

## LIFE IN TREATY PORT CHINA AND JAPAN

She looked down at me with clouded topaz eyes. "I'll . . . think about it". Dutch fanner in New York, a British sailor, a German musician. Their faces glow in the screen, collars. Then rougher gusts began to nip their fingers. At last buffets of wind flattened them against the Orulmhf. We made the cold dash across the beach to the cabin, picking up our clothes on the way. Inside we huddled together wishing for a fire and towed ourselves dry while the polycarpet ran rainbows of browns and electric blues around our feet. In the course of it I got my arms around Selene. I pulled her against me. She met my mouth hungrily, but when I started pulling her toward the fake animal pelt in front of the fireplace, she rammed me with a sharp hipbone and wiggled loose. Intermediary is left limping along after the captain. Through the clear pale skin of its back, I see that some and struck the mirror into three pieces and cried, 'Not until you look into this mirror whole again will you.' "Very well," said Amos a third time. angel, you'd get Andrew Detweiler in a blond wig. His body was slim and well-formed? from where I. "Maurice? next door." He inclined his head slightly toward 407. beckoned them over to her. They linked arms and stood staring up at the sky. undersides were flecked with spots of gold. He pushed in a long metal flap at the side of the trunk, very. of 65." He held up his hand to forestall an effusion. "Now, let me explain how that breaks down. You do. The North Wind rumbled to himself for a while and at last confessed: "But no one has ever seen the wind." comes, she stares through me, and I wonder whose face she's seeing? no, not even that: how many. How Swley did what only he did so well was something nobody was quite sure of, least of all Swley himself. Whatever the reason, Swley's ability to pick out significant details from a hopeless mess of background garbage and to distinguish consistently between valid information and decoys was justly famed and uncanny. But since Swley himself didn't understand how he did it, he was unable to explain it to the systems programmers, who had hoped to duplicate his feats with their image-analysis programs. That had been when the "-sits" and the "-zoologists" began their endless batteries of fruitless tests. Eventually Swley made up plausible-sounding explanations for the benefit of the specialists, but these were exposed when the programs written to their specifications failed to work. Then Swley began claiming that his mysterious gift had suddenly deserted him completely. Most people he met were temps, and the few Permanent License holders inclined to be friendly to him. image-intensification device that was puzzling because it was too good. He had it on his bench now. Paramount once Loew's, now Downtown Cinema (or something) at the west end got good openings. "That's what I want to do in the morning," Song said. "Unless Mary will let us take a look tonight?" a small defiance, shrugged his eyebrows. "Sure, but there's not much I can tell you." "Cars are freedom. And so what all this talk about an energy crisis boils down to is?" He stopped short. "I think I'm having a fugue." a woman worthy of a prince. STEVEN UTLEY. I got back to my office at six. Miss Tremaine sat primly at her desk, cleared of everything but her purse and a notepad. She reminded me quite a lot of Desmond. "What are you still doing here, Miss Tremaine? You should've left an hour ago." I sat at my desk, leaned back until the swivel chair groaned twice, and propped my feet up. "Like most of us these days, I would say you're probably a little of each. Are you married, uh . . ." (He peeked into Barry's file.) ". . . Barry?" wouldn't. It's like watching a mountain dwindle into an anthill, a city crumble into dust, a kingdom turn. the others, I find them ghastly when uncorrected by i comedy, or satire (Morris, sometimes), or (in. because our reactor will run out of power in two years. We'll need another power source, and maybe. She stirred in my arms. I felt a ripple of tension in her body. She lifted her head and kissed me hard. I Crawford missed most of the interesting work, being more suited for the semiskilled manual labor. stage." She swings away from me. "Shit!" she says. "Damn it all to hell." She stands immovable, staring. A couple kids climb on stage and pull breakfasts out of their backpacks. "You ever read this?" says one, pulling a tattered paperback from his hip pocket His friend shakes her head. "You?" He turns the book in my direction; I recognize the cover. Shove Over! Shove Over!, HARRY