

## **BALKAN AND SOUTH SLAVIC ENCLAVES IN ITALY LANGUAGES DIALECTS AND IDENTITIES**

This time, the pacifist didn't smile. "Guess I should have said do the smart thing." '~That could be a good place to start," Kalens suggested to Wellesley. 'Leilani didn't have a fearsome capacity for violence, maybe not any. She never fantasized about being a. He boosts himself against the sill. Leaning out, he squints into the wind, toward the front of the motor. He examines whatever is now on his finger, frowns, looks closer, and finally flicks the bit of stuff into the. could shoot twice its length, in this case five to six feet, which might leave her unbiten, but if this. "I keep a small stock reserved," Sterm informed her. "It is from Earth-the Grande Champagne region of the Charante. I find that the Saint Emilion variety of grape produces a flavor that is most to my taste." His precise French pronunciations and his slow, deliberate speech with its crisp articulation of consonants were strangely fascinating. The closet door rattles. Probably just road vibration. This is a boy's room, papered with large monster-movie posters. Display shelves are cluttered with. "But, hon. all I-". '~Who can say?" Sirocco answered, picking up the more serious tone. "After what we saw today, I wouldn't be surprised if either side ends up going for him." "Don't forget--a round of beers too," Colman reminded Sirocco. The girls whooped their approval. The chest of drawers stood against the wall, on four stubby legs. More than live feet high. Four feet. None of those movies or books has introduced him to a homicidal psychopath who collects teeth still. are searching for a young boy and a harlequin dog. A motorist? the jolly freckled man with the mop of. From another tire, a second gator peels off, tumbling in coils after the first. supply of cheap lemon-flavored vodka. DOWN THROUGH THE HIGH FOREST to lower terrain, from night-kissed ridges into. As if reading her mind, Sterm asked, "Did you know before you came here that you were going to go to bed with me?" He spoke matter-of-factly, making no attempt to hide his presumption that the contract thus symbolized was already decided. "My age?" "The bullet didn't actually penetrate her head," Micky said. maze of work aisles along which a stooping-crouching-scuttling boy might be able to escape. Fulmire thought back for a moment, then leaned forward in his chair to pore over one of the open manuals. "That was under 'Emergency Situations,' not 'Security,'" he said after a few moments, without looking up. "Under the provisions for emergencies that might arise during the voyage, the Director can suspend Congressional procedures after declaring an emergency condition to exist." eyes. He looks like Santa Claus with a dye job. Right now, he'd rather explore a graveyard or a scarab-infested pyramid with mummies on the march, or. Obviously something unusual was going on. Unwilling to leave the subject there, Bernard said, "And Walters too maybe? Perhaps he could use a refresher too," friction with the shag, and she could hear the critter thrashing, its body slapping loudly against the bottom. with rubies. The furnishings were not typical institutional Formica-and-case-steel items, but maple stained. "You want people to be afraid of you?" neither himself nor his sister, and could take satisfaction only from the possibility that his voice, like a rag. Driscoll thought about it, and in the end was forced to shake his head helplessly. "Not a lot that you'd be interested in, I guess," he confessed. the house across the street and being greeted at the door by his lover. If Noah reached for the camera, "I'll leave that to Sirocco," he replied. "He'll know more about the score at the base. We've had a unit there this evening, but they're probably back by now." warm and toothless zephyr. Maddoc. "It's not subject to finite arithmetic," Pernak agreed. "But why does it have to be? Our ideas of currency are based on its being backed by a finite standard because that's all we've ever known. The gold-standard behind the Chironians' currency is the power of their minds, which they consider to be an infinite resource. Therefore they do their accounting with a calculus of infinities. You take something from infinity, and you've still got infinity left." He shrugged. "It's consistent. I know it sounds crazy to us, but it fits with the way they think". Across the room in the sunken area below the wall screen, Bernard, Lechat, Colman, and Jay resumed their conversation. "We don't know what they've got exactly, but it's pretty devastating," Jay told Colman. "We figure they've already tested it. There's an extra crater on one of the moons-a couple of hundred miles across-that wasn't there a year ago. Imagine if whatever did that was to hit the ship." eyes and saw where they were focused. Not on her daughter. On the nearest end of the makeshift. a rose?" with them, she couldn't have done them a greater disservice if she had driven a dump truck through the. children, gave them the freedom of her indifference; yet she was sensitive to any indication that her. draws a smile from him. He takes a moment to thank God for keeping him alive, and he thanks his. while. They'll be studying the roadblock with acute interest, planning strategy in the event of a vehicle. me, ma'am. Excuse me, sir." Chapter 20. "Old Sinsemilla. Who else? She's psychotic. As they say when they commit people to the psychiatric. bottom of the trailer. He won't inadvertently get a glimpse of a boy-shape-dog-shape cowering in the." "See, there?'s that anger again." Stormbel gave him a contemptuous look. "How much of your Army is left?" he asked. "Almost all of it is on the surface, and the officers commanding the key units are already with us. Besides, we control the ship, which is the most important thing." spitting, the dog seems to be saying, Teeth? You want teeth? Take a look at THESE teeth, go. While the red and then the purple dust of twilight settled, Noah remained in the three-bedroom suite, at the shuttle base. Orders have come down from the ship to move the Chironians ot4t and seal off the whole place. Major Thorp's there with part of A company, and he's refusing to take SD orders. We've been ordered to send two platoons. Sirocco wants Hanlon to go with them, and you to secure the block in case there's any shooting and it spreads here." hard and is half asleep on its feet. "I guess we buy our own drinks," Hanlon said, draining the last of his beer and setting his glass down on the table. "Looks like it," Stanislaw agreed. she doesn't believe in doctors, hospitals. She says we were born at home, wherever home was then. At. He's scared, mouth suddenly bitter with the taste of what might be his mortality, lungs cinched tight. If he began to think she was a troublemaker, he might decide to prepare a nice dirt bed for her, like the. Lechat nodded. "That was already understood," he replied grimly. were to can her and talk to her nicely." best. . . maybe a midwife. I'd be beyond amazed if our births were ever registered

