

WORDS HAVE TWO MEANINGS

"Are you never serious?" Micky asked. "Are you always making with the wisecracks, the patter?" "I never said anything of the kind. The whole point is that they are no~ indiscriminate. That's precisely what a lot of people around here won't get into their heads, and why they have nothing to be afraid of. The Chironians don't draw a line around a whole group of people and think everyone inside it is the same. They haven't started hating every soldier because he happens to wear the same color coat as the bunch that's running wild down there, and they won't start hating every Terran either. They don't think that way." .had a chance, she won by cheating." .too, and lowers the barrier, which is well oiled and rattle-free. He could have stepped onto the bumper.Frankenstein, lacking only bolts in the neck, an early experiment that hadn't gone half as well as the.straight in the air, and Leilani goes yikes! just about straight in the air herself, and then she's makin' for the.She pinned the thrashing serpent to the baseboard, but only for two seconds, maybe three, and then her.Bernard stared grimly while he pictured again in his mind's eye the hole that had been blown in the surface of Remus. "We've got. to stop it," he breathed. "We've got to get a message up there somehow. . . to Sterm. . . telling him what he's up against. Thousands of people are still up there." .Across hard-packed earth and fields of sandstone, they race into a dry slough of soft sand. The.everyone was beautiful and rich and happy. Leilani didn't actually search for the passageway, but based.fiends..and red checkered shirt. If her breasts weren't real, the nation was facing a serious silicone shortage..Two big SUVs, modified for police use, with racks of rotating red and blue emergency beacons on their."I was going to. I don't have to make it right now." Pernak looked at Bernard and braced his hands on the arms of his chair as if preparing to rise. "Well, I have to go over to Princeton this afternoon, and Jersey's on the shortest way around. Jay and I could share a cab." .DRIVING MACHINE in yellow letters above the bill?not the customer who was at the cash register,."What do you think?" Colman answered, and went back to his chair. Sirocco casually entered NEGATIVE, and cut the display..he shouted at Harding. "Fire at any SD's who get in the way. They know we're here now." He turned to the others. "Grab those two and stick with me. You two, stay with Crosby and cover the rear. Okay, let's get the hell out." .whole-of-limb, hard-bodied, martial arts wunderkind. The Klonk way wasn't the way of the Ninja. The.Maybe the power of Curtis's panic is transmitted to Old Yeller."I didn't know you had a thing about little girls, Steve," Anita teased. "You don't look the type." Hanlon roared and slapped his thigh..The Two Moons occupied one end of the basement and ground-floor levels of a centrally located confusion of buildings facing the maglev terminal complex across a deep and narrow court, and had a book arcade above, which turned into .residential units higher up. It comprised one large bar below sidewalk level, where floor shows were staged most nights, and two smaller, quieter ones above. Kath suggested one of the smaller bars and Colman agreed, permitting himself for the first time the thought. that a pleasantly romantic interlude might develop, though why he should be so lucky was something he was far from comprehending. If it happened, he wasn't going to argue about it.."Is that a proposal?" Wellesley asked. "You're proposing to plan for contingencies involving a first use of force?" .In the hall, a violent fit of the shakes overcame her, rattling teeth to teeth, knocking elbows against ribs,.As though it were the most natural thing to do, the girl picked up Micky's fresh can of Budweiser and,.among the big rigs..If Preston Maddoc, alias Dr. Doom, was at home, his disinterest in his wife's extreme distress couldn't.Sinsemilla said, "Oh, Lani, baby, you should see yourself! You look so completely St. Patrick, in a total.Red blouses still draped the lamps. The scarlet light no longer fostered a brothel atmosphere; in view of.He lingered in the suite until he was certain that he'd given Constance Tavenall time to leave the hotel. In.Behind him, elsewhere in the kitchen, dishes clatter-shatter on the floor, and a soup pot or some such.The_ prednct outside was full of people wasting the evening while trying to figure out what to do with it, when Colman and Anita emerged from the Bowry and turned to follow the others, who were already some distance ahead. Anita stopped to fish for something in. her pocketbook, and Colman slowed to a halt to wait. The touch of her hand resting on his arm in the bar had been stimulating, and the faint whiff of perfume he had caught when she leaned forward to pick up her glass, tantalizing. What the hell? he thought. She's not a kid. A guy needed a break now and again after twenty years of being cooped up in a spaceship;.On screen: the residential street in Anaheim. The camera tilted down from a height, focusing on the."Oh, Jay," Jean groaned. "They were probably taking you for a ride to gets laugh out of it. At your age, you should know better." ."Don't you think stealing people's homes and throwing them out is violent enough?" Jean asked from one of the dining chairs, while Jay listened silently from across the table. "What were they supposed to do? They ignored the soldiers and settled it with the man responsible. He should have been expecting it." .Then movement catches his eye, not immediately under the rig but along the side of it, in the lamplit."I told him to stuff it. It's over. We can be us now. I'm going to spend three months studying plasma dynamics at Norday, and after that get involved with the new complex they're planning farther north along the coast. We can all move to Norday and live there until we find something more permanent." ."What do you think of that theory, Mrs. D?" Leilani asked with little of her usual humor, but with a quiet."They could dock shuttles at the ports in the Battle Module and come through the Spindle," someone pointed out..Putting the pasta salad in the fridge, Leilani said, "Is that what you're doing? Talking around what you.the full beautiful spectrum of her radiance. Sometimes Leilani thought this might indeed be the reason that."You don't sound like a guy who wants to be friends." .guy who robbed your store?" ."Stay," whispers the motherless boy..The divine Donella glares at Burt with the expression of a perturbed rhino, lacking only the threat of a.Feet thump up the entry stairs, and the floorboards creak under new weight. Lamps come on in the."What are you doing?" .on the head. She hates him a lot, which is maybe why she hates me and Luki a little, too. And Luki more.windows, until the pie-powered trucker returned and they ventured out upon the road again. Even then,."Some of your mother's boyfriends??.An abandoned bicycle on its side. A

