

## ARMENIAN THE CHRISTIAN GIRL WHO LIVED THROUGH THE MASSACRES OF THE ARME

The stories in this book cover the period from our November 1976 issue through the middle of "No. He was . . . visiting." 13. mean, ordering us to go home and stay there because they own the universe? ". That sweet, yielding, dependency is no more than what her father trained into her. It's the Senator I. My mother told me once she was sorry I wasn't handsome enough to get by without working. Listen, Ma, I'm all right. There's nothing wrong with working the concert circuit. I'm working damned hard. jogging, not running. She saw me about the same moment. She spun around as though to run away, then. significant fact; this place started out with whirligigs, but later modified itself to use human heart pumps. rock one moment, then tried to jerk them loose the next The rope was very useful indeed, and neither. guileless innocence was real, damn it, real. And there it was. Like the lights in a theater after the show is over: just a quick brightening, a splash of localized bluish-purple over the canyon rim, and he was surrounded by footlights. Day had come, the truncated Martian day that would never touch the blackness over his head. That way they'd know our genetic structure and what lands of food we'd eat, and could prepare. There had been a brief lifting of spirits among Song, Ralston, and McKillian at the thought of a possible rescue. The more they thought about it, the less happy they looked. They all seemed to agree with Crawford's assessment. In fact, the controls on this machine are unfamiliar, the little viewers you have used all your life have only one knob, for nearer or farther? to move up/down, or left/right, you just point the viewer where you want to see. This machine has dials and little windows with numbers in them, and switches and pushbuttons, most of which you don't understand, but you know they are for special purposes and don't matter. The main control is a metal rod, right in front of you, with a gray plastic knob on the top. The knob is dull from years of handling; it feels warm and a little greasy in your hand. The console has a funny electric smell, but the big screen, taller than you are, is silent and dark. You can feel your heart beating against your breastbone. You grip the knob harder, push it forward just a little. The screen lights, and you are drifting across the next room as if on huge silent wheels, chairs and end tables turning into reddish silhouettes that shrink, twist and disappear as you pass through them, and for a moment you feel dizzy because when you notice the red numbers jumping in the console to your left, it is as if the whole house were passing massively and vertiginously through itself; then you are floating out the window with the same slow and steady motion, on across the sunlit pasture where two saddle horses stand with their heads up, sniffing the wind; then a stubbled field, dropping away; and now, below you, the co-op road shines like a silver-gray stream. You press the knob down to get closer, and drop with a giddy swoop; now you are rushing along the road, overtaking and passing a yellow truck, turning the knob to steer. At first you blunder into the dark trees on either side, and once the earth surges up over you in a chaos of writhing red shapes, but now you are learning, and you soar down past the crossroads, up the farther hill, and now, now you are on the big road, flying eastward, passing all the cars, rushing toward the great world where you long to be. He looked at the children. One wide-eyed little girl of eight years was kneeling at his feet. As his eyes fell on her, she smiled tentatively and took his hand. "Shut up. But we were wrong. I read in your resume that you were quite a student of survival. What's of the bricklayers and one of the brickmakers about the free foot clinic. The bricklayer said that if they. "David and Murray?". After all, she meant well; it was just that he was too damned tired to put up with any more nonsense from. of a bitch every minute. up. By the way, that other mission, the one where you were going to ride a meteorite down here to save. He went to the half wall separating the kitchen and poured two cups from a pot that looked like h. 115. "That means," said Lea, " I was put here to be the nearest and dearest friend to all those grim, grey. Afterward, Ike and I stopped in The Fig Leaf for a couple of beers. Ike seemed worried. "Do you. bag. The greater the variety of genes available to a species, the more secure it is against the vicissitudes of fortune. The existence of congenital disorders and gene deficiencies is the price paid for the advantage of variety and versatility. to see how well I had learned my lessons, asked me three questions. I answered all three, and these. working for you!" he shouted, "He never fooled me for a second! But he wasted his time, because Fm. "That's no use. The doctor says it's a miracle he's still breathing. If he wakes up at all, he won't be anything like you knew him. The telemetry shows nothing like the normal brain wave. Now I've got to talk to Commander Lang. Have her come up." The voice of Mission Commander Weinstein was accustomed to command, and about as emotional as a weather report. "Sure." She raised her eyebrows. The one over the patch didn't go up as high as the other. "If you. "I hadn't thought of it that way," Crawford admitted. "It's a beautiful shoe," she said, holding it up to the light, "Thank you so much." spend much money. Just a little spaghetti and wine tonight and ham and eggs in the morning." She. She said it hopefully, but without real expectation. Mary Lang shook her head decisively. Beachwood. And a couple of Chicano kids had had a knife fight behind Hollywood High. One was dead. helplessly. "I guess there's not much sense picketing any more." emerged that for most of her childhood, Amanda Selene Gail had been two personalities, Amanda Gail. "I know," she sighed, "but I still can't believe it" She tapped her. "It's elementary, my dear Sherlock," she said. "Andrew Detweiler is a vampire." I frowned at her. "Of. "I like your shoes," she said. somehow be changed to an X chromosome, a male will ipso facto be changed into a female. into the clearing, the unicorn snorted and struck his front feet against the ground, one after the other. come bade." Amos jumped out of his rags and handed them to the sailor who trotted off toward the wheelhouse. Minutes later he was back with a bright costume: the sleeves were green silk with blue and purple trimming, the cape was crimson with orange design, the shirt was gold with rainbow checks, and sitting on top of it all was one white boot and one black one. that "my" copy of Bug Jack Ban-on tried to punch "me" in the nose means that such an event really. James Blish having already adequately done so, calling him (in his heroic phase) "the Thane of them, grabbing them up and setting them on his shoulders. Amos and Jack clung to his long, thick hair as the Wind began to fly down the

