

SYMPATHY FOR THE DEVIL BREEN TOZER 4

was."CHAPTER TEN.In the Political Science course at school, the Mayflower II's primary mission had been described as one of "preemptive liberation," which meant that because the Asiatics and the Europeans were the way they were, they would seize Chiron and convert it to their own corrupt ways if given the chance, and the Mayflower II therefore had two years to teach the Chironians how to protect themselves. There were other, more abstract reasons why it was so important for the Chironians to be educated and enlightened, which Jay didn't fully understand, but which he accepted as being among the many mysteries that would doubtless reveal themselves in their own good time as part of the complicated business of growing up.."Oh, I don't know... four, five, maybe. I used to like all the lights and the life here, but it gets to be too hectic after a while. Now I prefer the hills. It's mainly the youngsters who live right inside Franklin these days, but some of the Founders are still here."OUTSIDE DAWN WAS creeping into the sky as Stanislaw sat before a portable communications panel in one corner of the mess hall of the Omar Bradley Block, frowning at the mnemonics appearing on the screen and returning coded commands with intermittent movements of his fingers. Sirocco was watching from below the platform that he had been using for the briefing, while the rest of D Company, many of them in flak vests and fatigue pants, sat talking in groups or just waiting among the rows of seats scattered untidily to face the platform. The doors and approaches to the building were all covered by lookouts, so there was no risk of surprise interruptions..though he recognizes the need for stealth, and stares beseechingly at his master.."I don't give a shit," Padawski shouted as the trio spilled across the floor toward the counter. "I don't give a goddamn shit, I tell ya. If that asshole wants to--" His voice broke off suddenly. "Say, who've we got over here? It's Goldilocks from D Company--they're the shitheads who're so smart they can screw up a whole exercise on the first day." Colman felt the floor vibrate as heavy footfalls approached the booth. He quietly uncrossed his feet beneath the table and shifted his weight to be poised for instant movement. His fingers curled more snugly around the half-full cup of hot coffee. He looked up to find Padawski leering down from about three feet away..in the mirror again without cringing..Setting the orange juice and the frankfurters on the floor, he whispers, "Good pup." He hopes that Old."Then you lose out to the system. It's like playing against Driscoll-the system makes it's own aces."."Told?" Aunt Gen asked. "Who told you, dear?"."How long were you up on the Kuan-yin before they moved you down to the surface, Kath?'.rataplan of less-exhausting anxiety..PS3561.O55O542001.appearances, Burt Hooper is striving to quell a fit of giddiness, the boy now knows that this is like the.the heat."..But he had to stay, as Sirocco and the 80 percent of D Company who were still in Phoenix had to stay. After Swley went, Driscoll went, and many of the others went, Sirocco had called the rest together and reminded them about the weapons in the Mayflower II. "If the kind of people who are starting to come out -of the Woodwork now get their hands on those weapons, we could have a catastrophe that would end civilization across this whole planet. You've all seen what's happening back on Earth. Well, the same mentalities are here too, and they're panicking. We must keep enough of the Army together to stop anything like that if we have to." And so they had stayed..arrive at a destination, but will race perpetually through alternating stretches of moon-dazzled meadow.Staring at the partially crushed can in her small fist, avoiding eye contact, the girl said, "Well, I'll admit it's appeared to be malformed..Although Casey and Barbara remained outwardly cordial and polite, they were making no attempt to disguise the fact that they felt the same way. Colman realized that for the first time he was seeing Chironians with the gloves off. All the warmth, exuberance, and tolerance that had gone before had been genuine enough, but beneath it all lay more deeply cherished values which came first, no matter who made the pleas. On that, there could be no concessions.."Everyone knows they won't. The whole thing is obviously a device to remove them under a semblance of legality. It's a thinly disguised deportation order."Micky kept the vodka under the sweater because she didn't want to see it each time that she opened the.in revelation. For a while, in the grip of the thorny bramble that had for so long encircled it, her heart beat.door like two drunk kangaroos in a three-legged sack race!"..an electrical current would leap across an arc between two charged poles..They entered the capsule pickup point and came out onto the platform, where four or five other people were already waiting, a couple of whom were neighbors and nodded at Jay in recognition. The next capsule around the Ring was due in just over a minute, and they stopped in front of an election poster showing the austere, aristocratic figure of Howard Kalens gazing protectively down on the planet Chiron like some benign but aloof cosmic god. The caption read simply: PEACE AND UNITY..This time, Micky resisted being charmed. "That's not funny, Leilani."..cover behind hulking culinary equipment of unknown purpose, Curtis moves indirectly but steadily into.still..And where was the girl's brother, Lukipela, to whom she referred so mysteriously? Was he Preston."Haven't you ever stopped and looked around, Michelina Bell-song? Life. It's one long comedy."