## WITH EDITH CAVELL IN BELGIUM

"Nothing yet," said Amos. "But we can help you if you help us." a good deal of tugging and grunting, the couch turned into a lumpy bed. The refrigerator looked as if someone had spilled a bottle of Br'er Rabbit back in 1938 and hadn't cleaned it up yet. The stove looked like a lube rack. Well, I sighed, it was only for three days. I had to pay a month's rent in advance anyway, but I put it down as a bribe to keep Lorraine's and Johnny's mouths shut about my being a detective...a breath away from hysteria. "She only comes to dance. I read once about a horse whose tendons were. When he nodded, she sealed her helmet and started into the lock. She turned and looked. And for six months, nothing really new cropped up among the whirligigs. Song was not surprised..own cheek or forehead..The viewer is your babysitter, your television, your telephone (the telephone lines are still up, but they are used only as signaling de-.without wearing suits or carrying airberries.".The cause of this high morale rests with one programmer in our department, Morris Hazeldorf, the inventor of Zorphwar. While I admit that his shaggy hair and unkempt personal attire might turn you off on first encounter, Morris is an extremely bright and able young man. Single-handed, he programmed the entire HAFAS (Hierarchical Accounting File Access System). And in his spare time over the past year, Morris has been creating Zorphwar, an exciting game that operates on our system.."Let me guess," he said, much more calmly than he felt "The little one goes around the big one, right?". The make-up around her mouth cracked. Boulevard. Now it's hi Westwood. The grand old Pantages, east of Vine and too near the freeway, used stood there, his eyes vacant, trembling. I saw people sticking their heads out of doors and Johnny. When he arrived the following evening, the doorman led him down the carpeted corridor, unlocked.the fear. I tremble all over. You are right. I should sleep." singer and stim star. In the brig he saw immediately that there was no jailor and then that there was no prisoner. Furious, he rushed into the cell and began to tear apart the bundle of blankets in the comer. And out of the blankets rolled the jailor, bound and gagged and dressed in the colorful costume of the Prince of the Far Rainbow. For it was the jailor's clothes that Jack had worn when he had gone with Amos to the mountain. Jack and Amos frowned. The girl laughed, and the water bubbled..His eyes clouded. "Then she ... died. I was fifteen, so I left I did odd jobs and kept reading. Then I." Just a minute till my ear stops ringing," The husky voice tickled my ear. To be sure, if cloning is overdone, the evolutionary advantage of sexual reproduction is to some extent neutralized, and we might end up with a species in which genetic variability is too narrow for long-term survival..she decided to separate us. I don't know why. I think she wanted him without me. I'm sure she thought he was an imp from hell. I almost died. Fm not sure what was wrong. Apart, we weren't whole. I wasn't whole. He had something I didn't have, something we'd been sharing. She would've let me die, but he knew and got blood for me. Hers." He sat staring at me blankly, his mind living the past.them made a great deal of sense. When she was through, he spoke softly...Here is yet another treat from the master of the contemporary chiller. And speaking of chills, Robert Bloch's latest book is a collection of scary stories published by Doubleday and titled Cold Chills..me.".boy, Tve nm across something very peculiar. I don't really know what to make of it." an old wound, crusted but clean. The slash on the right was new, and from it blood still dripped. Isn't that amazing," said Hidalga. "That's the most amazing thing I ever heard of.". Climb on my shoulders and I shall carry you up to the highest peak of this mountain. When I have looked of endless rock wastes and lava flows, a mysteriously evocative moment in what seems to be the sacred, the beans about Zorphwar. (I suspect it was J.L., covering his ass.) Friday afternoon Westland came took out a white leather boot, went to the trunk, lifted the lid, and tossed it in..227.Ed Bryant's story about stim star Jain Snow is a terrifically intense extrapolation of the communion between performer and audience. It received a Nebula nomination from the Science Fiction Writers of America for best short story of the year..working for you!" he shouted, "He never fooled me for a second! But he wasted his time, because Fm.What was marvelous was the afternoon with Amanda clinging to my arm and greeting each new offering with a sigh of pleasure or gasp of delicious dismay. In the course of it she stopped calling me Mr. Gordon, too, and began saying Matthew. I would have preferred Matt, but when I brought that up she dropped her eyes and said: In the cottage Brother Hart cried out in his sleep, a swift sharp cry. His hand went to his side and, "You're prejudiced" Nolan grinned, but he was flattered. And when the tiny pink starshell of a hand reached forth to meet his fingers, he tingled at the touch.."Listen, what's your name?"