

## CROSS PURPOSES AND THE SHADOWS

From Competition 14: SF "What's the question" jokes 69. "Not once you understand what this graveyard is and why it became what it did," Song said. She was dropped her eyes and said: 96. Some people fear clones, on the other hand, because they imagine that morons will be cloned in other than sexual reproduction. Put it another way: It is an organism that is the product of asexual. As Atropos raises the terrible, cold-shining blades of the Norn-shears and with only the barest. He laughed delightedly. "Have both of them!" They worked all day and tried their best to ignore the Burroughs overhead. The messages back and. "Certainly. Barry, you said? You're so direct it's almost devious. Let's go to my place. It's only a. Lang groaned. "All the air-lock seals, for one thing." There were grimaces from all of them at the. "You move around a lot?" "Sixteen and a half," she corrected. "You must read Topic too." "I have a plan," said Amos. so high that the North Wind lives in a cave there. The second piece of the mirror is on the highest peak of. "Because she's positive her ex-husband is the kidnaper. She doesn't want to get him in any trouble; she just wants Gwendolyn back. \*1. there's a light inside him shining through his pores. hope I'm wrong, but I don't expect ...". them. On each of six envelopes he typed his office address, then covered it with one of the labels. He. A sponge, or a freshwater hydra, or a flatworm, or a starfish can, any of them, be torn into parts and. 273. McKillian tapped her teeth thoughtfully with the tip of a finger. readers) of mainstream as well as science fiction. He wrote six fine stories for F&SF in the 1960s. Guilt and her pain tore at me. I chased through my head for something to comfort her. "Mandy, I?". A storm had just ended and the clouds were breaking apart. Down the block the sign of the Mariner's. I smiled and spoke some platitudes about the vast technical expertise available at the Megalo Corporation and their ability to respond quickly to any technical challenge. of your reserve energy. If your energy is depleted, your shields fail and the next Zorph attack destroys. Dramatization is another. I (like many reviewers) often stage a little play called The Adventures of Byline. Byline (or "I") is the same species of creature as the Kindly Editor or the Good Doctor, who appear from time to time in these pages. That is, she is a form of shorthand. When Byline rewrites story X, that doesn't mean that I? the real, historical personage? actually did or will or wish to rewrite story X, or that I expect its real, historical author to rewrite it to Byline's prescription, any more than my saying that "my" copy of Bug Jack Ban-on tried to punch "me" in the nose means that such an event really happened. Pauline Kael's Movie Loon is another such fiction; these little creatures we send scurrying about the page are not our real, live selves, and their exploits are dictated more by the exigencies of our form than by a desire for personal glory. "You are witnessing a demonstration of die Zorphwar Naval Bat-tie Simulation System," I said to Westland. "A valuable training aid, it is a product of the research staff of the Megalo Corporation Programming Services Department". impossible for Barry, sitting so nearby and having no one to talk to himself, to avoid eavesdropping on. never let a man touch me, but she? shell have any man who strikes her fancy, just like her mother. ". essentially neutral area. But if "politics" means the relations of power that obtain between groups of. concert tour and work their stim board, me and my console over there on the side of the stage. It isn't. television channel, had shielded the device against radio frequencies, and the ghosts remained. Increasing. The owner-manager of the court was one of those creatures peculiar to Hollywood. She must have. of our situation. If anyone is a commodity here, it's you and Ralston, by virtue of your scarcity. There will. We know his name. Patient researchers, using advanced scanning techniques, followed his letters back through the postal system and found him, but by that time he was safely dead. swamp. The first piece is at the bottom of a luminous pool in the center. But it is so grey there that the. the Detweiler boy? Except the Detweiler boy?. friendships. They were much closer to being a team. Rivalries never died out completely, but they no longer dominated the colony. Lang worked them harder than ever, making up for the lost time. back through the postal system and found him, but by that time he was safely dead. It was like a rerun. He lived a block away from where a man was mugged, knifed, and robbed in an alley on the 13th? though the details of the murder didn't seem to fit the pattern. But he was sick, had an alibi, and moved to Silver Lake. He continues to shout and I don't answer. On the stage Nagami and Hollis look at each other and at. The Organizer had the minutes of the meeting Xeroxed and distributed them among the members. I have mine before me: "Will you pipe down in there," called the jailor without opening his eyes. Thomas td. Disch. from him. But why am I the Prince of the Far Rainbow? That is exactly the question asked me a year ago. "I like shoes pretty much generally," she went on. "I guess you could say I'm a kind of shoe freak.". everything, and so all I do is just write. ". without wearing suits or carrying airberries.". 24. She had given a lot of thought to the last emergency, which she still saw as partly a result of her lag in. 130. the bed, then to her feet. She fought off the effects of the drug and stood there, eyes bleary but aware. hilarious is the coyness, the sidelong glances, smiles, grimaces hinting at things that will never be shown on. versions of a fair number of movies. particularly surprised when the argument between the bricklayer and the brickmaker resumed where it. "Cast off for the greyest and gloomiest island on the map," cried the grey man. A clone is any organism (or group of organisms) that arises out of a cell (or group of cells) by means other than sexual reproduction. Put it another way: It is an organism that is the product of asexual reproduction. Put it still another way: It is an organism with a single parent, whereas an organism that arises from sexual reproduction (except where self-fertilization is possible) has two parents. Up above the burning city, a woman wails the blues. How she cries out, how she moans. Flames fed. "Now before you play," I said, "you must understand that we did not wish it known we were working on a proposed naval system. Thus, we have pretended that we are fighting a space war of the future against the mythical race of Zorphs. The weapons you will be using will not have the standard Navy nomenclature, but you'll have no trouble recognizing what they really are. ". \*. Number five bad one door and four windows? identical to the other nine Lorraine assured me. The. "Matthew, I'd like to leave." Amanda fumbled for her cape. Most people he met

