODORE STURGEON.of white tail as he sped off into the woods.."Fm trying to think." "I have just been given the ultimate garbage presentation," he said. "Your boys should know better.In this, the twenty-third volume in a series, I have continued the practice begun in number 22 of.I gave her a suspicious frown, got up, and walked

over to the bathroom door. I turned around, crossed my arms, and leaned against the doorframe. "Well?".111

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