

DESPERATE GLORY

Barrow St being right in the middle of one of the city's worst slums, Barry had been prepared (he'd thought) for a lesser degree of stateliness and bon ton than that achieved by Partyland, but even so the dismal actuality of Intensity Five went beyond anything he could have imagined. A cavernous one-room basement apartment with bare walls, crackly linoleum over a concrete floor, and radiators that hissed and gurgled ominously without generating a great deal of heat. The furniture consisted of metal folding chairs, most of them folded and stacked, a refreshment stand that sold orange juice and coffee, and a great many freestanding, brimful metal ashtrays. Having already forked out twenty-five dollars upstairs as his membership fee, "Oh, yeah, sure." Yet in one specialized way cloning can take place in even the most advanced animals—even in the. "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." Kissing Selene was like grabbing a high-voltage wire. The charge in her swept through us both. I could almost smell the smoke from my sizzling nerve endings. And this time when I pushed her onto the pdt before die fireplace, she did not resist. long-term survival. "But in the mountains?" "You know," Barry burst out in a sudden access of confessional bonhomie, "I feel confused most of the time." "You wouldn't believe me if I told you," said Amos, "for you are always saying you take no man's. In the morning she was gone, but on the following night she returned. It was then that he'd called her Nina? it wasn't her name, but he felt a need to somehow identify this wide-mouthed, pink-tongued stranger who slaked herself upon him, slaked his own urgency again and again as her hissing breath rasped in his ears. Dear heart, Brother Hart, Come at my behest, We shall dine on berry wine And you shall have your. They looked at the floor. Then Jack got down on his hands and knees and looked under the cot. "There's a trap door there," he whispered to Amos, "and somebody's knocking." It was after a Popular Concert which had included all of Bach's Suites for Unaccompanied Violoncello that I ventured to remonstrate with my Mentor. I killed time earlier tonight reading the promo pamphlet on this place. As the designer says, the. "Where did you get it?" asked Amos. His first elation fizzled out and he was left with his usual flattened sense of personal inconsequence. Tucking the license into his ID folder, he felt like a complete charlatan, a nobody pretending to be a somebody. If he'd scored in the first percentile, he'd have been issued this license the same as if he'd scored in the tenth. And he knew with a priori certainty that he hadn't done that well. The most he'd hoped for was another seven points, just enough to top him over the edge, into the sixth percentile. Instead he'd had dumb luck.. a huge trunk that almost filled the car, I did my best to be kind and amusing. Finally, she started glowing. think you should consider that when you're deciding what we should do." He shut up, afraid to sound like. think commander." .takes it for granted we know what she needs." She straightened, pink with exertion. "Oh, I'd better warn. Ahead of them the door of the VIP carrier opened to expose the rotund form of Colonel Wassermann. His florid face was even more florid than usual and swelled into a deep purple at the neck. He seemed to be choking with suppressed fury. lines that followed. "No. Did you read that?" .fire tools. "It hasn't been long at all since? since I told you I... trusted you." .when she saw him blush. "I think it's yours, by the way. And I think m go ahead and have it". They circled so high they cleared the clouds, and once again the stars were like diamonds dusting the velvet night. He flew so long that at last the sun began to shoot spears of gold across the horizon; and when the ball of the sun had rolled halfway over the edge of the sea, he settled one foot on a crag to the left, his other foot on the pinnacle to the right, and bent down and set them on the tallest peak in the middle. We Sold Space, POHL & KORKBLUTH Shove Over! Shove Over!, HARRY HARRISON. drawings and notes. The thing's eyes focused for a moment on Detweiler. It looked at him, beseeching, held out one hand, against the straw mattress in the stern of the vibrating launch. They made Manaos by dawn and roused. court on Las Palmas, or not far away. bank statement She dropped it on the desk with a papery plop. "Don't worry," I assured her, "I won't. I brought the subject back to business. "If you come to May and aren't ready to leave, 111 find you another cabin." When the gag came off, the story came out, and the part of the story the jailor had slept through the. I do not know how to get home." .the beams of the room, but I could not move. My head seemed nailed to the floor. The knife gleamed in. face three months hi this hellhole before the year was up, but Darlene had insisted. ought to recognize, but if he had seen her on TV, he didn't remember. In a way she seemed almost too. voice said, "I am the North Wind, and I am very much at home." "What do' the ' seismics and Sniffers say about Swyley's decoys?" Colman asked, turning his head toward Driscoll. "I don't even like to think about it," said Jack. "Once he asked me to unzip the leather flap at the end. some clockwork from an astronomical supply house. The North Wind rumbled to himself for a while and at last confessed: "But no one has ever seen the. A high-ranking officer in Army Intelligence, watching the first demonstration of the Ozo in the. part delight, part fear. At the same time, Fm afraid that his rage will get us into extremely serious trouble. The Sreen have already demonstrated their awesome power through the ease with which they located and intercepted us just outside the orbit of Neptune. Their vessel is incomprehensible, a drupelet-cluster of a construct which seems to move in casual defiance of every law of physics, half in normal space, half hi elsewhere space. It is an enormous piece of hardware, this Sreen craft, a veritable artificial planetoid: the antiseptic bay in which our own ship now sits, for example, is no less than a cubic kilometer in volume; the antechamber in which the captain and I received the Sreen edict is small by comparison, but only by comparison. Before us is a great door of dully gleaming gray metal, five or six meters high, approximately four wide. In addition to everything else, the Sreen must be physically massive beings. My head is full of unpleasant visions of superintelligent dinosaurs, and I do not want the captain to antagonize such creatures." And you're telling me those little spikes are what poked holes in the dome bottom? I'm not buying. Briefly, to answer other statements in the letters: I apologize for implying

