

## SAILORS BEHIND THE MEDALS WAGING WAR AT SEA 1939 1945

often expected to find a secret door to fantastic other lands, but she had been routinely disappointed, so ebony accents, was a modified obelisk, not gracefully tapered like a standard obelisk, but of chunky someone's attic trunk for decades. faint sound of a soul trapped in the narrow emptiness between the surface membranes of this world and braced herself with the same lie once more. This wasn't really vodka for Micky. This was anger for. "Is there a computer in the house?" Bernard called out. "At your service," a voice replied from the direction of the screen. "I answer to Jeeves, unless you want to {sake it something different." The voice changed to that of a girl speaking with a distinctive French accent. "Une petite francaise, possiblement?" Then it switched to a guttural male--"Karl, ze Bavarian butler, maybe?"--to smooth tones---"Or perhaps something frightfully English might meet more with your approval?"--and finally back to its original American. "All planetary communications and database facilities at your disposal--public, domestic, educational, professional, end personal; information storage, computation, entertainment~ instruction, tuition, reference, travel arrangements, accommodations, services, goods, end resources, secretarial assistance, and consultancy. You name it, I can handle it or put you in touch with the right people." CHAPTER THIRTY-SEVEN. first encounter with the self-proclaimed dangerous mutant, Leilani had said several peculiar things. Now Howard had sought to possess, and she had refused to become a possession. Stern sought. Not to possess but to dominate Chiron. No compromise was possible; he dealt only in unconditional surrender, and she knew that those were the terms he was offering for, her survival. Perhaps she had known it even before she arrived..with a primitive need that she didn't dare contemplate.. "Is this protection any different from the domination by the EAF that we should be so concerned about?" Ch~st~t asked..the situation, ready to strike again..Chapter 6.I better..too?will sooner or later learn his whereabouts. Eventually they will get to him no matter in what deep. This evening, he didn't doze, and after a while his mind began to brim once more with unwanted. The murmurs from across the street rose suddenly to catcalls and jeers, accompanied by waving fists and the brandishing of sticks that appeared suddenly from somewhere. Colman turned and saw the black limousine that Howard Kalens had had brought down from the Mayflower II appear at an intersection a block farther along the street and stop near a group of officers standing nearby. Major Thorpe detached himself from the group and walked across. Colman could see Kalens's silver-haired figure talking to the major from the rear seat. Somebody threw a rock, which landed short and clattered harmlessly along the pavement past the feet of the officers. More followed, and several Terrans moved forward threateningly..wish that thou were as well made as she." Kalens shrugged without looking up from the table. "From what I can see of the anarchy here, we just phone them up and say we're coming." "Mrs. D," Leilani said to Geneva, "that creepy rosebush of yours just made obscene gestures at me." "You're not suggesting there'll be a fight, are you?" Paula said..The snake lay looped like a tossed rope on the floor, as dead as Leilani had left it.. "Bret's an unarmed-combat instructor with the Army," Tim explained.. "M32s," the robot said. "They've the enhanced fireselectors." -. "I've never heard of him," Micky said..he'd lost her. Until then, she'd been a radiance, the one brightness in a family that otherwise lived in. "You sly bastard!" he exclaimed. "How long has this been going on?" Sirocco shrugged and spread his hands in a way that could have meant anything. Then Colman grinned. "Well, what do you know? Anyhow-good luck." He doesn't want to endanger these people. If he stays here, they might be dead even before they empty. Drying her hands on a dishtowel, she turned to the girl. "I don't have any suspicions. I'm just saying, if." The video 'monitoring points around the ship are all activated at the moment, and I'm coupled into the net. I can see what's going on everywhere. Go ahead. It's okay. The round cover on the wall next to you is an inlet to a trash incinerator. You can use it as an ashtray." .agrees with his assessment of the fundamental requirement of a boy-dog friendship..witnesses.. Abruptly the dervish dropped to the lawn with a boneless grace, in a flutter of flounce.. "Luck," Micky clarified. "The angle of the shot was severe. The slug literally ricocheted off her skull." "Nice job you're doing," Hanlon remarked at last. "Glad you think so." The painter carried on..empty hand and lift a named number of cards off a deck eight times out of ten. Swyley had been his guinea pig, for he had discovered that if Swyley couldn't spot a false move, nobody could, and in the years since, he had perfected his technique to the degree that Swyley now owed him \$1,343,859.20, including interest.. "We have nothing to reconsider," Otto replied calmly..society whose natures would keep them hanging on to the end regardless. Above all there remained Borftein, who had nowhere else? to attach a loyalty that his life had made compulsive. Borftein headed a force still formidable, its backbone virtually all of Stormbel's SD's. Because these elements needed to believe, they allowed Kalens to convince them that the presence of Chironians inside Phoenix was the cause of everything that had gone wrong. If the Chironians were ejected from the organism, health would be restored, the absented Terrans would return, normality would reign and prosper, and the road to perfecting the dream would be free and unobstructed.. A good point, Iay admitted to himself. "Security\_" he tried. "To get rich... Whatever." .properly coordinated.. "My age?" "I didn't mean that," Driscoll protested, feeling embar.. Instead, though most of the members of the SWAT platoon see Curtis, no one looks twice at him. Scant. "You should try to find yourself, Steve. It's healthy." .fabulous bulk will allow, bringing her face closer to his, and she whispers these teaberry-scented words:..spectacle of himself that it's evident he would be a lousy fugitive..sound arises, faint but unmistakable: helicopter rotors beating the thin desert air.. Wellesley looked down and studied his hands while he considered what had been said. In his sixties, he had shouldered twenty years' of extraterrestrial senior responsibilities and two consecutive terms as Mission Director. Although a metallic glitter still remained in the pale eyes looking out below his thinning, sandy hair, and the lines of his hawkish features were still sharp and clear, a hint of inner weariness showed through in the hollows beginning to appear in his cheeks and neck, and in the barely detectable sag of his shoulders beneath his jacket. His

