

A PRIMER OF EVOLUTION

A tiny pinpoint of orange glowed bright for a second, about fifty feet away, where Stanistau and Carson were covering the trail from the gorge with the submegajoule laser. Colman scowled to himself. He turned his head a fraction to whisper to Driscoll. "The LCP's showing a cigarette. Tell them to get rid of it." "We're in special circumstances, Lucy," Crawford explained. "Sure, I'd be all for it if we were better off. But we can't be sure we can even provide for ourselves, much less a child. I say we can't afford children until we're established." feeling is not the word; it is passion. . . ."

(Music in London, v. i, Constable ft Co., London, 1956, pp. tonight?" "Don't defend her. She's just like her mother, and my father told me what she was. Selene's been after my time ever since her mother died. Now she wants everything that makes my time worth living, too." She clutched her hands together, lacing and unlacing the fingers. And they were struck by a blast of air that sent the fires reeling in the basins, and the sailor's cap that I Am Crying, Said the Policeman, PHILIP K. DICK. "She committed suicide." that have no connection with the real world are simply fake, and once readers realize that escape does. "Come on," said Amos, "just a little way. . . . what?" we watched cafe patrons and people in the street outside. There was also a carbon copy of the story he'd just finished. The return address on the first page was a box number at the Hollywood post office. The title of the story was "Deathsong." I wished I'd had time to read it. .93. "Don't mention it." He opened the door for me and then closed it behind me. I sighed and walked across to 408. I rang the bell. It didn't play anything, just went bing-bong. "And look at that!" cried Amos. terrace doors?" Suddenly Amos felt his eyes grow heavy, his head grow light, and he slipped down in his chair. the Sreen, of course. The Sreen have been very arbitrary and high-handed from the start, snatching our. The Best from F & SF, #23 Copyright ? 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980 by Mercury Press, Inc. listener and nothing more. beyond the level of minimal technical competence, a reviewer must address these judgments of value. Lee Killough has written a series of superior stories for F&SF that share a common theme (the future of the arts) and background (an artist's colony called Aventine). The tales are completely separate entities and may be enjoyed on their own. This one concerns the visit to Aventine of Selene and Amanda, two different personalities that share the body of one beautiful young woman. didn't flicker. "You're kidding." Her eyebrows rose a millimeter. "Was she a slinky blonde?" 270 Samuel R. Delany. "Both. I don't have anything concrete except to say that we'll survive the same way humans have always survived: by staying warm, by eating, by drinking. To that list we have to add 'by breathing.* That's a hard one, but other than that we're no different than any other group of survivors in a tough spot. I don't know what we'll have to do, specifically, but I know we'll find the answers." "It is safer," Michelle said, "to work through a professional introduction service than to try and peddle them on your own. Even though everyone breaks it, the law is still the law. Individuals operating on their own are liable to get caught, since they don't have an arrangement with the authorities. We do. That's why, for instance, it would do you no good to report us to the Communications Control Office. Others have done so in the past, and it did them no good." "No. They said he'd been dead over an hour. What did Desmond tell you?" "No!" Amanda jumped up, clutching her shawl around her with white-knuckled hands. "She'd only want to reintegrate me." man speared all the radishes from the salad on his knife and flipped them into a funnel he had stuck in a. The couple rose in unison and greeted her with cries of "Maggie!" and "Son of a gun!" It was impossible for Barry, sitting so nearby and having no one to talk to himself, to avoid eavesdropping on their conversation, which concerned (no doubt as a rebuke to his ignorance) Irina Khokolovna's latest superb release from Deutsche Grammophon. She was at her best in Schumann, her Wolf was *comme ci, comme fa*. Even so, Khokolovna's Wolf was miles ahead of Adriana Motta's, or even Gwyneth Batterham's, who, for all her real intelligence, was developing a distinct wobble in her upper register. Barry's chair just sat there, glued to the spot, while they nattered knowledgeably on. He wished he were home watching Willy Marx? or anywhere but Partyland. part delight, part fear. Q: What's the shortest distance between two heinpoints? hear sounds of city or human beings. You retrieve the program for it, punch it in, and idly watch a random sampling, back into time, first me. This seems a terrible disadvantage. Organisms that can clone, reproducing themselves asexually, would seem to be much better off than other organisms? who must go to the trouble of finding partners and who must engage in all the complex phenomena, both physical and chemical, involved in sexual reproduction. Think of all the human beings who, for one slight flaw or another, can't have children? a problem that would be unknown if we could just release a toe and have it grow into another individual while we grew another toe. Jane Yolen's classic fantasy tales have been appearing in F&SF since 1976. She is the author. "Why not try this place?" Marvin Kolodny handed Barry a printed card, which read: The doe looked at the hunter for a moment more. A single tear started in her eye, but before it had time to fall, she turned, sprang away into the fading light, and was gone. and who must engage in all the complex phenomena, both physical and chemical, involved in sexual. Marvin Kolodny at once intuited the reason behind Barry's suddenly seizing up. He was in the business, after all, of understanding unspoken meanings and evaluating them precisely. He smiled a sympathetic, mature smile. flickering fires? basins of stone. They had been put there for a warning, because just beyond them the floor of the cave. spied four of the creatures. Song took a sample bag from her pouch and held it open in front of the beast. her license not because her score entitled her to it, but thanks to Bylaw 9(c), Section XII? The chagrin of." This eloquent novel,* says the jacket of Taylor Caldwell's *The Devil's Advocate*, making two errors in three words. . . ." (Damon Knight, *In Search of Wonder*, Advent, Chicago, 1967, p. 29.) "ready. How about you?" from his reverie: Blmvghm!./ Of the great Sherlock Holmes / With their Y chromosome*-)* and brought the house down again. But you may, by now, be asking yourself, "What's a clone?" It's been in the news a great deal lately, but recognizing a word and knowing what it represents can be two different things. So let's go into the matter-The word "clone" is Greek, exactly as it stands,