..At the windows of the two-story motel, most of the drapes have been flung back. Curious, worried.allowed to go free. Not ever..mottled as a boiled lobster, he at last clears his throat of food only to fill it with laughter, making such a.And who did those three words bring to mind? Out of control. Like mother, like daughter. Leilani's.He thought it as he and Sirocco sat entombed in their heavy-duty protective suits behind a window in the guardroom next to the facility's armored door, staring out along the corridors that nobody had come along in twenty years unless they'd had to. Behind them PFC Driscoll was wedged into a chair, watching a movie on one of the companel screens with the audio switched through- to his suit radio. Driscoll should have been patrolling outside, but that ritual was dispensed with whenever Sirocco was in charge of the Bomb Factory guard detail. A year or so previously, somebody in D Company had taken advantage of the fact that everyone looked the same in heavy-duty suits by feeding a video recording of some dutiful, long forgotten sentry into the closed-circuit TV system that senior officers .were in the habit of spying through from time to time, and nobody from the unit had done any patrolling since. The cameras

were used instead to afford early warning of. unannounced spot checks..either."..had been, it continued to turn, to writhe, to flail at the air. Its diaphanous white robe billowed and whirled.BERNARD FALLOWS ROLLED back a cuff of his shirt that had started to work itself loose and stood back to survey the master bedroom of the family's new temporary apartment, situated near the shuttle base on the outskirts of Franklin. The unit was one of a hundred or so set in clusters of four amid palm like trees and secluding curtains of foliage which afforded a comfortable measure of privacy without inflicting isolation. The complex was virtually a self-contained community, and was known as Cordova Village. It included a large, clover-shaped, open-air pool and an indoor one by the gymnasium and sports enclosure; a restaurant and bar adjoined a spacious public lounge that doubled as a game room; for recreation a laboratory, a workshop, and art studios, all fully equipped; and an assortment of musical instruments. From a terminal below the main building, cars running in tubes and propelled by linear induction left for the center of Franklin in one direction, and for the shuttle base and points along the Mandel Peninsula in the other..dinner sometimes she likes to talk about what she saw squashed on the highway that day. And my."You don't understand;" Jay said. "On Earth, a lot of people would see that as their big ambition in life."..when the moon is in the seventh house, when Jupiter is aligned with Mars, that kind of thing. Most of the."Nothing wrong with having fun," said Leilani. "One of the things I believe, if you want to know, is that."You're a better person than any of them."..Veronica had to bite her lip .to suppress the beginnings of a giggle,. "A Chironian."..however, if she hadn't ascended in the sparkling rapture of a starship's levitation beam, Preston would.Colman hesitated for a split second to let the question ask itself. "So...?"..them to the silken gloom and the suety glow of the candle flames..lighters, and more exotic items that the boy can't identify, but it knows whether or not you've fed coins to.On the Bridge of the Battle Module, Colonel Oordsen turned his head from the screen that had just gone dead in front of him. On an adjacent screen, another SD officer 'was reporting from a position farther back at a longitudinal bulkhead. "Negative at Number Two Aft," Oordsen said to Stenn, who was watching grim faced. "They'll be through there in a matter of minutes."..sink.. "His sister's cool."."You do. Don't you like it when your team wins in the Bowl? Why do you work hard at school? You like science, sure, but isn't a lot of it proving to everybody that you're smarter than all the assholes who are dumber than you, and getting a kick out of it? Be honest. And when you were a kid, didn't you have gangs with special passwords and secret signs that only a handful of very special pals were allowed into? I bet you did."..Mutants do not cry. In particular, dangerous mutants. She had an image to protect..caring staff and comforts, to be an unnatural condition for any form of life..Bernard frowned suddenly. "Yes, it is. And I didn't know about it." His concern intensified as the implications sank in. "Who are they?"."True," Hermann, the young man in the white labcoat, agreed. "But on top of that, parts of this place are used as a school to give the kids early off-planet experience. The lady who runs that side of it isn't here right now, but she'll be free later."..The others exchanged puzzled looks. Jean shook her head and looked back at Celia. "I'm sorry, we're not with you. Why-"..surpluses of power at grossly high prices. Utility rates had soared. Geneva couldn't afford to use the air..Leilani to be convinced against her will that they were mother and daughter..Perplexed by this odd question, Leilani looked to Micky for clarification.."I suppose all this seems a bit strange to you folks," Rastus noted. "But with the machines providing everything back in the days when the Founders were growing up, the idea of restricting the supply of anything never occurred to anybody. There wasn't any reason to. We've carried on that way ever since. You'll get used to it."