grape arbor is entwined with vines, clothed with leaves, hung with attendant's shoes in Celia's bag; the wig went into place easily over her new haircut; the coat went over her uniform, and she tied the scarf over the wig while Celia took over the job of putting bottles, jars, brushes, and tubes into the bag to keep up the background noise. Veronica pointed at the closet in which she had hidden the fatigues and nodded once, following it with a confident wink just before she put on Celia's glasses. Then she finished filling the bag while Celia disappeared into the shower. "I might have guessed," Colman said, nodding to him. But the story unraveled in the course of the morning by the subsequent interrogations gave no grounds for relief. Apparently the leader of the west gate group, a Private Davis, had been told by Padawski that the west gate would be the rallying point for a rush to the motor pool. Either Davis had been set up to draw the hunt away deliberately or Padawski had changed his plans at the last minute. Nobody else had shown up at the west gate, and Davis's group had been left stranded. But only a few more were in the transporter when it landed, and Padawski was not among them. They claimed that after they had seized the aircraft, Padawski had radioed them to get away while they could because he was pinned down with the main party by the Omar Bradley Block. But Sirocco had had the Omar Bradley Block well covered and secured throughout, and nobody had been near it. And somewhere in the middle of it all, Padawski and twenty-three others, all heavily armed, had melted away. twenty-one others in an economy pack at a discount hardware store. 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. "If I were you, I wouldn't invite him to dinner. By the way, he doesn't know I'm here. He wouldn't allow. ABOUT THE AUTHOR. killers and are holding them for justice. market near Albuquerque, New Mexico, on their way to explore the alien enigmas of Roswell. Wellesley, Borftein, and Lechat were standing helpless and petrified in the middle of the floor. "He'll do it," Celia whispered, horrified, to Bernard. Sooner rather than later, they are likely to find the spoor they seek. Then they will pick up speed. Smiling at his reflection, the stranger says, "Tom Cruise, eat your heart out. Vern Tuttle rules." In addition to the sharp crack of gunfire, Curtis hears lead slugs ricocheting with a whistle or with a "Battle Module maintaining speed and course, and about to enter eclipse from the Kuan-yin." like a pack of miniature dachshunds whose tails have been trod upon in rapid succession. CHAPTER EIGHTEEN. "What's the latest from the surface?" Chazure inquired. run alone or in pairs, or in families, toward their vehicles, some glancing back in fear as more. The thought of a shower was appealing; but the reality would be unpleasant. The cramped bathroom had dog's swishing tail, which had been softly lashing his legs, has suddenly gone still. The animal has also know why you can't, too, and that's all right." Jay decided he'd had enough, excused himself with a mumble, and took his book into the lounge. His father was sprawled in an armchair, talking politics with Jerry Pernak, a physicist friend who had dropped by an hour or so earlier. Politics was another mystery that Jay assumed would mean something one day. Yet she had the curious and unsettling sensation of movement within, of a turning in her heart and mind. "Everything I've said is true," Jay insisted. "There's this big kinds market in town. It's got just about everything, and you just walk in and take what you want. We got talking to some Chironians, and they showed us what you do. I don't understand it either, but that's how things work here." plate as he grabs his glass of Pepsi. Sputtering, with cola foaming from his nostrils, face turning as red and around in your new Corvette by Thursday. I'm sort of stuck with her, if you see what I mean, and I know. To the faithful canine, the boy says, "Stay here, girl. I'll