

## EUROPA VOL 2 FORTSETZUNG DES OCHSENHEIMERSCHEN WERKES ZWEITE ABT

"Then you'd have all the justification you need to crack down hard, wouldn't you," Kalens answered.. "Oh, Christ Warily, Colman brought a hand up to his brow. "Okay. Look, as soon as I can-" Footsteps approaching at the double interrupted and made him look around. It was Sergeant Armley, from the Orderly Room..fragrance of decay..Admiral Mark Slessor, who commanded the Mayflower II's crew, looked dubious. I'm not so sure it's that simple." He rubbed his powerful, blue-shadowed chin. "We could be walking into anything. They've got fusion plants, orbital shuttles, intercontinental jets, and planet-wide communications. How do we know they haven't been working on defense? They've got the know-how and the means. I can see John's point, but his approach is too risky..".He would like to take a hot bath and have time to heal, but he will have to settle for clean clothes..Sinsemilla seemed to shed her anger as suddenly as she'd grown it. She adjusted the shoulder straps on."The half that's left is off-limits," Micky declared. "The only pie in play is my piece..".not, sent chills chasing chills along her spine, with such palpable shivers that she could almost believe the..Retreating quickly and silently from the bedroom, the boy sees movement in the hall, a pair of shining.."It sure smells fantastic." On the griddles, tantalizing treats sizzle, pop, bubble, and steam fragrantly.. "Close up ranks," Sirocco said, and the guard detail shuffled forward to crush up close behind Sirocco, Colman, and Hanlon to make room for the officers and the diplomats to move up behind. Sirocco looked at the Dispatching Officer and nodded. "Open outer hatch." The Dispatching Officer keyed a command into a panel beside him, and the outer door of the shuttle swung slowly aside..needed..".The most interesting life-form was a species of apelike creature that possessed certain feline characteristics. They inhabited a region in the north of Occidenia and were known as "monkeats," a name that the infant Founders had coined when they saw the first views sent back by the Kuan-yin's reconnaissance probes many years ago. They were omnivores that had evolved from pure carnivores, possessed a highly developed social order, and were beginning to experiment with the manufacture of simple hand tools. The Chironians were interested observers of the monkeats, but for the most part tended not to interfere with them unless attacked, which was now rare since the monkeats invariably got the worst of it. Other notable dangerous life-forms include the daskrends, which Jay had already told Colman about, various poisonous reptiles and large insects that were concentrated mainly around southern Selene and the isthmus connecting it to Terranova, though some kinds did spread as far as the Medichironian, a flying mammal found in Artemia which possessed deadly talons and a ranged beak and would swoop down upon anything in sight, and a variety of catlike, doglike, and bearlike predators that roamed across parts of all four continents to a greater or lesser degree.. "Very,' Bernard agreed. He didn't really have a clue. "These are the guys I was telling you about," lay said. "The ones who are with the group that's going to the mountains..". "I'm saying it's very likely. What triggers a phase-change..Eventually, Curtis is halted by a tall man with the gray pinched face and permanently engraved wince.. "Oh, lots of things. Old Sinsemilla may be a lousy mother, but she can take pride in being an equally..Bernard, now a little calmer with the change of subject, picked up his glass again, took a sip, and shook his head. "Aren't you overreacting just a little bit, Jerry? Exactly what kind of trouble are you talking about? What have we seen?" He looked from side to side as if to invite support, "One idiot who should never have been allowed out of a cage got what he asked for. Fm sorry if that sounds like a callous way of putting it, but it's what I think. And that's all we've seen..".Colman watched for a moment, then turned slowly back and began moving toward the bulkhead door. He didn't feel resentful, nor particularly surprised. He'd seen it all too many times before. Fallows wasn't a bad guy; somebody somewhere had jumped on him, that was all. "He might know all about how machines work," Colman murmured half-aloud to himself as he returned to the gallery outside the Bomb Factory. "But he doesn't understand how they think..".He also had rules that he lived by, standards that he wouldn't compromise, and procedures that must be..As Geneva rose from the table, Micky said, "Aunt Gen, sit down. This isn't about pie..". "For now," Sterm added. "The rest comes later..".This apparently had been an exotic treat to the dog, as well. When first given a chip, he turned the..The bright, sharp memory of that violence would shred his sanity if he dwelt on it. For the sake of..The facilities are extensive and fascinating, featuring seven stalls, a bank of five urinals from which arises..someone his size, and he absolutely must obtain food for himself and for Old Yeller, who is depending on..customer paying his check..Colman stared at Celia for a few seconds longer. He still didn't know why Celia should have been so anxious to get away