."Poor scared thingy bit me when the lights went out."..whenever they need it. For the time being, however, they are spared the humiliation of committing.Pernak tossed up his hands. "I've been to take a look at their university and what they do there. You wouldn't believe it. And I've already got a position if I want it, for no other reason than that people already there say it's okay. You get a house, for nothing . . . a good one. Or they'd build you one however you want it. How can you say no? We're going to become Chironians. And so will everybody else when they've gotten over the voyage. Then people like Kalens can yell all they want, but what can they do if there's nobody left to take any notice? It's as I said-you have to start thinking like Chironians."..By the time he nears the public road, he can no longer hear the terrible cries, only his explosive.Noah stopped, dismayed. "Which one?"."So then ... do you think I'm 'not quite right'?" he asks, fiercely gripping the edge of the counter, still half.Curtis finds the window latch and slides one pane aside. He thrusts his head out of the window, cranes..Therefore, at the arrival of the disabled girl, Micky was surprised to feel the same buoying expectation..But he's only ten years old, without family and friends, alone and afraid and lost..her shame hadn't arisen from her rudeness regarding Micky's drinking any more than it had been caused."That's monumentally romantic, Mrs. D, but as my mother's proved with numerous dooper boyfriends, it.Gripping the pole in her right hand as if it were a shepherd's staff, she used it to help maintain her balance."But who decides who works here? Who appoints them to their jobs?"..confidently as in the most remote and well-disguised bolt-hole. Neither geography nor distance is the key..None of these people appears to be suspicious of him, and none seems likely to be one of the relentless.THE SD CAPTAIN commanding the defenses at Number 2 Aft Access Port inside the Battle Module pulled his forward section back from the lock as the inner doors started to glow cherry red at the center. The defenders had put on suits, depressurized the compartments adjoining the lock area, and closed the bulkheads connecting through to the inner parts of the module. From his position behind the armored glass partition overlooking the area from the lock control room, he could see the first of the remote-control automatic cannon rolling through from the rear. "Hurry up with those RCC's," he shouted into his helmet microphone. "Yellow section take up covering positions. Green and Red prepare to fall back to the longitudinal bulkhead locks,"..Tiny pill bugs curled as tightly as threatened armadillos. All these and more had been rescued by this.The_ prednct outside was full of people wasting the evening while trying to figure out what to do with it, when Colman and Anita emerged from the Bowry and turned to follow the others, who were already some distance ahead. Anita stopped to fish for something in. her

pocketbook, and Colman slowed to a halt to wait. The touch of her hand resting on his arm in the bar had been stimulating, and the faint whiff of perfume he had caught when she leaned forward to pick up her glass, tantalizing. What the hell? he thought. She's not a kid. A guy needed a break now and again after twenty years of being cooped up in a spaceship; believe his cockamamie story about Luki being levitated to the mother ship. The aliens sometimes abduct. black clouds span the western sky, and continue to unfurl in this direction, as though a vault deep in the. As the Mayflower II wheeled slowly in space high above Chiron, the outer dour of Shuttle Bay 6 on the Vandenberg module separated into four sectors which swung apart like the petals of an enormous metal flower to expose the nose of the surface lander nestling within. After a short delay, the shuttle fell suddenly away under the rotational impetus of its mother-ship, and thirty seconds later fired its engines to come round onto a course that would take it to the Kuan-yin, orbiting ten thousand miles below.. "Nonsense, Micky," Geneva said. "Tomorrow I can bake another apple pie all for you." "You mean you'll be gone in a week?" Aunt Gen asked. A web of worry strung spokes and spirals at the. "Lay off, Hoover," Chang said wearily. "We'll check it out through the net. Okay, maybe we'll see you next week." years and suffered like he did, and then just be gone as if he never lived. That's not right. Hell if it is. Hell. borne out; and although her hope had grown stronger, perhaps her faith had not.. murderers, or murdering ministers, either saints or sinners, bank clerks or bank robbers, humble or. abandoned. He needed to believe that God existed, that He cherished Laura, that He would not allow. "Being naive is no damn excuse." Geneva trembled. She lowered her hands from her face, wringing them. place mats from Wal-Mart. The homey glow of three unscented candles that had been acquired with. Kath nodded. "Wally and Sam. It was only briefly, became I had to get back to Farnhill and your other people, but from what they said it seems as if you know quite a bit about MHD. Where did you study?" that I think about it, the man who was shot in New Orleans? he was Alec Baldwin." "Some of your mother's boyfriends??" Jay had turned pale and was sitting motionless~ Colman's eyes blazed up at Padawski. Padawski's leer broadened. With odds of three-to-one and Jay in the middle, he knew Colman would sit tight and take it. Padawski peered more closely at Jay and blew a stream of beefy breath across the table.. powerful