were temps, and the few Permanent License holders inclined to be friendly to him. Now, months later, I remember it and my skin again goes warm. "Get out of here," I say to the lads. "I'm trying to concentrate." They look irritated, but they leave. Crawford was the only one to look up when the lock started cycling. The two people almost tumbled over each other coming out of the lock. They wanted to do something, and quickly, but didn't know what. In the end, they just stood there silently twisting their hands and looking at the floor. One of them took off her helmet. She was a large woman, in her thirties, with red hair shorn off close to the scalp. "I do not know how to get home." The minute she saw me, Debbie's face fell. When we voted the Union hi last month, she had a fit, and there, then swept upward, absorbing the entire Project with a single glance. It dawned on me finally, as I. "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." It was a small story on page three, not very exciting or newsworthy. Last night a man named Maurice Milian, age 51, had fallen through the plate-glass doors leading onto the terrace of the high-rise where he lived. He had been discovered about midnight when the people living below him had noticed dried blood on their terrace. The only thing to connect the deaths of Harry Spinner and Maurice Milian was a lot of blood flowing around. If Milian had been murdered, there might be a link, however tenuous. But Milian's death was accidental? a dumb, stupid accident It niggled around in my brain for an hour before I gave in. There was only one way to get it out of my head. "Well," said Amos, "if you help get us to the top of the mountain, we will let you look into the. The man rose then, and Hinda marveled at the height of him, for he was as tall as the cottage door and his hands were grained like wood. "This way," she said, beckoning them into a tunnel formed from more strips of plastic. They twisted around through a random maze, going through more gates that opened when they neared them, sometimes getting on their knees when the clearance lowered. They heard the sound of children's voices. They had little trouble finding where the matthews came from. They found dozens of twenty-centimeter lumps on the sides of the large derricks. They evidently grew from them like tumors and were released when they were ripe. What they were for was another matter. As well as they could discover, the matthews simply crawled in a straight line until their power ran out. If they were wound up again, they would crawl farther. There were dozens of them lying motionless in the sand within a hundred-meter radius of the garden. "Thank you very much," said Amos and walked on till he came to another sailor whose feet were awash in soap suds. The sailor was pushing a mop back and forth so hard that Amos decided he was trying to scrub the last bit of color off the grey boards. "Good evening to you too," said Amos. "I'm exploring the ship and I have very little time since I'm to be up at four o'clock in the morning. I was told to avoid the brig. So could you point it out to me? I don't want to wander into it by accident." us. With rationing, maybe a year and a half. That's assuming all the supply capsules reach us all right. In. don't appreciate "great literature" (literature the teacher often doesn't understand or can't explain)! is one. an old wound, crusted but clean. The slash on the right was new, and from it blood still dripped. Singh looked at each of the adults and saw no trace of doubt. And he was mildly surprised to find. Here comes the second reason, then. There's an evolutionary advantage to sexual reproduction that more than makes up for all the inconveniences. \* In cloning, the genetic contents of new organisms remain identical with those of the original organisms, except for occasional mutations. If the organism is very efficiently adapted to its surroundings, this is useful, but it is an extremely conservative mechanism that reduces the chance of change. Any alteration in the environment could quickly lead to the extinction of a species. terms of pottery shards and atom bombs. products, and physical structures, all of which influence one another. Some genes are inhibited and some. In the gilded frame now was no longer then- reflection, but a rolling land of green and yellow meadows, with red and white houses, and far off a golden castle against a blue sky. a version of Fritz Leiber's Conjure Wife that I hadn't run into before. The story (of the use of magic by. "Do you think you ought to play?" "Not if you fat cats get there first," Ike said. with a six-pack, and we sat around most of the rest of the day, drinking beer and talking. He's up for. "At last it is about to happen," said the grey man. "But first, Amos, you must have your reward for the ground. She tried to scratch her head but was frustrated by her helmet. Christopher Gail had traumatically divided not only Amanda's childhood but her very psyche. Five years. "Are they valuable?" We Also Walk Dogs. Cinderella, however, considered the question from a literal standpoint. "Well," she said, "we haven't. She says, "Hurry," and cuts off. nodded. wit than the rest of Mr. Reeves' spaghetti spectaculars, containing some good film magic of its own and a. that's probably what it would have been without the corpses. But the rest of it is very similar to. Lang sat back down and patted the ground around her, ground that was covered in a multiple layer of the Martian pressure-tight web, the kind of web that would have been made only by warmblooded, oxygen-breathing, water-economy beings who needed protection for then- bodies until the full bloom of summer. of Examiners, he wondered if maybe he'd managed to squeak through. He didn't see how he could have. "Very well," said Amos a third time. "What's that supposed to mean?" The only thing about him not grey was a large black trunk beside him, high as his shoulder. Several rough. The ground between the windmills was coated in shimmering plastic. This was the second part of the plants' ingenious solution to sur- what are we talking about here? Evolution, or ... or engineering? Is it the plants themselves that did this, 52. had obviously been copied from the wardrobe of Norma Shearer. were led to the brig. "Yes?" She had a breathless voice. Her eyes quickly traveled the length of my body. That happened. explain)! is one of the ghastly facts of American education. Some defenses against this experience take the form of asserting there's no such thing as great art; some, that whatever moves one intensely is great art. Both are ways of asserting the primacy and authenticity of one's own experience, and that's fine. But whatever you (or I) like intensely isn't, just because of that, great anything, and the literary canon, although incomplete and biased, is not merely an insider's snobbish conspiracy to make outsiders feel rotten. (Although it is certainly used that way far too often.) "Hold it," Crawford said. "I just wanted to know if you had any ideas."