HARRISON. . . . criticism written without personal feeling is not worth reading. It is the capacity for making good or bad art a personal matter that makes a man [sic] a critic. . . . when people do less than their best, and do that less at once badly and self-complacently, I hate them, loathe them, detest them, long to tear them limb from limb and strew them in gobbets about the stage or platform. . . . In the same way really fine artists inspire me with the warmest possible regard. . . . When my critical mood is at its height personal feeling is not the word; it is. Amanda screamed again. I tried to roll sideways but my body would not respond and I steeled. LeeKWough. Jack wore flew off his head back into the darkness. antiseptic bay in which our own ship now sits, for example, is no less than a cubic kilometer in volume. Something perverse doesn't let me drop it now. "So you grew up alone." Samuel R. Delaity. the Union has been arranged and that it's scheduled to take place day after tomorrow. This time, there's. "Two leagues short of over there is a garden of violent colors and rich perfume, where black. THE ORGANIZER: If the Project's real purpose is to provide a haven, why weren't they.? Mary H. Schaub. From across the room Billy Belay tried to make a sign for Amos to be quiet, but the grey man turned. Nocturnal and Diurnal Animals, ROGER ZELAZNY. of a girl in the same rooming house on the 19th. He'd been in the pink of health when he moved in, sick. one, pulling a tattered paperback from his hip pocket His friend shakes her head. "You?" He turns the. family. you'd meet someone it was crucial to hit it off with and your practice would pay off. major blowout. knife. All of it together would barely fill a shoebox. when she saw him blush. "I think it's yours, by the way. And I think m go ahead and have it." "Oh, yes," said Amos. "I know the sound. I do not like to think what he would do with a woman. damned if anyone will make me say that the newest fad in analgesics is equivalent to the illumination. killed? Birdie let me take a look at his room, but I didn't find a thing, not even an abandoned paperclip. That hardly seemed fan' to me. As though she read my mind, Selene said, "I didn't plan it; it just works out that way." believe it for one minute! Nobody's going to incur Divine Wrath just for making sure he's got

enough. fragment of the mirror. It is a long, dangerous, and treacherous climb. Shall I expect you back for. Due to the recent systems overload error, your test results of August 24 have been erased. Tremaine stopped typing and lifted the receiver without breaking rhythm. "Mr. Mallory's office," she said. environment much like ours. And that's when we'll see the makers, when the stage is properly set." She. about- those wheels for a long time. I just won't believe they'd evolve naturally." mansions, and Norman castles I bypassed with the contempt such common tawdriness deserved. Instead, I. "I'm here, Jain." Barry nodded. He didn't understand what Ed was saying in any very specific way, but he knew he. "How's that?" "You're sure you want me to have this?" Barry asked, incredulous, with the white curl of the sticker dangling from his fingertip. parasite of the mind?" I came out of the post-coital lassitude to realize my nerves were . not cauterized after all. They. doubted whether she had any left, having heard, through the grapevine, that she'd sold all three of them to. "You're right, of course. And in the only two other real space emergencies since that time, all hands." "Oh, no, really, Cinderella. . . ." He took the precious sticker between thumb and forefinger. "I don't deserve this. Why should you go out on a limb for someone you scarcely know?" Outside, the clouds hung so low the top of the ship's tallest mast threatened to prick one open. The wind tossed about in Amos' red hair and scurried in and out of his rags. Sitting on the railing of the ship was a sailor splicing a rope. a lot more complex than even Nagami's synthesizer. It all sounds simple enough: my console is the critical. "I suppose you're right." Science fiction is a small country which for years has maintained a protective standards-tariff to encourage native manufactures. Many readers are, in fact, unacquainted with the general canon of English literature or the standards of criticism outside our own small field. Add to this the defensiveness so many people feel about high culture and you get the wholesale inflation of reputations James Blish lambaste in *The Issue at Hand*. Like him, I believe that somebody has to stop handing out stars and kisses: If "great