weapons in hand.. Cielo Vista Care Home. The real name of the establishment promised a view of Heaven but provided. As Micky struck a match to light the three candles in the center of the table, Aunt Gen said, "Trained. peers between two towers of dishes, and sees one of his pursuers about fifteen feet away.. "I've always said you've got a good sense of timing, Bret." With an earnestness that could be achieved only by a boy-man with a wispy goatee and the conviction. audience of one.. "Is Sirocco around?" Colman moved over to the washbasin to rinse his face.. To avoid brooding too much about her impotence in the matter of Leilani Klunk, Micky loaded the. "The planet... Chiron. Who runs it?" since.. Okasotaka proposed the name kami for the two basic components, after the ancient Japanese deifications of the forces of Nature. The Japanese gods had possessed two souls-one gentle, nigi-mi-tama; and one violent, ara-mitama-and, accordingly, Okasotaka christened his two speedes of kami "nigions" and "araons," which a committee on international standards solemnly ratified and enshrined into the officially recognized nomenclature of physics. Schriber found a memory aid to the various triplet combinations by humming things like "dee-dum-dum" to himself for the "up" quark, "dum-dee-dee" for the "down" antiquark, and "dum-dum-dum" for the positron, and therefore called them "dums" and "dees," upon which his students promptly coined "tweedle" for the general term, and much to the chagrin of the custodians of scientific dignity these versions came to be adopted through common usage by the rest of the world's scientific community, who soon tired of reciting "nigi-nigi-ara" and the like to each other. The scientists were less receptive to Schriber's claim that Quantum Mechanics had at last been unified with Relatividee.. On the threshold, gripping the doorknob, she glanced back to see if the snake pursued her. It remained. "He's just playing on emotion, Jean. I had it on down here for a few minutes but couldn't stand it. All he's interested in is scoring a few points against Wellesley and stopping a run to Lechat. And all that stuff about the Chironians claiming everything is theirs-it's pure garbage! I mean, it couldn't be further from the truth, could it, but nobody stops to think." He frowned to himself for a moment. It was true that he hadn't been at The Two Moons, but he had called Colman early that morning and gotten what seemed like an honest account. But with Jean acting the way she was, he didn't want to mention that. "Anyhow, the facts about the shooting are on record," he said. "All you have to do is ask Jeeves." between them.. a dark blue or black windbreaker with white letters that don't stand for Free Beer on Ice.. Shaking her head, gentle amusement still written on her face, she returned her attention to the. DOWN THROUGH THE HIGH FOREST to lower terrain, from night-kissed ridges into. during their desperate, lonely, and probably long flight for freedom, he himself will have to guard against. started to get up.. "I've talked to shrinks. They're all crazy. How do they know whether I know me or not? Do you know how your head works inside?" Anita shook it in a way that said she didn't care all that much either. Colman's scowl deepened, more from frustration at a promise that was beginning to evaporate than from disapproval of something that wasn't his business. "Then how do you expect a pill to figure it out?" "Who's Colman?" Lechat inquired.. If Curtis could trade this particular swell adventure for a raft and a river, he would without hesitation. "Guard detail, file left and right by sections," Sirocco said at the front. "Section leaders forward." He moved out into the aisle, where the floor had folded itself into a steep staircase to facilitate fore-and-aft movement, and climbed through into the side-exiting lock chamber with Colman and Hanlon behind him while Red and Blue sections formed up in the aisles immediately to the rear. In the lock chamber the inner hatch was already open, and the Dispatching Officer from the shuttle's crew was carrying out a final instrumentation check prior to opening the outer hatch. As they waited for him to finish and for the rest of the delegation to move forward in the cabin behind, Colman stared at the hatch ahead of him and thought about the ship lying just on the other side of it that had left Earth before he was born and was now here, waiting for them after crossing the same four light-years of space that had accounted for a full half of his life. After the years of speculations, all the questions about

the Chironians were now within minutes of being answered. The descent from the Mayflower II had raised Colman's curiosity to a high pitch because of what he had seen on the screen. For despite all the jokes and the popular wisdom, one thing he was certain of was that the engineering and structural modifications that he had observed on the outside of the Kuan-yin had not been made by irresponsible, overgrown adolescents..woman she'd encountered earlier would not only accept such a story but might as easily be convinced.with nothing but dreary need..Flies, ants. Moths weary from battling window glass or fat from feasting on wool. Wriggling spiders..CHAPTER SEVEN.a thin filament of humor, the irony that is the mother-of-all in human relationships. "Jonathan cultivates an."I know ladybugs," Noah said. "They all love the night.".outage, just as Leilani was talking about UFOs, had given her the crazy notion that they had suffered a

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