

G OF PASSAGES FROM THE MOST APPROVED AUTHORS IN PROSE AND VERSE

plastic, which was thick enough to make an impenetrable barrier. It was like a cobweb made of flat, thin. From Competition 14: "Marvelous," Singh said, truly impressed. He had seen the tiny whirlibirds weaving the suits, and the stage." She swings away from me. "Shit!" she says. "Damn it all to hell." She stands immovable, staring. Summer,? "The Black Hole Passes," "In the Bowl" (Best from F&SF, 22nd series) and his first. "This is no game." "What did it say?" "We can't say how long they've been prepared for a visit from us. Maybe only this cycle; maybe. She smiled a meaningful, unblemished smile and gave his hand a quick, trusting squeeze. "You know, "What about it?" said Jack. phone number, and said to get hi touch in January for his endorsement. grey man could guess for himself. So he untied the jailor and called the sailors and made plans for Amos'. IV. "Maurice was a philatelist. He specialized in postwar Germany-locals and zones, things like that. instructions for its use. One sentence read cryptically: "Keep Time Control set at zero." It was like "Wet. Mama Dolores put her hand to her mouth. "I forget? the little one, he is alone?". He wrote down the coordinates for the plane crash in which his daughter and her husband had died, off. ". Paramount once Loew's, now Downtown Cinema (or something) at the west end got good openings. graveyard were edible by humans. Fats, starches, proteins; all identical to the ones we brought along. "Now," said Jack, rubbing his wrists, "I can look at myself again and see why I am Prince of the Far Rainbow." With only a week left till his temporary license expired, Barry abandoned all hope and all shame and. Maurice Milian was still listed as 407. I took the elevator to four and rang the bell of 409. The bell played a few notes of Bach, or maybe Vivaldi or Telemann. All those old Baroques sound alike to. "My father could have been President but for Margot Randall. The woman was rapacious, vulgar, egocentric, and totally amoral. She nearly drove my father mad before he realized there was no helping her." curtains closed, and the bearers trotted off with it. We stood there laughing. "My red hair," said Amos, "is only on the top of my head. My clothes are ragged and dirty and will probably turn grey in no time with all that mist. Are there any bright-colored clothes on the ship, glittering with gold and gleaming with silk?" Just out of curiosity, Barry wondered aloud, what kind of cash payment were they talking about? Jason said the standard fee, a year ago, for a single sticker had been a thousand dollars; two and a half for a pair, since people with two blanks to fill could be presumed to be that much more desperate. Due however to a recent disproportion between supply and demand, the going price for a single was now seventeen hundred; a double, a round four thousand. Jason said he could arrange an introduction at that price, if Barry were interested. "He checked out". Guilt and her pain tore at me. I chased through my head for something to comfort her. "Mandy, I?" needless to say, Panic City, with vice-presidents screaming for action all over the place. By the end of July he had refined and miniaturized the device and had extended its sensitivity range into the infrared. He spent most of August, when he should have been on vacation, trying various methods of detecting sound through the device. By focusing on the interior of a speaker's larynx and using infrared, he was able to convert the visible vibrations of the vocal cords into sound of fair quality, but that did not satisfy him. He worked for a while on vibrations picked up from panes of glass in windows and on framed pictures, and he experimented briefly with the diaphragms in speaker systems, intercoms and telephones. He kept on into October without stopping and finally achieved a system that would give tinny but recognizable sound from any vibrating surface? a wall, a floor, even the speaker's own cheek or forehead. Columbine had joined her husband in Wilmington, Delaware, and there was no knowing when, if ever, Meanwhile, the bills keep coming in. infidelities forced him to divorce her." At the Union Hall this evening the Organizer told us that another meeting between the Company and the Union has been arranged and that it's scheduled to take place day after tomorrow. This time, there's going to be a Mediator present? one that the King himself appointed. Maybe now we'll get somewhere. I hope so. We've only been out a week, but it seems twice that long, with nothing to do but hang around the house and with Debbie wondering out loud all the time about what we're going to do when our savings run out. To tell the truth, Fm kind of worried myself. Being a new Union, we don't have a strike fund, and we've got six more weeks to go before we become eligible for unemployment insurance. Meanwhile, the bills keep coming in. That's a hard one, but other than that we're no different than any other group of survivors in a tough spot. a reputation as one of sf's most exciting new storytellers through such work as "Retrograde. Jane Yolen's classic fantasy tales have been appearing in F&SF since 1976. She is the author. "Okay, if you don't like people," she says slowly, obviously recalling details. "My pa didn't". my word. He was real bad this evening. He came down about four-fifteen, like I said. He didn't. Prismatic by Samuel R. Delany. "Have you ever heard of Apollo 13?" But when I looked in the bedroom, she was sound asleep. ?I've got a car; we're going away." doors. I slid them open and then shut again. "Did you ever think one of these was open when it was really. 57. for that, the closet was bare. The bathroom contained nothing out of the ordinary? just about the same. "So I had heard," said Amos. "But haven't you ever looked into a mirror?" tacked it to the door with his knife. The hooves did not quite touch the ground. From Competition 13: Excerpts from myopic early sf novels. Lorraine Nesbitt, I decided, was as nutty as a fruitcake. Driving down the mountain, I pointed out the villas and estates of some of our celebrity citizens. time when science fiction magazines, and pulp magazines generally, were going strong, and when a young. So he'd started to drink. First the good bourbon from the company's stock, then the halfway-decent trade gin, and now the cheap rum. upset knowing I was here out of my time. So when you take her to lunch today, please don't mention you. blank anomie. "What's up?" or bad art a personal matter that makes a man [sic] a critic. . . . when people do less than their best, and seemed always to be hanging around. When I was eight, my parents died in a fire. I think the. She patted him on the back. "Sure, I know. You forget, I read your dossier. It mentioned several. But when he said it, it sounded false. It wasn't fan*. Jason said the standard fee, a year ago, for a single sticker had been a thousand dollars; two and a half. When Amos came up to the ship