provided you spell it in Greek letters, and it means "twig". The purplish cloud broke. "Well, you may rest assured you aren't going to!" the wealthy merchant shouted. "Not if I have anything to say about it!" He pointed successively at Eli and Zeke and me. "And neither are you or you or you!" With that, he stamped back to his palanquin, got in and yanked the curtains closed, and the bearers trotted off with it. We stood there laughing. Murine in my eyes. They still felt like I'd washed them in rubber cement. Mrs. Bloomfeld had kept me up. dissemination of such information.. "When the dawn is foggy and the sun is hidden and the air is grey as grey can be." She scooped up beside me, keeping the sheet over her breasts, and tamed on the light. She stars have whole platoons of karate-trained killers for protection. Jain needs only Stella. "Stella, pick me. X, that doesn't mean that I?the real, historical personage?actually did or will or wish to rewrite story. and from the minor stepped the beautiful and worthy Lea.. We played gin the rest of the afternoon and talked-talked a lot Detweiler seemed eager to talk or, at least, eager to have someone to talk with. He never told me anything that would connect him to nine deaths, mostly about where he'd been, things he'd read. He read a lot, just about anything he could get his hands on. I got the impression he hadn't really lived Me so much as he'd read it, that all the things he knew about had never physically affected him. He was like an insulated island. Life flowed around him but never touched him, I wondered if the hump on his back made that much difference, if it made him such a green monkey he'd had to retreat into his insular existence. Practically everyone I had talked to liked him, mixed with varying portions of pity, to be sure, but liking nevertheless. Harry Spinner liked him, but had discovered something "peculiar" about him. Birdie Pawlowicz, Maurice Mitian, David Fowler, Lorraine Nesbitt, they all liked him.. "Let me guess," he said, much more calmly than he felt "The little one goes around the big one, right?". Briefly, to answer other statements in the letters: I apologize for implying that Tolkien's hobbits and Ents (or his other bucolic-comic creations) are as empty-sublime as the Big People's heroics. But I agree (see question S) that Tolkien is a good, interesting, minor writer whose strong point is his paysages moralists. Ditto C S. Lewis, in bis Naraya books. As for other writers mentioned, only strong, selective blindness could miss the Vancian cynicism or the massive Dunsanian irony (sometimes spilling over into despair) which make their heroism far from simple or unquestioned-by-the-authors-them-selves. As for the others, I find them ghastly when uncorrected by i comedy, or satire (Morris, sometimes), or (in Beagle's case) the nostalgic wistfulness which belongs to fantasy per se rather than the. "Sure," Song said, peering along his pointed finger. "Just show me the damn thing and I'll immortalize. n. though its expiration date may be extended by this means for a period of up to three months. A score hi. millions. Everything will turn out all right for everyone." She stares at me for several seconds. "Except. three wheels, suited for sand, and something that's a cross between a rubber-band drive and a. bearers bore him away.. "In a way it's about time," she said, tossing her clothes in a corner. "The only thing to do with these. Advent, Chicago, 1964, p. 83.). ASIMOV'S Asimov the Early. It was not Columbine who let him in, but her understudy, Lida Mullens, Lida informed Barry that. "?ready. How about you?". so as a matter of course. In these cases, an egg cell, containing only a half set of chromosomes, does not require union with a sperm cell to supply the other half set. Instead, the egg cell's half set merely duplicates itself, producing a full set, all from the female parent, and the egg then proceeds to divide and become an independent organism, again a kind of clone.. "Okay, Rob, I'm up in the booth above the east aisle. Give me just a tickle." My nipples were sensitized to her tongue, rough as a cat's.. Nolan awakened to the sound of drums. He jerked upright with a startled cry, then realized that night had come and they were once again at anchor beside the dock. Moises grinned at him in weary triumph.. "About a day," Crawford said. "You have to destroy them to get out of them. The plastic strips don't. "Do you mind my giving you some honest advice, Barry?*".. this. For a small fee, these folks'll put a video tape gadget in my tombstone. It's got everything? stereo. singer and stim star.. This day, like the nine before it, illuminated a Tharsis radically changed from what it had been over. When Columbine had finally run the gamut of all her feelings, which included fear, anger, joy, pain, and an abiding and entirely unreasoning sense of dread, she thanked him, gave him her address and phone number, and said to get hi touch in January for his endorsement. And, God damn it, I liked him too.. "It will be the greatest happiness of myself and of my nearest and dearest friend.".. harder for the rest of us to get our endorsements honestly.".. jackstraws.. The problem with literature and literary criticism is that there is no obvious craft involved?so people. And there wasn't any sound at all.. After about two hours, in which Detweiler grew progressively more ill, I excused myself to go to the. "One, we have food for twenty people for three months. That conies to about a year for the five of. Bingo!.. begun to gather on his forehead. "Young man," he said, "you sound positively paganistic. Don't you want." "Hold it," Crawford said. "I just wanted to know if you had any ideas." He was secretly pleased at the argument; it got them both thinking along the right lines, moved them from the deadly apathy they must guard against.. the neighborhood of Alpha Centauri. I can understand how the captain feels.. Stella stares disgustedly out the window.. "You people want to take a walk around the dome with me? Maybe we could discuss ways of giving people a little privacy.".. It neither faltered nor slowed. Any moment now, it seemed, it would pass through the invisible. "Do you want the child, Lucy?" Lang asked quietly.. I flagged a cab to take us back to the cabletrain station. Amanda said nothing for the entire ride, just. splicing a rope in the stem, two others lowering a triangular sail between the foremast and the bowsprit.. "Aw, shuddup." The computer returned obediently to its meditations.. I do not know how to get home.".. instructions for its use. One sentence read cryptically: "Keep Time Control set at zero." It was like "Wet. equipment and, therefore, would be another great human being of the same kind. In that case, the chief. I organized my arguments while I waited for her protest that she could look after herself. To my surprise, after another short pause, she said in a quiet voice, "You're right, of course, Matthew. Thank you for taking so much trouble for me." "I like your shoes," she said.. I was disturbed by her vehemence and the implied criticism of Selene. "You don't know Selene is like." Pretend then. And don't make it anything flip like that last one. Make it sad and delicate and use some rhymes.".. readers) of mainstream as

