

## MARCONICS THE CLARION CALL

"You stay around and nudge some more poems out of me. I'm feeling the wind in my sails, but I need a muse. If you give me twenty good ideas for poems, I'll give you your endorsement." When Westland came charging back into my office an hour later, he found the Admiral hammering at my console keys and shouting his best Navy profanity at the Zorps who had just zapped him for fifteen-hundred energy units. Upstart she had not worried about it. Now she must decide what to do. The crowded space. The others got out of her way almost without thinking, except for Ralston who still. "That's all right. Do you feel better now?" From Competition 14: "It will be tomorrow at four o'clock in the morning," said the grey man. "So don't stay up too late." pale, blurred look in the starlight, the six completed stages blending together, the uncompleted seventh. They flew every day, they had the feel for it. They were tops. She slumped back into her chair. "I. Why do you look at me like that, señor? Is it not natural for a woman to bulge when she carries a baby in her belly?" "We won't question it," said Jack, "we'll just open it." an introduction service on the day they came in the mail. With his last gasp of self-confidence Barry. A block south of the Federal Communications Building, he looked up, and there strung out under the cornice of the building was the motto, which he had never noticed before, of the Federal Communications Agency: stand. A clerk coded the form and fed it into the computer. The computer instructed Barry to fill out. There was a man outside in the clearing. At least she thought it was a man. Yet he did not look like David (or Murray) was about twenty-five, redheaded, and freckled. He had a slim, muscular body which was also freckled. I could tell because he was wearing only a pair of jeans, cut off very short, and split up the sides to the waistband. He was barefooted and had a smudge of green paint on his nose. He had an open, friendly face and gave me a neutral smile-for-a-stranger. "Yes?" he asked. year. They seemed genuinely sorry, but he felt it had been a mistake to ask. we offer with some hesitation this tale of first contact between lowly Human and mighty Sreen. "Well, as you don't appear to be either a mugger or a rapist, there had to be some reason you. At long last the Mediator has got both sides to agree to another meeting. It's to take place tomorrow. toward my side of the stage and gives me a soft smile. And then it's back to the audience and into the. "You know," Barry burst out in a sudden access of confessional bonhomie, "I feel confused most of the time." that never seemed to be finished. So he and Lang had to learn about the new discoveries at the nightly. Amanda was still very quiet when I took the lease in to her. I offered her myself and my runabout to. He looked at me with an expression I'd never seen before, and I knew why Lorraine said he had a. Immediately he let the lid drop again, and the sailor with the iron key locked the lock on the top of. Robbie lay in his crib, a shaft of moonlight from the window bathing his tiny face. From his rosebud mouth issued a gentle snore. -Michael Bishop. It didn't surprise them too much. The Burroughs had given them: just about everything it could hit. But here luck turned against them, for no sooner had they reached the shore again when the sailors. "Um hmmm." She stretched, dug her knuckles fiercely into her eyes, and smoothed her hair back. artificial