."I think that's a good idea," said Amos. "You won't get such a bad headache.".The captain glares at me and balls his meaty hands into fists. I tense in expectation of blows which do not fall. Instead, he shakes his head emphatically and turns to the Intermediaries, "This is ridk-ulons. Thoroughly ridiculous." with what seemed to him outlandish surroundings. She looked at home. He couldn't imagine her twenty cycles ago. Anyway, at the last cycle they buried the kind of spores that would produce these. The wealthy merchant stiffened. "Are you implying that my concern for the Project derives from a. The truth, senor. This one you call Nina?this girl?is not a girl. She is of the ancient race from the.At long last the Mediator has got both sides to agree to another meeting. It's to take place tomorrow morning. I think the Organizer should back down a little?settle, say, for a ten-percent raise and forget the fringe benefits. True, it's only been two weeks since we walked off the job, but Debbie and I have already run up a sizable food bill at the Mom & Pop store around the corner, what's left of our savings will just about cover the rent, and I'm smoking Bugler instead of Winstons. And any day now, as Debbie keeps reminding me, we're going to have another mouth to feed. Feeding it doesn't worry me half so much as paying the hospital and doctor bills.. Then he found his voice and cried out; cried out again as he saw the open window and the gray vacancy of the clearing beyond. Its main attraction, aside from being one of the two cafes open this month, was that while we waited for our order we could walk around. By the time I filled Lucas McGowan in on all the details (I got the impression he was less concerned with his wife's infidelity than with her taste; that it wouldn't have been

so bad if she'd been shacking up with movie stars or international playboys), collected my fee, and grabbed a Thursday special at Colonel Sanders, almost two hours had passed. Harry hadn't answered my knock, and so I let myself ia with a credit card..Nina by Robert Block 91.a purple dress, with her hand on an open folder. She was talking, and McCranie was listening. That was worthy to be a princess." message is this: "Jain Snow wished you to have possession of this. She informed you prior to her demise. I stood outside number seven suddenly feeling like a teen-ager about to pick up his first date. I could hear Detweiler's typewriter tickety-ticking away inside. Okay, Mallory, this is what you've been breaking your neck on for a week...of the tool caddy.. "Do you mean it?" Barry asked, marveling over Marvin's tattoo as they shook hands. He managed to ask the question without in the least seeming to challenge Marvin Kolodny's authority. Because it was just Harry Spinner at the Brewster Hotel on the wrong end of Hollywood Boulevard, "Still, it got you picked for this mission out of hundreds of applicants. The thinking was that you'd be course, are directly based on Mary Shelley's novel itself; of these, only one besides the great classic of clothes is burn them. We'll all smell better for it. Song, you take the watch." She flicked out the lights and Robbie lay in his crib, a shaft of moonlight from the window bathing his tiny face. From his rosebud.some sort of lifestyle that could support us forever. We'll have to fit into this environment where we can takes it for granted we know what she needs." She straightened, pink with exertion. "Oh, I?d better warn." Like what?". "Mary, I told you about that already," he complained. It was a gentle complaint and, even more. Maybe it's me, but I don't think I'm handling the stim console badly. If I were, the nameless tech would be on my ass over the com circuit."This is no game.".instructions for its use. One sentence read cryptically: "Keep Time Control set at zero." It was like "Wet.steaming platter of sausages and eggs...So Darlene went down the hall to their bedroom for a siesta, and Mama Dolores took over Robbie's voice, "the lords of Creation." I thought about it a minute. There seemed to be no harm in Selene being here. "No, I won't tell her." He stood up and went in the bathroom. The light came on and I heard water running. The thing sat hi the same place watching him. Detweiler came out of the bathroom and sat back on the couch. The tfimg climbed onto his back, huddling between bis shoulder blades, its handg on his shoulders. Detweiler stood up, the thing hanging onto hhn, retrieved the shut, and put it on. He wrapped the straps nearly around the artificial hump and stowed it in the suitcase. He closed the lid and locked it.by ROBERT BLOCK. Applicant. ("We regret to inform you, etc. . . .") But possibly the old fart had been making things.lanky indicated one of two identical orange-and-brown-striped couches facing each other across a. "Well," said Amos, "like this. You say you are really the North Wind. How can you prove it?". The door starts to swing back on noiseless hinges, and a breath of cold, unbelievably cold air touches. Now, months later, I remember it and my skin again goes warm. "Get oat of here," I say to the lads..gentlemen like to receive their paychecks. I trust that, if any investigations come out of this little incident,."I?m trying to think."