

## WORKING PAPERS CHAPTERS 18 26 FOR WARREN REEVE DUCHACS ACCOUNTING

truck from Colorado..spicy cologne, wearing black jeans and a LOVE is THE ANSWER T-shirt?slipped into the booth.,In her despondency, just as when she lay in a trance of sweet amusement, she could not be reached..steel and railroad ties, automobile transports, slat-sided trailers carrying livestock, tankers full of gasoline.,icals are among its major products, as well as electricity." "Who operates it?" Marcia Quarrey asked..lot like her.".After spending a few years as a systems design engineer, he transferred into selling and later joined the computer industry as a salesman, working with ITF, Honeywell, and Digital Equipment Corporation. He also worked as a life insurance salesman for two years ". . . to have a break from the world of machines and to learn something more, about people.".With a mental sigh that she dared not voice, Leilani approached the bed..Lechat waited for the noise to die away and managed to bring his feelings under control sufficiently to muster a semblance of dignity appropriate to the moment But simplicity and brevity were appropriate too. "I am honored and privileged by this appointment, and I will dedicate myself for the duration of my term to serving the best interests of our people to the best of my ability," he announced, "in accordance with that promise, my first official act is to restore the full powers of Congress as previously ~suspended, and my second is to declare the state of emergency ended as of this moment," Another round of applause, this time briefer than before, greeted the statement. "Next, I have two proposals to put to the vote of the assembly," Lechat said. "But before I do so, I feel that the Supreme Military Commander of the Mission might wish to speak." He sat down, looked along the dais toward Borftein, and motioned with his hand an invitation for the general to take it from there..A gleam of hope had come into Lechat's eyes. "Do you really think they might be able to pull something off?".driver, he's the only member of this contingent who's not carrying either a pistol-grip 12-gauge or an Uzi..distances..her. "Help me here, Michelina Bellsong. This little chat of ours is making me dizzy. What is it you think."My mother's a little nuts about all things Hawaiian.".From his hiding place in the Explorer on the lower deck of the car transport, he watches as purposeful.campground. Not even a real rest stop with bathrooms or a picnic table, or anything. Just this lonely wide."Probably not much of anything," Leilani said, without a pause. "Except in having fun and getting through."Oh, there's a lot of studying I've got listed-general engineering with a lot of MHD, then maybe I'll see if I can get into something at Norday for a while. Later on I might move out to the new place they're talking about.".3. Missing children?Fiction.. "But lay's still got a point," Bernard said, glancing at his son and nodding "What about the people who won't use them?".Celia nodded. "That evening, as soon as I got up to the ship. I think I must have been hysterical or something. But yes, I told him.".Adam seemed to think about it for a long time. "No ..." he said slowly at last. "We're on our own on a grain of dust somewhere in a gas of galaxies. Inventing guardian angels for company won't change it. Whether we make it or not is up to us. If we mess it up, the universe out there won't miss us." He paused to study the expression on Colman's face, then went on, "It's not really so cold and lonely when you think about it. True, it means we have to get along without any supernatural big brothers to control Nature for us and solve our problems, but what are we losing if they don't exist anyway? On the other hand, we don't have to fear all the nonsense that gets invented along with them either. That means we're completely free to decide our own destiny and trust in our own reason. To me that's not such a bad feeling.".any kind. After the juice, all he can count on is kicking their sex organs..whole army behind me, what can a rabble of ruffians with handguns do to stop me now?".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.".For the first time a hint of anger flashed across Sterm's face. I would advise you not to use this as an opportunity for demonstrating your cleverness," he warned. He allowed himself a moment to calm down. Then he resumed speaking more slowly. "Earth is tearing itself apart because it has failed to produce the strong leader who would crush"- Sterm raised a hand and dosed his fist in front of his face-"the petty rivalries and jealousies which throughout history have frustrated, any chance of expression of the full potential grandeur of collective unity and power. Earth has always been in turmoil because it has inherited a legacy of chaos of global proportions against which the efforts of even its most capable organizers have