He was secretly pleased at the argument; it got them both thinking along the right lines, moved them from the deadly apathy they must guard against. The whole world has been at peace for more than a generation. Crime is almost unheard of. Free. He considered it. "All right, Commander Mary." She punched him playfully. She had barely known him before the disaster. He had been a name on a roster and a sore spot in the estimation of the Astronaut Corps. But she had borne him no personal malice, and now found herself beginning to like him. play at all, or they wanted to play all the time. Both kinds were a pain in the ass to face first thing in the. it yourself. ".interested in doing it yourself. The co-op teacher monitors your studies, sometimes makes suggestions, and sat down, unbelievably, by him!.never felt intimidated and ashamed of his selections at the check-out counter. He hated to cook, but was. I stood up. "I'll do that. Thank you very much." I looked at the plate-glass doors. I guess it would be pretty easy to walk through one of them if you thought it was open. "Are all the apartments alike? Those terrace doors?". "That's another way vampires are stupid. They never check the victim's blood group. The wrong blood group can kill you." that Barry conveyed without trying.. "Okay. Who called?". Meanwhile, the package stays as is. brown haunch, brown body and head. The horns shriveled and fell to the ground. Only her eyes remained the same.. "-get started easy. And then things'll get hard. Yeah??. After sixty-eight years of tussling with life, Congreve's bulldog frame still stood upright, his shoulders jutting squarely below his close-cropped head. The lines of his roughly chiseled face were still firm and solid, and his eyes twinkled good-humoredly as he surveyed the room. It seemed strange to many of those present that a man so vital, one with so much still within him, should be about to deliver his retirement address.. "And you're telling me those little spikes are what poked holes in the dome bottom? I'm not buying that." "In just a moment," said the thin grey man, "you will see a man living through the happiest moment of his life. But first I must make sure my nearest and dearest friend can see too." He went to the large black trunk, which seemed even blacker and larger, stood it on its side; then with the great iron key he opened it almost halfway so that it was opened toward the mirror. But from where Amos and Jack were, they could not see into it at all. "Terrific!" Hollis says. "You could leave an album of greatest hits. You know, for posterity. Free concerts on the grass every Sunday." There was another twisting of the facial features. Amanda, her voice rising, said, "You can't do this, Selene. You're cheating." problem on never occur again.. Twin Rivers gleamed like gold in the morning sun.. "Originality has always been my Waterloo," Barry admitted. "I just don't seem to be able to come up with my own ideas. I did have one, though, just this morning on my way here, and I was going to try and slip it in while I was taking the exam, only it never seemed quite natural. Have you ever noticed that you never see baby pigeons? All the pigeons you see out on the street are the same size-full-grown. But where do they come from? Where are the little pigeons? Are they hidden somewhere?" He stopped short, feeling ashamed of his idea. Now that it was out in the open it seemed paltry and insignificant, little better than a joke he'd learned by heart, than which there is nothing more calculated to land you in the bottom percentiles.. ahead.. The production model was ready for shipping hi September. It was a simplified version of the. Edward Bryatt. to walk in. "I have some people here. Can it possibly wait?". I picked up Janice at her apartment in Westwood early Saturday morning. She was waiting for me. his pile of blankets. Since the day of the blowout he never seemed to be warm enough.. The door starts to swing back on noiseless hinges, and a breath of cold, unbelievably cold air touches. The eggs of reptiles and birds, however, are enclosed in shells, which adds to the technical difficulty.

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