from Sterm or why she should have been in any danger. Life couldn't have been much fun with somebody like Howard, he could see, so the thought of her gravitating toward a strong, protective figure like Sterm wasn't so strange. And it didn't seem so unnatural that she should have stayed near Sterm after Howard was killed. In such circumstances it would have been normal to provide her with an escort down to the surface too, for her own security; but having her watched all the time and not allowing..been able to see before. The crimson tissues dropped out of her grip; in the meaty part of her palm were..know who these brash intruders are, or makes a clatter of pots that might draw attention, probably.. "Scared shitless," Leilani agreed..the field here, which now seems likely, and possibly the CIA, as well?those guys won't sell out their..The Chironian reflected upon the explanation, evidently found it good enough, nodded, and passed over his pistol. The girl who had wounded Ramelly followed suit. Significantly, Colman thought, the major did not ask her companion if she too was armed. As the guards began.. "I've got two sisters you can't get in trouble with," Stanislaw offered..Leilani's heart pumped, pumped the bellows of her lungs, and breath blew from her in quick hard gusts..the wake of even nauseating fear. The heart may heal slowly, but the mind is resilient and the body ever..outage, just as Leilani was talking about UFOs, had given her the crazy notion that they had suffered a.. "Thanks a lot," Jay said..In the rear passenger lounge of the shuttle being prepared for lift-off in Bay 5 at Canaveral base, Veronica sat nursing a large martini and quietly studying the pattern of

activity around her and her escorts. It was just about at its peak, with passengers boarding at a steady rate and flight crew moving fore and aft continually. But most of the faces had not yet had time to register. The matron had evidently not considered it part of her duties to assist in packing or carrying anything, but had maintained her distance. Looking down at her tortured hands, Geneva said, "Why didn't you come to me back then, Micky?" A crash rocks the room, rattles cookware. Someone slamming through the swinging door from the. Banishing doubt, seizing hope with a desperation grip, Curtis swallows hard and prepares himself for an. "And you're a cop." Merrick's eyebrows shot up in an expression of surprise. the pavement mask other noises; the desert breeze breaks over him, and in the shells of his ears, this stir. "I think they know that," Cromwell said. "They've spent. previously been treacherous, arms pump-pump-pumping like the connecting rods on the driving wheels. Trusting the wisdom of his brother-becoming, the boy drops to his knees, braces one hand against the. wasn't any longer able to make sense of her mother's words, she figured the woman's sympathies were. The wheel, or Ring, was eighteen-plus miles in circumference and sectionalized into sixteen discrete structural modules joined together at ball pivots. Two of these modules constituted the main attachment points of the Ring to the Spindle and were fixed; the remaining fourteen could pivot about their intermodule supports to modify the angle of the floor levels inside with respect to the central Spindle axis. This variable-geometry design enabled the radial component of force due to rotation to be combined with the axial component produced by thrust in such a way as to yield a normal level of simulated gravity around the Ring at all times, whether the ship was under acceleration or cruising in freefall as it had been through most of the voyage.. microphone captured the laughter and most of the running commentary between Karla and the. Interstate 15, on which they speed southwest, isn't deserted even at this hour, but neither is it busy.. Bernard looked at him suspiciously. "Just what are you up to now?" "We are facing a crisis that jeopardizes the continued integrity of the entire Mission, and it has become evident. among the flowers only until its terror passed. By nightfall it would have found a way back into the heated. "Held it very tight, very tight," Sinsemilla continued, "even though it squirmed something fierce. Took a. view to him, so he pushes through the door without knowing what lies beyond.. right for the weather.".. the pavement, the human Good & Plenty slammed the hammer against the hood of the car.. eighteen-wheeler under his butt.. saturated with toxins.. above, unsullied, hung a polished-silver moon. In the deep pure black above the lunar curve, a few stars. the landscape ahead of them with light, hoping to spot an obviously trampled clump of weeds or deep. This was about Leilani Klonk, not about Michelina Bellson. Leilani was only nine, and in spite of what. Now she knew why Earth seemed so far away. And she knew too what her mind in its wisdom had been cloaking and shielding from her. It was fear.. Colman shrugged. "Strange things happen at sea, they say, and I guess even stranger things in space.".. The matron didn't give Veronica a second glance when she came out of the bathroom with Celia's bag on one hand. "They're priceless," Celia commented dryly from her chair. They had been, literally, but the irony was lost on Mrs. Crawford. Veronica caught Celia's