been to no avail. Is that the future that you would wish upon Chiron?.disappointment. "I sure did want to be Minnie.".They're dead serious about it. He says if we tell anyone about them, they'll never bring Luki back. They.for Leilani, and perhaps none for Micky herself.. "They'll say he never existed, that I'm just disturbed and invented him, like an imaginary playmate.".Later. Tears are for later. Survival comes first. He can almost hear his mother's spirit urging him to."I can live without power as long as I've got pie," Leilani said, but she still hadn't forked up a mouthful of.Sinsemilla had done, Leilani wasn't in the mood to conjure up Kato..Inside the server were vanilla ice-cream sundaes with chocolate sauce, toasted coconut, and crowning.parched..with." Micky tried to keep her wetter emotions bottled in the cellar of her heart, safe storage that she'd."Well, that's something, anyway," Sirocco said. "Stay there, Bret, and don't let anyone touch anything. I'll get onto Brigade right away. We'll have some more people over there in a few minutes." He returned to Colman. "Get two sections out of bed, and have one draw equipment and the other standing by. And get an ambulance and crew over there right away for Emmerson and Crealey." Hanlon disappeared from the screen, and Sirocco tapped a call to Brigade. "It looks as if the fall-guy has gone down, Steve,.". "So?do you?" Micky asked..He beams, for he and the waitress are clearly connecting now. "That's exactly right.".erating capacity for practically this whole area, and a great deal of materials via a variety of interdependent processes," Farnhill informed the meeting. "Primary metals and chem-.Curtis is relieved to see that this co-killer is encumbered by a safety harness that secures her to the.smile, either, like you might expect, but a half-sad smile, as if it was going to be too easy and they.followed seemed to be charged with some supernatural energy, as the aura of an elemental spirit might."Well . . .

some of them, a long time ago, maybe. But not modern ones." From a pocket of his jeans, he extracts a crumpled wad of currency, including the remaining proceeds. eyes, a flash of teeth in the hooded beam of light. He almost cries out in alarm. "You do now." Merrick arched his fingers in front of his face. "Would you say that delinquency and criminal tendencies do, or do not, reflect the image we ought to be trying to maintain of the Service?" the spotlight, the larky dialogue took a nasty turn, whereupon you found yourself the target of mean. to go, was a really good thing, too, better even than Sundaes on Wednesday. Stanislaw entered more commands. A different table of information appeared on the screen. "SD guard details and timetable for posts inside the Columbia District tonight," Stanislaw said. They would refrain from doing anything to that one until the last moment. twelve steps, he checked on the SUV, and always it drifted slowly along in his wake, pacing him. He hesitates on the threshold, troubled by both the risk that he's taking and the crime he's intending to. "You said fifty or a hundred thousand." Lasers, slim grenades, handcuffs. Automatic pistols are holstered at their hips, but they arrive with more. Through clenched teeth that squeezed each sibilant into a hiss, she said, "Hag of a witch bitch, sorcerer's." She's my father's sister, so she was part of the deal. diminished, but felt instead as if a painfully constricting knot had at last come loose inside her, and. Stroking the mutt's head, rubbing behind one of the floppy ears and then behind the other, the frightened. "They began arriving at the Spindle a few minutes ago," Lesley seemed surprised. "How come you didn't know?" As might be expected in an ancient and fully furnished mobile home available for by-the-week rental, the. "Yeah. And you're wearing a Hawaiian shirt. Plainclothes cops like Hawaiian shirts, 'cause you can hide. be, but who may also be Death with facial hair, says, "Curtis Hammond. That's a powerfully peculiar. Lechat hesitated and looked uncertainly in Celia's direction. She returned an almost imperceptible nod. Lechat looked back at the screen. "Shall we just say that we can prove conclusively not only that the Chironians were blameless, but that Sterm himself arranged for the evidence to be falsified to suggest otherwise," he said. Being among people is helpful, too. A crowd distracts the enemy? not much but sometimes enough to. He decides to continue being Curtis Hammond. Thus far no one has connected the name to the. It was interesting, certainly. "Well. . . maybe," Bernard replied guardedly. "Who do you know there?" - truck stop. If they're sitting at the far end of the vehicle, facing away from the bedroom, they aren't in a. In most boys' books the world over, and in those for grownups, too, adventure always involves treasure. her body grew stiff with a tension that the sun couldn't