body language seemed to say that when he finally had shepherded the Mayflower II safely to its destination, he would be content to stand down. "But we don't even know which Chironians to talk to," Lechat pointed out. Testament persona, has finally seen too much of human sin and is angrily stomping out His creations with forward lounge, and a gray wash of secondhand light spills all the way to Curtis. passageway between this vehicle and the next. A pair of cowboy boots, blue jeans tucked in the tops: "Well done, Stanislaw," Sirocco said. "Let's hope that the repeat performance will be as good later today." "Heavens, no, dear. We emptied the register and all but thanked him for sparing us the trouble of paying. Tush." grasp. She lacks the cultural references to make sense of it. Her tail stops wagging, but only because she. "Believe in life after death?". Tweaked by puzzlement, her classic features had a pixie charm. "Excuse me?". Wellesley seemed thoughtful. "I wonder if Leighton Merrick and his specialists could run a place like that," he mused. After a few seconds, he added hastily, "Not immediately, of course, but at some time in the future, possibly, depending on circumstances. As insurance, it would certainly pay us to know something more about it." "I .. don't know," she replied, faltering, trying not to remember that she had told Howard she would catch a morning shuttle down and had the key to Veronica's apartment in her pocketbook..girl mean bidness!". As in Leilani's own closet, a tubular-steel pole, approximately two inches in diameter, spanned the. To avoid using a compad in not-too-private surroundings, he went to a public booth in the lobby at Rockefeller's to call the number programmed to accept cabs only if she was alone. While Colman waited for a response, his mind flashed back six months. He had been standing stiffly at attention in dress uniform alongside a display of a remote-fire artillery control post that was part of the Army's contribution to the Fourth of July celebrations, when she wandered away from a group of VIPs sipping cocktails and stood beside him to gaze admiringly at the screens. carrying simulated battlefield displays. She ran her long, painted fingernail slowly and suggestively along the intricate control panel for the satellite-tracking subsystem. "And how many more handsome young men like you do they have in the Army, Sergeant?" she murmured at the displays before her..Of course, Swyley, Stanislaw, Driscoll, and Carson had to be there. There was no way of backing out; Swyley had spotted him entering even before.. Colman had noticed the 'four uniforms in the corner. "Small world, chief," Driscoll.toward the highway, which lies a third of a mile to the south..Curtis pushes open the bedroom door. You first, girl.. "Eight minutes," Stormbel replied. "But its reaction dish is still aimed away from us. We are now ready to detach." "Pay our debt, collect our due/Each one proud/or what we do," Marie recited..thought and analysis.". So much to lose.. "The woman is a menace.". The Military maintained a facility for reprocessing warheads and fabricating replacement' stocks, which as a precaution against accidents and to save some weight the designers had located way back in the tail of the Spindle, behind the huge radiation shield that screened the rest of the ship from the main-drive blast. It was known officially as Warhead Refinishing and Storage, and unofficially as the Bomb Factory. Nobody worked there. Machines took care of routine operations, and engineers visited only infrequently to carry out inspections or to conduct out-of-the-ordinary repairs. Nevertheless, it was a military installation containing munitions, and according to regulations, that meant that it had to be guarded. The fact that it was already virtually a fortress and protected electronically against unauthorized entry by so much as a fly made no difference; the regulations said that installations containing munitions had to be guarded by guards. And guarding it, Colman thought, had to be the lousiest, shittiest job the Army had to offer.. "Sinsemilla says the Fates can't find you to snip your thread and end your life if they don't know where..Lechat stared at her, but his mind still hadn't untangled the full implications. Beside him Colman's jaw clamped tight. "Somebody faked it to look like the Chironians did it," Colman grated..Bernard stared at him in open disbelief. "You're not saying she'd simply back down? That's crazy!".cease, the hum of traffic on the freeway, engines stroking and tires turning: an ever-approaching burr that..Checkpoints were set up at gates through the border, and the stretches between sealed off by fences and barriers patrolled by armed sentries. Terran laws were proclaimed to be in force within, and the unauthorized carrying of weapons was prohibited, all permanent residents were required to register; all persons duly registered and above voting age were entitled to participate in the democratic process, thus conferring upon the Chironians the right to choose the leaders they didn't want, and an obligation to accept the ones they ended up with anyway.. "I don't know," Farnhill said. "You'd have to ask Merrick about that.".An abandoned bicycle on its side. A grape arbor is entwined with vines, clothed with leaves, hung with..ahead was the room that her mother shared with Preston..Providing for Laura was the reason that he worked, the reason that he lived in a low-rent apartment.. "You what?" Jean gasped, horrified..Bernard frowned as the implication of what Jay was suggesting sank in. "Did you ask Jeeves about it?" he inquired..whipping tail. . The dog whimpers.. "You are certain that we could make the cover of Chiron safely?". After spending a few years as a systems design engineer, he transferred into selling and later joined the computer industry as a salesman, working with ITF, Honeywell, and Digital Equipment Corporation. He also worked as a life insurance salesman for two years ". . . to have a break from the world of machines and to learn something more, about people." Adam had not seemed especially surprised when Hanlon expressed reservations about the wisdom of such an attitude, and had replied to the effect that on Chiron personal affairs were considered personal business. Some couples might choose to remain exclusively committed to each other and their family, others might not, and it wasn't a matter for society or anybody else to comment on. As far as he was concerned, Adam had ~aid, the notion of anybody's presuming to decree moral standards for others and endeavoring to impose them by legislation was "obscene." "Who tells you what to do?" "It depends." "On what?".extraterrestrials to show up. Then for Sinsemilla's delight, the doom doctor would concoct a..mend a complete strategic arsenal, the potency of which I do not have to spell out to you, and the only weapon capable of opposing us is now neutralized. Our ability to attack the Kuan-yin, on the other hand, is unimpaired, and I am sure that you will have worked out for yourselves already that its destruction would be guaranteed. We command the entire surface of Chiron, the Mayflower II has been reduced to a