hump and stowed it in the suitcase. He closed the lid and locked it. there, but the snow and ice have frozen over it. "She hooted a single derisory hoot. "I thought you said you liked music!" yesterday. In the brig he saw immediately that there was no jailor and then that there was no prisoner. Furious, he rushed into the cell and began to tear apart the bundle of blankets in the corner. And out of the blankets rolled the jailor, bound and gagged and dressed in the colorful costume of the Prince of the Far Rainbow. For it was the jailor's clothes that Jack had worn when he had gone with Amos to the mountain. As a historian, he felt he could not let such a moment slip by unobserved. Silly, but there it was. He had to be out there, watch it with his own eyes. It didn't matter if he never lived to tell about it, he must record it. things are adapted for low pressure, no oxygen, scarce water. The later ones will be adapted to an. leash. I could almost hear the crackle of contained energy within her. I laughed. I thought you were unlucky. "They would weigh me down," said Amos, "and I could not be back for lunch. No, I need a suit of clothes that is bright and brilliant enough to keep me from losing myself in all that grey. For HI do lose myself, you will never have your mirror." stretches and bends. "Habit, I guess. I always left ... notes for Mandy." "Mine's Barry," he said. "Do you drink beer?" to do now for people with special ability and training (low though that pay necessarily is). It's true that the. will just about cover the rent, and I'm smoking Bugler instead of Winstons. And any day now, as Debbie. Mama Dolores put her hand to her mouth. "I forget? the little one, he is alone?" bedspread had been pulled askew exposing part of the clean, but dingy, sheet. All I could see of Harry. Nolan hadn't anticipated the intensity of his own reaction. But now, after the long trip back in the. Home? This corner of hell, where the drums dinned and the shadows leaped and capered before. My long coat is wrapped around the two of us, and we watch each other inches apart. "So much. angel, you'd get Andrew Detweiler in a blond wig. His body was slim and well-formed? from where I. Your clone is not you. Your clone is your twin brother (or sister) and is no more you than your ordinary identical twin would be. Your clone does not have your consciousness, and if you die, you are dead. You do not live on in your clone. Once that is understood, I suspect that much of the interest in clones will disappear. sitting and reading. She reads quite a lot, though the promotional people downplay it? Alpertron, Ltd. The King shook his fist at the blue and cloudless sky. "I knew all along that fucking Organizer was working for you!" he shouted, "He never fooled me for a second! But he wasted his time, because I'm still gonna do what I said I was gonna do, right from here!" And with that, the King unslung his bow, fitted the arrow to the bowstring and launched it into the sky. made them the darlings of the gossip columns. The doe looked at the hunter for a moment more. A single tear started in her eye, but before it had. communion between performer and audience. It received a Nebula nomination from the Science. Amos and the well-muffled sailor climbed down onto the rocks that the sun had stained red, and. 124. "Sometimes it does you good to feel gloomy." One of the pills insisted on getting stuck in his throat. Just like, he thought, a lie. In March he signed over his interest in the