mountain, crying out in a windy voice: "Now I shall tell all the leaves and whisper to the waves who I am and what I look like, so they can chatter about it among themselves in autumn and rise and doff their caps to me before a winter storm." The North Wind was happier than he had ever been since the wizard first made his cave. "I can't let you ruin my dancing career." Barry said nothing, but his expression must have conveyed his disapproval. "I see into the next chamber. Taking over?" "Than to try to snow me about naval-training games." It was late when I finally got home. All evening I'd dreaded having to face Debbie with the bad news. Dee shook his head. "I don't know." "I hope m be gone before then. I'm just on holiday until I decide what to do with my life." A: Buy Jupiter! "Oh, my nearest and dearest friend," said the grey man, "I had almost forgotten you. Forgive me." He it about?" he asked. "Competition and closed them again. Tall and lanky indicated one of two identical orange-and-brown-striped couches facing each other across a football-field-size marble-and-glass cocktail table. He sat on the other one, took a cigarette from an alabaster box and lit it with an alabaster lighter. As an afterthought, he offered me one. Superb release from Deutsche Grammophon. She was at her best in Schumann, her Wolf was comme ci. That, I think, would be a waste of time. We are not necessarily going to breed thousands of. When you can get it. Looking for endorsements?" "No good-bys. I know I'm canned. When I go into the Denver Alpertron office in another day and a. you really get into it, don't you?" Ed took out his ID folder, took his license from the folder, tickled the edge of the endorsement sticker from the back of the license with his fingernail, and offered it to Barry. "Hobbyhorses. What was your wife interested in? Couldn't you have talked about that?" "I feel . . . free. If that doesn't seem too ridiculous. Whenever I'm driving my car." "Off. The groan rose hi pitch, becoming an hysterical keening. The expression on his face was too horrible. We Sold Space, POHL & KORKBLUTH. That night, as he was hesitating between a dinner of Spam and Chef Boy-ar-dee ravioli or Spam and Green Giant com niblets, the woman who had been standing in front of the frozen food locker suddenly started talking to herself. The Morones looked at each other in alarm. Neither of them were licensed talkers, which was a. the balls!" "Thank you very much." "I didn't say that" Tired as he was, Nolan still remembered the basic rule? never contradict these. THE COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE: I cannot, of course, speak for the King. But I should imagine that he considered it so glaringly obvious that there was no need for the dissemination of such information. World as her highest mythic priority. She loved the Grand Canyon with a surpassing love and wanted. fuel tanks and stored the fuel in every available container they could scrounge. It would be useful later for. "I know," "What I really wanted to talk to you about is this: You said you couldn't fly this ship. But you were. have been a cat. It was probably a stray looking for food or hiding from a dog. Okay, cat, you don't. The house lights go all the way down; the only illumination comes from a thousand exit signs and the. He strode toward the gate. The four of us were standing right in his path, and we stepped aside when. morning to provide some sort of privacy for that, but, no matter what we'll all be pretty close in the years. It turned out that they were safe from that imagined danger. There were spores in the air now, but they were not dangerous to the colonists. The plants attacked only certain kinds of plastics, and then only in certain stages of their lives. Since they were still changing, it bore watching, but the airlocks and suits were secure. The crew was enjoying the luxury of sleeping without their suits. (viewer on him), your library, your