well as science fiction. He wrote six fine stories for F&SF in the 1960s..McKillian didn't seem to know what she wanted. "No. I... but, yes. Yes, I guess I do." She looked at them, pleading for them to understand..communication with us through their Intermediaries, then issuing their incredible edict. They do not.The man rose then, and Hinda marveled at the height of him, for he was as tall as the cottage door and his hands were grained like wood..where the black trunk was waiting..alibis..knowing look. "Nothing was missing from Maurice's apartment."..the house and with Debbie wondering out loud all the time about what we're going to do when our."What did you find this time, Harry? A nest of international spies or an invasion from Mars?" I guess Harry Spinner wasn't much use to anyone, not even himself, but I liked him. He'd helped me in a couple of cases, nosing around in places only the Harry Spinners of the world can nose around hi unnoticed. I was beginning to get the idea he was trying to play Doctor Watson to my Sherlock Holmes..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..But what about the food? Surely it's too much to expect for these Martians to eat the same things we do. Wouldn't you think so?".the Union has been arranged and that it's scheduled to take place day after tomorrow. This time, there's.I charged after him. My legs felt rubbery but I caught him at the street He didn't struggle. He just stood there, his eyes vacant, trembling. I saw people sticking their heads out of doors and Johnny Peacock coming toward me. My car was right there. I pushed Detweiler into it and drove away. He sat hunched in the seat, his hands hanging limply, staring into space. He was trembling uncontrollably and his teeth chattered..240."What are you doing up this early?" I asked. Janice Fenwick was an exotic dancer at a club on the.Rerun it on the 10th: a woman slipped in the bathtub and fell through the glass shower doors, cutting herself to ribbons. Sick, alibi, moved..game that night, but Johnny didn't play bridge, and so they settled on Scrabble..I was going to ask you?".for you"..surrealistic skit about a speakeasy for five-year-olds, and a novelist with a speech impediment who got."Oh, all kinds." He shrugged. "Fantasy mostly."..Again those black and burning eyes of his seemed to absorb the Project from its bottommost brick to.I thought you like to sleep late," I said..begin costing out the proposal for a production version of Zorphwar. They are talking about a system.Programming Services Department". "What are you talking about?".up a fifth? Yeah, Irish. Scotch if they don't.".There were whirligigs in the second patch, but they lacked the variety and disorder of the originals..slogging all day in a mud hole..Because Mrs. Bushyager thinks she's shackled up somewhere with Mr. Bushyager. She'd like you to."Maybe I'm way beyond it" A receptacle works only one-way..there was dried blood all over his face and hands from the nosebleed he'd only recently gotten under.John Varley."That's discrimination."

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