company to his partner, cleaned out his lab and left He Bold. isfy their curiosity in here where we can watch them, she reasoned, than have them messing things up outside..They're probably from the Blue Orion Theatre up the street Would you like to see the show there tonight?".you."I dropped by number seven. The typewriter had been put away, but the cards and score pad were."Oh, of course. Minor poets do nothing else. They positively swarm. I'd rather be major and lonely..and opened the lock on the top of the trunk. The grey man took out his thin sword of grey steel and pried.13."The oxygen problem is about the same. Two years at the outside..I shook my head. "You've lost me. A kilo of buildings?".where you do fall down is in Notional Content and Originality. There you could do better."..Needed to understand the verse is merely the fact that, genetically, the distinction between human male and female is that every male cell has an X and a Y chromosome and that every female cell has two X chromosomes, t Therefore, if, at the moment of conception or shortly thereafter, a Y chromosome can somehow be changed to an X chromosome, a male will ipso facto be changed into a female..your jewels into the trunk with my nearest and dearest friend."..are employed here, though they don't stay long."..and clammy, and his fingers shook as they unscrewed the cap. For a moment Nolan wondered if he was.Hinda could see two slashes in the hide, one on each side, under the heart. The slash on the left was.her grey cloak and it fell about her feet..Having called for a discussion, McKillian proceeded to clam up. Song and Crawford sat on their bunks, and eventually as the silence stretched tighter, they all found themselves looking to Lang..moment he was in the cubicle and saw that Marvin Kolodny was a completely average young man of."Oh, yes," said Amos. "I know the sound. I do not like to think what he would do with a woman worthy of a prince either." Yet Amos found himself thinking of it anyway. "His lack of friendship for you certainly doesn't speak well of his friendship for his nearest and dearest."..available to you on the Executive Interactive Display Terminal in your office. After you dial into the.R Is for Spaceship, RAY BRADBURY.works. I'd seen him interviewed on some talk show where he'd worn a jumpsuit zipped to the neck..And I fill her with them. And give her back to them..Congratulations, Fleet Captain! I am pleased to transmit to the facsimile printer in your area a copy.we have a problem. That was a great game of Zorphwar we had yesterday, and I most commend yon on.think."..McKillian looked horrified, as any good ecologist would..That's what got me the job with Alpertron, Ltd., the big promotion and booking agency. I'm on the.have coped, this time, with the old fuddy-duddy he'd had last August, but a Ph.D.? It seemed as though.The usher who led him to his seat in the second ring sat down beside bun and started to tell him.There was a pause while she debated. "I guess so, but, please, come when you can."..the beans about Zorphwar. (I suspect it was J.L., covering his ass.) Friday afternoon Westland came.that evening?to catch a bus to San Diego, to visit his ailing mother. The landlord had felt sorry for him..Subject: Schedule Compliance in Programming Services Bill, Old Buddy, I think you have problems. J.L. was down this morning bitching about your performance. The PERT printout indicates you have slipped schedule on Accounting Project 8723 by two months. In addition, your usage of central computer facilities is running 42 percent over budget Remember that the Megalo Corporation is not in business for its health. Accounting is depending on Program S723 to keep track of profitability in the entire Computer Products Division..Mama Dolores took over Robbie's schedule while Nolan made his daily rounds in the fields..that you are still in charge down there and that all of this is merely some kind of poor-taste humor..We can therefore imagine that at birth, every human individual will have scrapings taken from his little."What's his first name?". "May I come in and talk to yon about him?".I was dismayed by the effect the question had on her. I forced heartiness into my voice. "Then let's drive back to the office and sign. Yon can move in today."..thousand more went to Europe, South and Central America, and the Middle East..energy has made the world rich, but the population is stable, even though early detection has wiped out."Damn it, leave me alone!".The ship came down with an impressive show of flame and billowing sand, three kilometers from.bodge from its original offer of a flat five-percent raise and that he, as our representative, had informed them they could shove it and that despite the Mediator's pleas both sides had walked out."Still, it got you picked for this mission out of hundreds of applicants. The thinking was that you'd be a wild card, a man of action with proven survivability. Maybe it worked out. But the other thing I remember on your card was that you're not a leader. No, that you're a loner who'll cooperate with a group and be no discipline problem, but you work better alone. Want to strike out on your own?".Nolan blinked as he recognized her standing there and staring up at him. There was no mistaking the look on her face or its urgency, but he had no time to waste hi words. Brushing past her, he hastened to the doorway and she melted back into the night..Nothing was trouble which guaranteed me the chance to see her twice a day. When I met Selene on.wheelhouse. Minutes later he was back with a bright costume: the sleeves were green silk with blue and.about a department store in Japan.."Glowing behind those rocks," cried Amos..80.thanks again!".He stayed all the day with her and taught her words she had never known. He drew pictures in the.The background music changed from Vivaldi's Four Seasons to a Sondheim medley, and all the.Grand Vizier, the man who holds the arcane knowledge and advises the regent. I think I'll have to watch.XI."We know that," McKillian said. She was tired and sick from the sight of the faces of her dead friends. "What's the use of all this talk?".And echoing back they heard: . . must be in the cave of . . . in the cave of. . . cave of. .my window last night," he said. The wings were pale blue, with brown bands on the edges, and the."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..It took about ten minutes. The thing raised its mouth and crawled

over beside the boy's face. It sat on. "What sort of help does he need?" asked Amos. "A doctor?" of localized bluish-purple over the canyon rim, and he was surrounded by footlights. Day had come, the trained toward the east. He knew he had to be watchful. Yesterday he had missed it entirely, snatched. talk to Commander Lang. Have her come up." The voice of Mission Commander Weinstein was. When I first met her, I thought that Stella was the coldest person I'd ever encountered. And in Des

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