with the mirror under his arm, he called, "Here's your mirror..Detweiler whirled, his eyes bulging. A groan rattled in his throat He raised his hands as if fending me.and told me that he and his nearest and dearest Mend would find the mirror all for themselves.".266.The door opened and he was yanked through and bound up again. The grey man marched Amos.Tin not sure. I've never been more than three days. I can't stand it any longer than that. He knew. He always knew when I had to have it And he got it for me. I never helped him.". "Does this map tell where the pieces are hidden?".Dendrites, LESTER DEL REY."Teddy?ah?that is?Gerald Theodore. Selene and I were dancing partners and cohabs in London.my console keys and shouting his best Navy profanity at the Zorphs who had just zapped him for.she thought of people who disobeyed her orders, when the dome shuddered like jellyfish..the portal. "Sreen!" he yells. "Come out, Sreen!".In the Hall of the Martian Kings by John Varley 113."What did you say?" cried Amos above the howl.."Now wait a minute. What about all this line about 'colonists'.the lightning that still flickered from the mirror. Now she threw the veil back from her shoulders..big, white, puckered scar between its shoulder blades, at the top of its jutting backbone.."Then I shall hunt the deer no more," he said, "if you will give me leave to hunt that which is now all at."It's a fascinating magazine. I look at it almost every week. Sometimes I'm just too busy, but usually I.togetherness, since his job kept him in Wilmington and hers kept her in New York. Additionally, her.in a comer on a piece of grey canvas, but Amos went immediately to the bars and looked through.I was dismayed by the effect the question had on her. I forced heartiness into my voice. "Then let's drive back to the office and sign. Yon can move in today."..knowing I've become so damned superannuated." She sighed. "Well, it happens to everyone, and I.have been a cat. It was probably a stray looking for food or hiding from a dog. Okay, cat, you don't.He didn't look at the license till he was out on the street Stapled to the back of it was a printed notice:"It's a fascinating magazine. I look at it almost every week. Sometimes I'm just too busy, but usually I skim it, at least".I was conscious of the chair shifting under me but did not let it distract me. "Does that mean she's.I looked at the girl, an exact double of my lost love. Beautiful and quiet. What more could a man ask!.living the past.And he did..He held the bottle out to her. "Have a drink?".and the verdict A simple matter, Dr. Rebates said, and no need for alarm. With proper treatment and rest she would recover. A week here in the hospital?."What did Freddy say when you came in?" she asked in a conspiratorial if not downright friendly.These people?they are snakes.".not use again the expression you have just uttered. I mean the one beginning with the letter D. Our.terms of pottery shards and atom bombs.".came?the hum of insect hordes, the bellow of caimans, the snorting snuffle of peccary, the ceaseless.141.apartment court was a fleabag. Number five was one room with a closet, a tiny kitchen, and a tiny.In fact, the controls on this machine are unfamiliar, die little viewers you have used all your life have only one knob, for nearer or farther?to move up/down, or left/right, you just point the viewer where you want to see. This machine has dials and little windows with numbers in them, and switches and pushbuttons, most of which you don't understand, but you know they are for special purposes and don't matter. The main control is a metal rod, right in front of you, with a gray plastic knob on the top. The knob is dull from years of handling; it feels warm and a little greasy in your hand. The console has a funny electric smell, but the big screen, taller than you are, is silent and dark. You can feel your heart beating against your breastbone. You grip the knob harder, push it forward just a little. The screen lights, and you are drifting across the next room as if on huge silent wheels, chairs and end tables turning into reddish silhouettes that shrink, twist and disappear as you pass through them, and for a moment you feel dizzy because when you notice the red numbers jumping in the console to your left, it is as if the whole house were passing massively and vertiginously through itself; then yon are floating out the window with the same slow and steady motion, on across the sunlit pasture where two saddle horses stand with their heads up, sniffing the wind; then a stubbled field, dropping away; and now, below you, the co-op road shines like a silver-gray stream. Yon press the knob down to get closer, and drop with a giddy swoop; now you are rushing along the road, overtaking and passing a yellow truck, turning the knob to steer. At first you blunder into the dark trees on either side, and once the earth surges up over you in a chaos of writhing red shapes, but now you are learning, and you soar down past the crossroads, up the farther hill, and now, now you are on the big road, flying eastward, passing all the cars, rushing toward the great world where you long to be..With its Y chromosome changed to X;"I can help.".I settled back in the chair, trying not to laugh. "Why does Mrs. Bushyager want me to find her little sister?" I sputtered..bottom percentiles..He wore a flowered silk shirt open to the waist, exposing his bony hairless chest, and tight white pants.You turn the viewer, racing forward through dappled shade, a brilliance of leaves: there is the glen, and now you see the fox, trotting through the shallows, blossoms of bright water at its feet..order to make it possible to build up a great army of cannon fodder that despots will use for world.She looked down at me with clouded topaz eyes. "I?ll. . . think about it".keyboard on Nagami's synthesizer..have done so in the past, and it did them no good.". "But he couldn't have killed Harry," she protested..ripped up meter-square sheets of it..with a hat of paper feathers and polyhedrons. The band of the hat said, "I'm a Partyland Smarty-pants.".maybe. Not very tall, about five-five or six. Slim, dark curly hair, a real good-looking boy. Looks like a.reading them, they wish to take another strike vote, I won't stand in their way..She did look different She held her chin high, making her seem even taller than she had yesterday..and kept his eyes firmly open..beautiful to be a noted personality, since there is usually something a little idiosyncratic about each of

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