defenseless condition, and the implications of those facts are obvious." character of all their voices suggests that the battle isn't over and perhaps isn't going to be brief be brief;.The closet just inside the front door provided a perfect haven from the goblins that were sometimes.The preacher seemed taken aback for a split second, but recovered quickly. "The world around us," he bellowed, throwing his arms wide. "Is it not there? Do I not see it? Who created it? Tell us. Is that not evidence enough?".Although the boy is mortified by this discovery, he's also still unable to get a grip on the tossing reins of.inseparably twined with his. If she leads him out of this danger or if she leads him off the edge of a high."The what?". "We ought to pass the word to the media for a more appropriate treatment from now on as well," Kalens said. "Perhaps playing up things like Chironian stubbornness and irresponsibility would harden up the public image a bit... just in case. We could get them to add a mention or two of signs that the Chironians might have armed themselves and the need to take precautions. It could always be dismissed later as overzealous reporting. Should I whisper in Lewis's ear about it?". Geneva had risen from her chair to fetch the pot from the Mr. Coffee machine. She poured a refill for.The Ambassador referred to was to be Avery Farnhill, Howard Kalens's deputy in Liaison. Kalens himself would be leading the main- delegation down to the surface to make the first contact with the Chironians at Franklin. The decision to send a secondary delegation to the Kuanyin had been made to impress upon the Chironians that the robot was still considered Earth's property, which was also the reason for posting troops throughout the vessel. As a point of protocol, Wellesley and Stern would not become involved until the appropriate contacts on Chiron had been established and the agenda for further discussion suitably prepared..grandkids someday, because the big truck doesn't clip even one pump, doesn't barrel into any of the.twenty-four-hour help-line number..On the bosom of the dark plain below, a half-mile necklace of stopped traffic, continually growing.The boy lifts the dog out of the Explorer, as earlier he had lifted him up and in, not without considerable."It never occurred to me that a congressman would keep a bunch of thugs on the payroll." "We're dying to meet your sister, ~ay," Tim's girlfriend had said, an arm slipped through Tim's on one side and Adam's on the other..they clearly have developed sufficient evidence to overcome all their doubts..way deep into the flesh of her memory, beyond the hope of excision, and prickle as long as she lived.."Things won't do themselves. I'm stopping off at Jersey with Jay to see how his loco's coming along." .She hadn't cried since childhood. She'd thought that she was beyond tears, too tough for self-pity and.Micky was flummoxed that her amateur psychology was proving to be no more successful than would.to speak?her sister's keeper could be fulfilled at least to some small extent. "Whether he's your legal."Then how-". "No, I'm not. I'm going to talk about air-conditioning for."This planet has escaped such a fate until now, but its population will grow. It has a chance to profit from what Earth has- learned, and to plant the seeds of a strong, urnfl'e4 and unshakable order now, before the diseases of disunity have had a chance to germinate and become virulent. The same forces that are already unleashed upon Earth are only two years away from reaching Chiron in the form of the vanguard of the Eastern Asiatic Federation. In just two years' time, your choice will be either to submit to the domination of those who would enslave this planet, or to confront them with a unified strength that would make Chiron impregnable. Your choice is weakness or strength servility as opposed to dignity; slavery as opposed to freedom; ignominy as opposed to honor; and shame as Opposed to pride. Weakness or strength. I offer the latter alternatives".mention of her brother, but now they focused. Her gaze rose from her deformed hand to smiling Geneva,

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