eye with a warning look.. CHAPTER THIRTY-TWO. "We will if we have to, sir," the captain assured him.. her contact with anybody made no sense. Veronica said that Celia hadn't volunteered any more information and that she hadn't pressed Celia for any, which Colman believed because that was the kind of relationship he knew they had- much like that between himself and Sirocco. But now that the immediate panic was over and everybody had had a breather, he was curious.. T-shirt. The impressive mass of bone in his brow surely weighed more than the five-pound sledge that he. She had spoken to Geneva of things she'd never expected to speak of to anyone, and she'd found relief. "You should think about things as well as just ask questions. Otherwise you might end up letting other people do your thinking for you instead of relying on yourself." "One second," a voice said from behind them. They looked round to find a Chironian robot winking its lights at them. It was a short, rounded type, which made it loose tubby. "You haven't taken any of our special-offer hand gardening tools. Do you want to grow fat and old before your time? Think of all the pleasant and creative hours you could be spending in the afternoon sun, the breeze caressing your brow gently, the distant sounds of--". share the risk and to leave her less exposed, "and then expect us not to care when we see the danger. grasp. She lacks the cultural references to make sense of it. Her tail stops wagging, but only because she. reach, but more likely than not, he's plunging deeper into a vast wilderness.. to feel, a darker quality. He's a boy nonetheless, and he's virtually programmed by nature to be thrilled by. because he's known that eventually, when he bonds better with the animal, he'll arrive at not just any. first greeted him.. To preserve the essential characteristics of the American System, life aboard the Mayflower II was' organized under a civilian administration to which both the regular military command and the military-style crew organization were subordinated. The primary legislative body of this administration was the Supreme Directorate presided over by a Mission Director, who was elected to office every three years and responsible for nominating the Directorate's ten members. The term of office of the current Mission Director, Garfield Wellesley, would end with the completion of the voyage, when elections would be held to appoint officers of a restructured government more suitable for a planetary environment.. standard tow truck." He gave her the address where the car could be found and also the name of the. On the threshold, gripping the doorknob, she glanced back to see if the snake pursued her. It remained. That was why Colman had no doubt in his mind that the Chironians had had nothing to do with the bombings. He had talked to Kath, and she had assured him no Chironians would have been involved. It was an act of faith, he conceded, but he believed that she knew the truth and had spoken it. The Chironians had reacted to Padawski in the way that Colman had known instinctively that they would- specifically, with economy of effort, and with a surgical precision that had not involved the innocent.. foot and tattoo a pattern of pain on his ankle? all because he doesn't always proceed exactly in the dog's. risk of being flattened by the speeding truck, because it would have to plow through too many. After a mintless scrubbing of her teeth, Micky retreated to her tiny bedroom, which she'd already. Then Colman's communicator started bleeping. Bernard Fallows was calling from the Communications Center. "I guess you

did it," he said. "But it's not over yet. We've found out where Sterm is." wake, but at times ranges to the left and right of her.. "Would you feel better if I said I haven't figured it out yet either?" "I don't know," Jay said. "It's a lot to go into now, but we're certain they've got the capability. It's really that urgent, Steve. When can you get over?" Nearing the end of the kitchen, he encounters several workers crowding through an open door.. "That's my car," he explained. "I'm behind the wheel." willpower. Yet Curtis wishes with all his might that what appears to be happening between the motorists.ABOUT THE AUTHOR.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..supposed to have them at night, only in high-demand hours. Maybe it's just an ordinary screw-up." Wellesley raised a hand a fraction. "Be careful you don't allow this to get too personal, Howard," he cautioned. "I know you had an embarrassing time yesterday, and I'm not condoning their attitude, but all the same we have to---" He broke off as he noticed that Sterm, the Deputy Director, was sitting forward to say something, which was a sufficiently rare event to warrant attention. "Yes, Matt?" The others looked toward Sterm curiously..heart..than to a queen. Though both nightstand lamps were aglow, a scarlet silk blouse draped one lampshade..The advantage of surprise will belong to Curtis, but he's not confident that surprise alone will carry the.in the memory of her love, her toughness, her steely resolution. His wretched sobbing subsides..The transport swings into a wide space between two huge trucks..family. Consequently, they must know the entire story; and although it must seem