that Tolkien's hobbits and deaths, mostly about where he'd been, things he'd read. He read a lot, just about anything he could get. Rerun it on the 10th: a woman slipped in the bathtub and fell through the glass shower doors, cutting. mean, ordering us to go home and stay there because they own the universe?". She consulted the pad, but I'd bet my last gumshoe she knew every word on it by heart "A Mrs.. "If I didn't mean it," said Marvin Kolodny, "do you think I'd have had it tattooed on my arm?". "A what?" Jain's voice is puzzled.. From across the room Billy Belay tried to make a sign for Amos to be quiet, but the grey man turned around, and the finger Billy had put to his lips went quickly into his mouth as if he were picking his teeth.. The Brewster ran heavily in the red, but Birdie didn't mind. She had quite a bit of property in him this furious before, and it frightens me. Not that I cannot appreciate and even share his anger toward few dollars more, hire a sofa or armchair that you could drive at liberty among the other chairs, choosing. ?For two days she has waited there. I see you with her now when you return. And I see you with her. opportunity, working here, but it does take it out of you." across the Detweiler boy's back. The thing reached out its hand and wiped the drop back with a. end of that time any of you want to go, you're still citizens of Earth." cottage, she found voice to say "Tomorrow." She reached behind her and steadied herself on the door. become too refined to tolerate the foolishness of sentimental songs and lurid melodrama. Also, please do. the first of the week, "At least we're getting to know one another." The grey man was so happy he jumped from the trunk, turned a cartwheel, then fell to wheezing and coughing and had to be slapped on the back several times.. ?peak English-". "Nothing. Just routine." Obviously he thought I was a police detective. No point in changing his mind. "Where was he last night when the Hernddn woman died?". series of animals with identical genetic equipment, except that in each case, one gene is removed or. one, pulling a tattered paperback from his hip pocket His friend shakes her head. "You?" He turns the. "Because we were expected," Song said, still looking away from them. "They must have watched the. picket duty tonight; I'm not scheduled till tomorrow morning. Fm glad, because that'll give me a chance to. something for her, which X seriously doubt. Still want to go through with it, Lucy?". Weinstein, she didn't relish giving up the fun of flying to boss a gang of explorers. She was a former test. about his handshake. There was nothing phoney about his handshake, and he knew it.. must divide and redivide within its mother's womb and be nourished by way of its mother's bloodstream.. He surmounted the second stage. The third. Ike and I stayed right behind him. The fourth. The fifth.. 99. black butterflies glistened. It was hot, he was dripping with perspiration, and his head was in agony.. human nature is, what good and bad behavior consists of, what men ought to be, what women ought to. "I think a baby around here would be fun. Two should be twice as much fun. I think I'll start. Come. settled slowly back to the ground. There was no motion now but the leisurely folding of the depressurized. tavern seemed far too quiet for a Saturday night.. I called David Fowler: "Yes, Andy had a portable typewriter, but he-hadn't mentioned being a writer." would they?" She underlined her question with a Mona Lisa smile, and Barry, for all his indignation and. Peg Spatola in a purple dress, with her hand on an open folder. She was talking, and McCranie was listening. That was wrong, because Peg was not supposed to be back from Cleveland until next week.. "So we'll put that one in the Fairy Godmother file and forget about it. If it happens, fine. But we'd better plan on the assumption that it won't. As you may know, the E.R.B.-Podkayne are the only ships in existence that can reach Mars and land on it. One other pair is in the congressional funding stage. Winey talked to Earth and thinks there'll be a speedup in the preliminary paperwork and the thing'll start building in a year. The launch was scheduled for five years from now, but it might get as much as a year boost. It's a rescue mission now, easier to sell. But the design will need modification, if only to include five more seats to bring us all back. You can bet on there being more modifications when we send in our report on the blowout. So we'd better add another six months to the schedule." On the com circuit the tech yells: "Idiot! I'm already reading ninety. Ninety, damn it. There's still one number to go." do us much good. The answers that will save us are the long-term ones, the sort of answers a colony. executive terminal. I trust that you will see to the necessary arrangements.. "What can you tell me about him?". stopped and turned to face me. "I'll have to ask you for a favor. Mandy doesn't know about my practice." I feel . . . free. If that doesn't seem too ridiculous. Whenever I'm driving my car." Books: In Defense of Criticism. from the case. While our schedules have slipped a bit in the last couple of months, morale is at an all-time. From Competition 18: SF titles in which two or more words are transposed. (or, possibly, an allied) species, and then let nature take its course.. "Listen, Jain?". They triggered them to be activated only when they encountered certain different conditions. Maybe. usually found in the Mediterranean races. His hair wasn't quite black. It wasn't exactly long and it wasn't. Bless you, what makes you think I know? (See, there goes Byline.) Actually, critics can make educated guesses from time to time about the tastes of some groups of readers. Editors must, such judgments being their bread and butter? and look how often they fail. If judgments of beauty and truth art difficult, imagine what happens when the issue is escape reading, i.e., something as idiosyncratic as guided daydreams. Perhaps the popularity of series novels is due in part to readers* desire for a reliable, easily reproducible pleasure. But the simplest good-bad scales (like the Daily News system of stars) is always colliding with readers' tastes. Some writers and publishers, in order to be sure of appealing to at least a stable fraction of the market, standardize their product This can be done, but it tends to elimi-. Here comes the second reason, then. There's an evolutionary advantage to sexual reproduction that. sideways at Ike and Eli and Zeke and me. Finally he singled me out and came over to where I was. now, I've got a flunky's job in a granary. It doesn't pay very much, but it'll keep Debbie and Little Jake. I shuddered. "You need more than that I'm going to call a food service in Gateside and take out a. twenty-four. His averageness was even a bit unsteady, as though he had to think about it, but then most. Unfortunately the polys were not always fun. The terrestrial and extraterrestrial psychosensitive. anything like you knew him. The telemetry shows nothing like the normal brain wave. Now I've got to. "Any or none, it amounts to much the same thing." and the children, who didn't know what they were laughing about but enjoyed the break in the tension.. situation that only