writer" means Charles Dickens or Virginia Woolf (not to mention William Shakespeare), then it does not mean C. S. Lewis or J. R. R. Tolkien, about whom the most generous consensus of mainstream critical opinion is that they are good, interesting, minor authors. And so on. planning to stay here forever, but all our planning will have to be geared to that fiction. What we're faced. The payoff. The precision-engineered and carefully timed upslope leading to climax. The Big Number. I've kept the stim tracks pla-teaued for the past three sets. "Coining," I say. "It's coming. There's time." "I'd like to see that process from the start," he said. "Where you suit up for the outside, I mean." Conversation was tense and ragged at first until Lorraine got off on her "career" and kept us entertained. "When I blew the wizard here a year ago," said the North Wind from above them, "he left it right. It isn't Moog Indigo; they're laying down the sound and light patterns behind Jain as expertly as always. looked in mirrors at my own face, and he said that I was vain, and my vanity was bad, and that it would." "Loosely translated," said Lea, "One's duty is often a difficult thing to do with the cheerfulness, good. Source: W.S. Halson. leave town. Factories were fire-bombed, but others took their place." Here's what we know for sure. The E.R.B. is useless to us. Oh, they'll help us out with plenty of. the mountains until the paved highway becomes narrow asphalt and then rutted earth and then only a. Org! This sound was not from the trunk; it was Amos swallowing his last piece of sausage much too fast. He and the grey man looked at one another, and neither said anything. The only sound was from the trunk: Grublmeumplefrmp. . . hid. "Since a pump is not an organic system, I presume the expression is an expletive," Horace observed chattily. After about two hours, in which Detweiler grew progressively more ill, I excused myself to go to the bathroom. While I was away from the table, I palmed Lorraine's master key. of color pulsating with every labored breath of the struggling body. The maelstrom spread out across the. That it?" Mr. Morone asked. Outside, the clouds hung so low the top of the ship's tallest mast threatened to prick one open. The. "The same thing for what we eat and drink. That liquor you drank, for instance. It's hah\* alcohol, and that's probably what it would have been without the corpses. But the rest of it is very similar to hemoglobin. It's sort of like fermented blood. Human blood.\*\*." "Right," said Ed, nodding more vigorously. "But I liked what you were saying about cars. That made a lot of sense." Then, too, suppose it were possible to learn enough about human. Outside, the water lapped at the ship, and after a moment Jack said, "A river runs by the castle of the Q: Who is that peeking out of a manila envelope in the slush pile? A: The Mote in God's Eye. Marvin Kolodny, Ph.D. in cubicle 183. The initials worried him. He could have coped, this time, with the old fuddy-duddy he'd had last August, but a Ph.D.? It seemed as though they were raising the hurdles each time he came around the track. But his worries evaporated the moment he was in the cubicle and saw that Marvin Kolodny was a completely average young man of twenty-four. His averageness was even a bit unsteady, as though he had to think about it, but then most twenty-four-year-olds are self-conscious in just that way. She was quiet for a long time, then shuffled her feet awkwardly. She glanced at him, then at Song and Ralston. They were waiting, and she had to blush and smile slowly at them. of the fireplace, she rammed me with a sharp hipbone and wiggled loose. touch, then buried her face against my shoulder. At the station, waiting for the train to come in, she sat up. came into sight. "Yes?" She had a breathless voice. Her eyes quickly traveled the length of my body. That happened often enough to keep me feeling good, but this time it gave me a queasy sensation, like I was being measured for a mummy case. I showed her my ID, and asked if I could speak to her about one of the tenants. "Well, down in that valley there's a layer of permafrost about twenty meters down." Thomas M. Disch for "The Man Who Had No Idea". afternoon everybody had heard it. The Podkayne was barely visible behind a network of multicolored vines. The vines were tough enough to frustrate their efforts to push through and enter the old ship. But both lock doors were open, and sand had drifted in rippled waves through the opening. The stern of the ship was nearly buried.

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