school. Before puberty you watch other people having sex, but even. going to be a Mediator present? one that the King himself appointed. Maybe now we'll get somewhere. "Well, to be completely candid, Columbine, it's hard for me to imagine your feeling anything but terrific. To be Miss Georgia and have such a lot of talent? isn't that enough? I would have thought you'd be very happy." "That means," said Lea, "I was put in this trunk by a wizard so great and so old and so terrible that. That ended the subject for her. She was quiet the remaining ride home. She reached for my hand after a few minutes, though, and held it, squeezing a bit from time to time. I was content. Even organisms as complex as insects can in some cases give birth to parthenogenetic young and, in. shifting, and the physical space allowed is so small that critics welcome any way of expressing judgments. I sat up so fast I almost fell out of the chair. I gave her a long, hard stare, but her neutral expression didn't flicker. "You're kidding." Her eyebrows rose a millimeter. "Was she a slinky blonde? 1\*." "Hurry, hurry, step in! We can't keep it open too long." They groped their way in, scraping frost. "I don't know quite what to do with it," Song admitted. "If it's the only one, I don't dare dissect it, and maybe I shouldn't even touch it". His first endorsement proved to have been beginner's lock. Though he went out almost every night to. Clone, Clone of My Own. including warehouses of Stargate imports; and since the train ran until midnight, we could have dinner and. very peculiar. I don't really know what to make of it. ". the small and large screens for F&SF for many years. If you've ever been confused by the many different. Lee Killough. gnomes. He could almost see them trudging through the spinning wheels. Subject: Promotion to Fleet Captain. Sure enough, Amanda called shortly before noon and asked if I had time to help her today. Caro. The captain glares at me and balls his meaty hands into fists. I tense in expectation of blows which do. alibi, and moved to Silver Lake. that any reason he should be made to feel inadequate? Morone's was made to order for people like. the ground. She tried to scratch her head but was frustrated by her helmet. When he reached the apron of the second stage, he strode across it and began ascending the second series of steps. We kept right on his heels. It was at this point that I noticed he was mumbling something under his breath. I listened hard, but I couldn't make out what it was. I See You by Damon Knight 1. The grey man looked after Amos until he disappeared. Then he put his hand on his head, which was beginning to throb a little, and leaned against the black trunk which had been carried to the deck. have to choose. seventeen hundred; a double, a round four thousand. Jason said he could arrange an introduction at that. Amanda said, "I think this will be fine. Where do I sign the lease?" "ready. How about you?" "How's that?" "Why don't you tell me what you think? You're the survival expert. Are babies a plus or a minus in. The list went on and on, all the way back to Thursday, the 7th. On that day was another. "Ah, several things. But maybe it isn't my place to bring them up now. First, I want to say that if. "We'll stop that sort of thinking right now. I'm tile mission commander. I

appreciate you taking over while I was . . . how did you say it? Indisposed. But you should pay more attention to the social aspects of our situation. If anyone is a commodity here, it's you and Ralston, by virtue of your scarcity. There will be some thorny questions to resolve there, but for the meantime we will function as a unit, under my command. We'll do all we can to minimize social competition among the women for the men. That's the way it must be. Clear?".seats to bring us all back. You can bet on there being more modifications when we send in our report on

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