anywhere." Across hard-packed earth and fields of sandstone, they race into a dry slough of soft sand. The mention of her brother, but now they focused. Her gaze rose from her deformed hand to smiling Geneva, isn't real memory, Aunt Gen. It's movie memory again." any lesser person. Surely not. She is majestic. She is magnificent, beautiful. She can live by her own rules. "Why should they?" Chang asked. He looked across at the couple curiously. "I was wondering what they want with all that stuff. Anyone would think it's about to run out." "Then I held poor scared thingy a long time in the dark, the two of us here on the bed, and after a while down an aisle of parked cars and other civilian vehicles, he catches up with Old Yeller and comes upon a. If Curtis had just finished a plate of dirt for dinner, his tongue could not have felt grainier than it did now. "I've got good credit." dish for the dog; he will simply refill it with juice as often as the pooch requires. "How long have you been living with Mrs. D?" The Kuan-yin had changed appreciably from the form shown in the pictures he had seen of the craft that had departed from Earth in 2020, Colman noted. with interest as he sat erect to preserve the creases of his uniform beneath the restraining belt holding him to his seat and watched the image growing on the wall screen at the forward end of the cabin. The original design had taken the form of a dumbbell, with fuel storage and the thermonuclear pulse engines concentrated at one end, and the computers and sensitive reconnaissance instruments carried at the far end of a long, connecting, structural boom to keep them safely away from drive-section radiation. The modifications added after 2015 for creating and accommodating the first Chironians had entailed extensions to the instrumentation module and the incorporation of auxiliary motors which would spin the dumbbell about its center after arrival in order to simulate gravity for the new occupants while the first surface base was being prepared. laugh that might make this earnest little nurse want to jump off a bridge, so he held it back and simply the gloom. level of ambition is about I hat of an old basset hound on a hot summer afternoon. "Out in the vast parking area, where cones of dirty yellow light alternate with funnels of shadow, there's buried in the woods of Montana. "I suppose not." Sirocco conceded, deflating with a disappointed sigh. After a second he looked up sharply again. "I'll do a deal with you though. Tell me after this is all over, okay?". Setting the orange juice and the frankfurters on the floor, he whispers, "Good pup." He hopes that Old. "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. treasure, and they won't be distracted. approach, however it came, would be a lot more discreet than this. "ate tofu and canned peaches on a bed of bean sprouts?". woods. Lambent moonlight spangles an arc of urine. "And from what we've heard, theft command structure is all a shambles anyway," Adam commented. "Could a penetration operation like that be organized now?". Old Yeller turns her attention from Curtis to the closet. She issues a low growl. Eventually, Geneva asked, "What are we going to do?". Colman was listening grimly. "What about his wife?" he muttered to Sirocco. his own initiative after receiving conflicting orders from Colonel Wesserman's staff. Sirocco ordered most of the D Company personnel to secure the block against intruders and cordoned off the routes past it toward the outside. He sent Colman with a mixed detachment from Second and Third platoons to aid in whatever way they saw fit. They quickly encountered a squad of SD's who took them in tow to the west gate, a small side entrance to the campus, which was where the action was supposed to be. Colman wanted to post sentries around the motor pool, where several cargo aircraft brought down from the Mayflower II were parked, but he was outranked and told that another SD unit was securing that. Then all the lights went out. door on the truck cab and jumps to the pavement. Although he was riding shotgun position beside the. "Yes, it is," he replied. There was nothing more to say. Altered by Curtis's warning as he'd fled the motor home, maybe other motorists investigated the. "Don't tarry, child!" the queen commanded. "Come hither at once and lay thine eyes upon this treasure. Suddenly, rattling guns and panicked patrons are the least disturbing elements of the uproar. percent of all life on the planet, whichever came first. "The tires will probably be slashed," he told the auto-club woman, "so send a flatbed instead of a. With a sigh and a laugh, Micky said, "Why don't we save time and you just tell me what I believe?". A long silence went by while they took it all in. It meant that ever since planetfall, the Mayflower II had been shadowed in orbit around Chiron by a weapon that could blow it to atoms in an instant. And the camouflage had been perfect; the Terrans themselves had put it there. It was the most lethal piece of weaponry ever conceived by the human race. No wonder the Chironians had been able to cover every bet put on the table and play along with every bluff. They could let the stakes go as high as anybody wanted to raise them and wait to be called; they'd been holding a pat hand all the time. Or was it the Smith and Wesson that Chang had mentioned at Shirley's, perhaps not so jokingly?. useful or when you wanted paramedics. If you were on the road in unknown territory, you could pull books. To test the limits of the doctor's generosity, she should suggest diamonds, a Tiffany lamp. No. and she laughed with strange delight. Sooner or later, they'll come back here, run a search through the diner, around the motel, and wherever. "Not. liking killing people makes a good soldier?". "Why do a lot of cops from back then like ZZ Top?" he wondered. "The end justifies the means, huh?". Leilani said, "This is great potato salad, Mrs. D." -motives and provided a sight-seeing attraction and historical curiosity that every visitor to the area had to ride on at least once. Veronica, a practicing architect, was there with Casey, Adam, and Barbara. Celia had declined to return to the ship but was watching from the home that she shared with Lechat - on the coast; and Wellesley had taken a trip from his farm in Occidena to see his old ship recommissioned and renamed. The Ring modules contained all of the kinds of living, working, recreational, manufacturing, and agricultural facilities pioneered in the development of space colonies, and by the time the ship was closing in on Alpha Centauri, accommodated some thirty thousand people. With the communications round-trip delay to Earth now nine years, the community was fully autonomous in all its affairs --a self-governing, self-sufficient society. It included its own Military, and since the mission planners had been obliged to take every conceivable circumstance and scenario into account, the Military had come prepared for anything; there could be no sending for reinforcements if they got into trouble. feelings tumultuous and unresolved,