improbable to them.. "Why not?" the painter asked. '-You'd have to feel kind of sorry for someone like that. The least you could do was make sure they got fed and looked after properly. We do get a few like that, and that's what happens to them. It's a shame, but what can anybody do?' -.to The Amber Spyglass, are never eviscerated, decapitated, torn limb from limb, and immolated?which." "Why don't you piss off," he growled at last..GENERAL JOHANNES BORFTEIN'S simple and practical philosophy of life was that everything comes to him who goes out and looks for it, and if need be, takes it. Nobody was going to give anyone anything for nothing, and nobody kept for very long what he neglected to defend. The name of the game was Survival. He hadn't made up the roles; they had been written into Nature long before he existed..Veronica laughed. 'You'll have to eat your heart out wondering. Take care. I'll call you tonight." I thought you might need a hand with these so I did them last night. If my hunch is right, things have probably gotten a bit difficult for you. There's no sense in upsetting people who don't mean any harm. Take it from me, he's not such a bad guy.." Do I what?"..her nook was a private place. But the snake won't allow even a pretense of privacy. She'll have no.beach all the tiny chips of broken seashells, worn to polished flakes by ages of relentless tides, and." "You bitch" Celia protested. "I want to hear about it now." "I was almost twelve when it ended."..Sterm watched, listened, and said nothing.. "Bret's an unarmed-combat instructor with the Army," Tim explained..Frowning, Geneva said, "Maybe it was Las Vegas." "Yes, Frank Hoskins," Juanita said. "And that funny man who made the speech and led the act up in the Kuan-yin is in charge---Farnhill,".the gloom..EPILOGUE.On a few occasions, when Sinsemilla had been in one of these playacting moods, Leilani had played.Otto seemed to be the spokesman. He seemed anxious to reassure them. "We would only destroy the ship without warning if it were to commence launching and deploying its strategic weapons without warning," he told the Terrans. "It is a difficult matter to exercise exact judgment upon, but we feel the most likely course would be for Sterm to issue an ultimatum before resorting to direct action. After all, he would hardly stand to profit from destroying the very resources that he hopes to possess. Our intention has been to reserve our warning as a reply to that ultimatum. In the meantime his support will continue to wither, hopefully with the effect of making him better disposed toward being reasonable when the time comes." "You too." The image vanished from the screen.. "Not. liking killing people makes a good soldier?" Micky pulled the plate closer to herself. "I'll trade pie for a serious discussion."..At forty, she was only seven years older than Noah. Another Woman this beautiful would inspire his." "Who?" Driscoll asked automatically, tossing his cigarette butt into the incinerator and snatching up his gun. A cover in the top of Wellington's chest slid aside to reveal a small display screen on which the figures of Sirocco and Colman appeared, viewed from above. They were walking at a leisurely pace, along a corridor, talking to a handful of Chironians who were walking with them. Driscoll resumed his former posture, and moments later footsteps and voices sounded from along the wider corridor leading off to the right, and grew louder..course, Haley Joel Osment, who was cute, sensitive, intelligent, charming, radiant, divine..etiquette points to my credit. I'm not going to miss out on one bite of this. Old Sinsemilla couldn't bake up." "When I went to Port Norday with Jay, I found out that they're planning a new complex farther north. They're going to need engineers-fusion engineers. They practically told me I'd have no problem getting in there, to a top job maybe, Think of it-our own place just like we've always said, and no more crap from Merrick or any of them!" Bernard threw his hands high. "I could be me for the first time in my life. . . and so could you, all of us. We don't have to listen to them telling us who we are and what we have to be ever again. Doesn't that.." His voice trailed away as he saw that it wasn't having the effect he had hoped. Jean was backing away through the door, shaking her head in mute protest.." "When was it changed, Captain?'.Fallows couldn't quite swallow the words that were being put in his mouth. He'd actually invited the fellow home several times to talk engineering. Colman had some fascinating ideas. He frowned and shook his head before he could stop himself. "Well, he seemed to have a surprising grasp of a broad base of fundamentals. He was with the Army Engineering Corps up until about a year ago, so he has a strong practical grounding. And he's studied extensively since we left Earth. I do--I did get the

impression that perhaps he might be worth some consideration. But of course that's just an opinion." cordwood. He can feel the rhythmic compression waves hammering first against his eardrums, then run alone or in pairs, or in families, toward their vehicles, some glancing back in fear as more. Now, if he can find a toilet, all will be right with the world.

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