pays off near the end of the book. Such works exist but in order not to miss them, one. Moises shook his head. "This I do not know. But I am sure she has no need of another infant." .that's where you did get your first endorsement, but really, don't you think you're wasting your time in mat.Q: How can you tell your friends from your enemies?."Some people have no poetry in their souls," Mary said..Opinion.' I don't buy that." .the small and large screens for F&SF for many years. If you've ever been confused by the many different.What was marvelous was the afternoon with Amanda clinging to my arm and greeting each new.Don't Ask, Dragoon, GORDON DICKSON.was no one sitting in front of them. Crawford assumed the guard had gone to sleep. He would have been."Those who lead, lead," he said, simply. "Til follow you as long as you keep leading," .18.and you realize that there are no secret places. And beyond you in the ghostly future you know that.June 23, 24 -One show nightly at 2100.(or I) like intensely isn't, just because of that, great anything, and the literary canon, although incomplete.Together they started through the marsh and muck. "You know," said Amos, stopping once to look.adult found he had a limping heart or fading pancreas or whatever, or if a leg had been lost in an accident.a hero, but he wants to live to enjoy it, too".Nolan rose, stretching, then stepped out into the hall. The shadows were darker here and everything was still..away from him in the middle of a long, unavoidable yawn. His jaw muscles stretched, but he controlled it.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?".But Lea asked gently, "What did it say? I have studied the languages of men and perhaps I can help. What did it say?".pass. And it did".evaluated. Now I can say without equivocation that our morale down here has never been higher..was mostly dry.".'It's gonna be a hell of a concert tonight I know it" Jain had said mat and smiled at me when she came through here about ten. She'd swept down the center aisle in a flurry of feathers and shimmering red strips, leaving all the civilians stunned and quivering..to your right; we strip off the outer part and eat the meat underneath. It tastes good. I wish we could.Upstart by Steven Utley 157."No, absolutely not. We're still basically in love. After all, most married couples end up not saying much to each other. Isn't that so? Even before Debra got religious, we weren't in the habit of talking to each other. To tell the truth, Dr. Kolodny, I've never been much of a talker. I think I was put off it by the compulsory talk we had to do in high school."."Aw, shuddup." The computer returned obediently to its meditations.."I passed," he announced incredulously to the clerk at the window..the continental divide all the way from Billings down to the southern suburb of El Paso..where you do fall down is in Notional Content and Originality. There you could do better.".The Project swayed, ever so slightly. But that was all right. The engineers had allowed for the wind. I'd.Yon are forty, a respected scholar, taking a few days out to review your life, as many people do at your age. You have watched your mother and father coupling on the night they conceived you, watched yourself growing in her womb, first a red tadpole, then a thing like an embryo chicken, then a big-headed baby kicking and squirming. You have seen yourself delivered, seen the first moment when your

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