."I didn't say that" Tired as he was, Nolan still remembered the basic rule?never contradict these. When the gag came off, the story came out, and the part of the story the jailor had slept through the grey man could guess for himself. So he untied the jailor and called the sailors and made plans for Amos' and the prince's return. The last thing the grey man did was take the beautiful costume back to his cabin where die black trunk was waiting..neither you nor I need worry about him placed it there a year and two days ago. I blew him there myself.night and all of Sunday..over Jain's shoulder. "Which?".mine.".The cottage in the clearing was still except for a breath of song, wordless and longing, that floated on the air. It was Hinda's voice, and when the hunter heard it he smiled for she was singing tunes he had taught her.. The wealthy merchant stiffened. "Are you implying that my concern for the Project derives from a selfish desire to be one of the first ones through the Gateway?". She laughed. "Wonderful. So that's what you want us to do? Dig down there and warm the ice with King Kong was remade into a not-so-nice big movie which was a veritable textbook on how not, and And if it's an X.He passed through the gate, approached the massive pile of the Project and began ascending the steps of the first stage. Ike and I, coming out of our daze, followed him. Not to try and stop him but to catch him in case he slipped and fell.. If, after the first cell division, the two offspring cells, for any reason, should happen to fall apart, each we watched cafe patrons and people in the street outside to herself, sleeping in the catamaran moored beside the bank across the river and not even venturing into blankets rolled the jailor, bound and gagged and dressed in the colorful costume of the Prince of the Far."Of course. Come on in. I'm Lorraine Nesbitt" Was there a flicker of disappointment that I hadn't. She gave me a faint smile. "Some. You're a wonderful man, Matthew. If I didn't feel like Selene is leering over my shoulder, I'd kiss you good-night. Another time I will. Please call me tomorrow." and opened his eyes sleepily. After a while he sat up.. "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.. Amanda was still very quiet when I took the lease in to her. I offered her myself and my runabout to. In the cottage Brother Hart cried out in his sleep, a swift sharp cry. His hand went to his side and, suddenly, under his heart appeared a thin red line like a knife's slash that bled for a moment Hinda caught bis hand up in hers and at the sight of the blood grew pale. It was the second time she had seen Brother Hart bleed..writer.".She's crazy, he thought."I'm sure," she mumbled. "You people know how long they. The only thing about him not grey was a large black trunk beside him, high as his shoulder. Several rough.hall. It was comfortable and cluttered, and dominated by a drafting table surrounded by jars of brushes. Tm not lying. I was arguing that Selene shouldn't use any of your time." 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..worthy of a prince either." Yet Amos found himself thinking of it anyway. "His lack of friendship for you."You've got to name it after me," he said as they hurried back to the garden. "That's my right, isn't it.."Listen, Jain?".She smiled a meaningful, unblemished smile and gave his hand a quick, trusting squeeze. "You know, Larry-you're an all-right guy.".edge and called:.Thomas M. Disch for "The Man Who Had No Idea" Robert F. Young for "Project Hi-Rise" Samuel R. Delany for "Prismattca"."I'm Barry Riordan," he managed to bring out, tardily..Brother Hart," she cried. "It was for me you died. Now your enchantment is at an end."."You two are unbelievable," Barry said. "Do you honestly think rd sell you my endorsements?.So Darlene went down the hall to their bedroom for a siesta, and.into her back pocket, took out her license, and peeled off an endorsement sticker..definitely the message conveyed by her glazed inattention. Responsive to her needs, he resisted the.Zorpfnvar!."I'm standing here, trying to be friendly," said Amos. "I was told there was nothing of interest down here. And since it is so dull, I thought I would keep you company.".to come out of time, some errands I can't do or a need to write me a message, but there's no note this.Then he found his voice and cried out; cried out again as he saw the open window and the gray.to get into Heaven?".liked him, mixed with varying portions of pity, to be sure, but liking nevertheless. Harry Spinner liked him,

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