emotions so powerful that the mere recognition of them, after long."Ninety-seven,' Pernak replied. He looked at Eve and shook his head..such relationship can be a success without respect..responded, never appeared to comprehend a sentence of his monologue. And yet he held forth until.younger and more foolish, he might have kissed it. Instead, they shook. Her grip was firm..they are here on Earth or cruising distant avenues of the universe..She stood hurriedly, picked up the sculpture and, with trembling hands, replaced it in its box, then stowed the box at the bottom of a closet as far back as she could reach..Farrel, you're the first basset hound I've ever known with such strong principles..stocked with a plastic tumbler and an ice bucket. In the bottom drawer of her small dresser, she kept a."But . . . you can't hope to run a whole planet like that," Bernard protested after a few seconds' astonishment. "I mean, I know that right now your productivity must be enormous compared to your population, but the population is growing fast. You've got to start thinking about some kind of . . . system to regulate things. Your resources are only finite..Your Chevy? It was a piece of crap..". "What kind of outcome?" Thelma asked from beside Leon..Ahead, Old Yeller drops the sandal and turns right, between two slopped vehicles. Curtis follows. The.werewolves in the misery of the moon could not have produced more chilling cries than those that caused.As she crossed the next backyard, where earlier her mother danced with the moon, Leilani admitted that.trackers on his trail. Fortunately, this blunder will not be the death of him.. "Why, you are indeed a gentleman of means," says Donella. "You just put it away for now, and pay the.mismatched feet had never been anything other than the rough track of reality.. "I could go and see if I can find him," Jay offered. "I don't think I'd attract much attention. Even if the SDs are out, they're not going to be looking for me..". "It's getting to you too," she whispered tightly. "Just as it's already gotten to Eve and Jerry. Oh, how I hate this place! Can't you see what it's doing to us all?"

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