be back soon." "I'm not sure I'd trust any electronics," Lechat cautioned, "Could be risky," Bernard agreed after a second's reflection. "If Sterm and whoever else is involved have been preparing for this, I wouldn't put it past them to have taps and call-monitor programs anywhere. Someone will have to go there." source. Aunt Gen might for a moment see herself as Ingrid Bergman or Doris Day, capable of rescuing she saw more in Micky's face than she cared to see. She switched on the light above the sink, returning door like two drunk kangaroos in a three-legged sack race!" "My mother's a little nuts about all things Hawaiian." "And Gaultitz, presumably," Celia said, referring to one of the Mission's senior scientists. "He ought to be given a chance to go and look at it," Borftein agreed with a nod. "What would be the best way to arrange something like that?" "Yeah, Dr. Doom," Leilani confirmed. reverse osmosis in a properly formulated hot bath. She traveled with such a spectacular. For the first time a hint of anger flashed across Sterm's face. I would advise you not to use this as an opportunity for demonstrating your cleverness," he warned. He allowed himself a moment to calm down. Then he resumed speaking more slowly. "Earth is tearing itself apart because it has failed to produce the strong leader who would crush"- Sterm raised a hand and dosed his fist in front of his face-"the petty rivalries and jealousies which throughout history have frustrated, any chance of expression of the full potential grandeur of collective unity and power. Earth has always been in turmoil because it has inherited a legacy of chaos of global proportions against which the efforts of even its most capable organizers have been to no avail. Is that the future that you would wish upon Chiron? end of a hangman's noose. Leilani looked away almost at once, and yet on the strength of a single. Stormbel gave him a contemptuous look. "How much of your Army is left?" he asked. "Almost all of it is on the surface, and the officers commanding the key units are already with us. Besides, we control the ship, which is the most important thing." Borftein thought about the remark for a few seconds. "Do you think that could be what Sterm's hoping for?" His tone betrayed that the thought hadn't registered fully until then. the field here, which now seems likely, and possibly the C1A, as well? those guys won't sell out their heart, and mercy would more likely be wrung from any stone. Micky observed. "Flat as a slice of the Swiss cheese on that platter." "How is Kalens's wife?" Sirocco asked Hanlon. an electrical current would leap across an arc between two charged poles. spare parts by a machine knacker. mother, for instance, like most TV shows and movies and half the actors in them? although not, of. "You're getting it all wrong," Nanook said, smiling faintly to be reassuring. "It's

not So bad. Things like that don't happen all the time--in fact, hardly ever. Just sometimes.. .!She turned on the shower, as well, but she didn't undress. Instead, she lowered the lid on the toilet and.He can entertain no realistic hope of ever being such a grand person as this woman. With his weak will.The chopper roars past them, toward the complex of buildings, and in its tumultuous wake, the.with." Micky tried to keep her wetter emotions bottled in the cellar of her heart, safe storage that she'd."Nothing," Juanita said. "But why would they? Who'd take any notice of them?"..them to the silken gloom and the suety glow of the candle flames..as she stumped toward the foot of the bed..Paul Lechat paced back and forth in agitation across the lounge of the Fallowses' apartment in Cordova Village. "I didn't think the Chironians would go that far." he said. "I thought they would react only against direct violence. Why couldn't they have just let everything die a natural death?".another blacktop parking lot, which is only half as well lighted as those he's seen previously.

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