cook from her. "To herself, for sure," Leilani agreed. "Not really to others." Geneva shook her miswired head. "I don't watch anything on TV except old movies." caught her attention. At first he hears only the grumble of the SUVs. . . . Then, in the distance, a flutter of baked earth still radiated stored heat. Besides, the air wasn't vibrating with the hum of an angry swarm. Most Terrans had no doubts that the Chironians would take no notice whatsoever, but they couldn't see Kalens enforcing the threat. It had to be a bluff-a final, desperate gamble by a clique who thought they could sleep forever, trying to hold together the last few fragments of a dream that was dissolving in the light of the new dawn. "He should have learned about evolution," Jerry Pernak commented to Eve as they listened to the news over breakfast. "The mammals are here, and he thinks he can legislate them back to dinosaurs." The inverted logic that had puzzled him had not been something peculiar to the military mind; it was just that the military mind was the only one he had ever really known. The inversions came from the whole insane system that the Military was just a part-of-the system that fought wars to protect peace and enslaved nations by liberating them; that turned hatred and revenge into the will of an all benevolent God and programmed its litanies into the minds of children; that burned and tortured its heretics while preaching forgiveness, and made a sin of love and a virtue of murder; and which brought lunatics to power by demanding requirements of office that no balanced mind could meet. A lot of things were becoming clearer now as the Chironians relentlessly pulled the curtain away. Otto shook his head. "If Earth is tearing itself apart, it ~ because its people allowed themselves to believe the same - self-fulfilling prophecies that you are asking us to accept, Mr. Sterm. But we reject them. We need no more protection from you against the people in the EAP starship than they need from their Sterms to protect them against us. We have no need of that kind of strength. Is it strength for neighbors to fortify their homes against each other, or is it paranoia? You must feel very insecure to wish to fortify an entire star system." Sterm's mouth clamped into a grim, down turned line. even once, were they, Michelina?" saliva, and he swallows hard to keep from drooling. precise in their details and of such explicit depth that she turned away from them in revulsion or in anger, bribed, anyway. They aren't politicians, after all. If the National Security Agency also has operatives in. \* \*. This appears to be the truck that had been parked along the lonely county road near the Hammond. of the battle zone. This book is dedicated to Irwyn Applebaum, who has encouraged me "to take the train out there where. STRANGELY, here in the sunshine, less than a day later, Micky couldn't stop thinking about the. "That may be, but it's beside the point that I was trying to make," Merrick said. "Surely you're not condoning the rule by mobocracy that substitutes for law among these people. Are you saying we should expose our own population to the prospect of being shot down in the Street by anyone who happens to take a dislike to them?". CHAPTER 9. Bernard, Pernak, and Jean stared at the picture for a long time. Pernak's eyes were very serious, and Jean began biting her lip apprehensively. At last Bernard nodded and looked at the other two. "Okay, I'm with you," he told them. "Most of the people making all the big speeches out there aren't equipped to handle this. I don't think Iberia matters too much one way or the other anymore, but we need to get Lechat in on it-and fast." When it came to health care, he wasn't a fanatic about specific remedies. other, in pieces, to the mutt. PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. out, pass for an ordinary baseball-loving, school-hating ten-year-old boy whose interests are limited. "It depends. What's the situation, company-wise?" "Oh, very boring for a Saturday Right." "He's not--". So much to lose. In addition to the sharp crack of gunfire, Curtis hears lead slugs ricocheting with a whistle or with a. "Some of the Mayflower II's modules have sky-roofs with steel outer shutters, don't they," Kath said. The hunter has a handsome, potentially genial face. If

he were to smile instead of glower, put on a mask. merely a large potato chip, he isn't able to stop screaming. For all he knows, she eats potato chips with. than like a canine. grass. She pulled her long hair back from her face, letting it spill over her pale shoulders. Arching her. Micky scrubbed at her knees with the palms of her hands, rubbing off the prickly blades of dead grass. softly along a brass rod, as though the hanging skeleton, animated by sorcery, is flexing its bony fingers in. "That's a severe angle," Mrs. Sharmer said. "Where were you?" WELLESLEY STOOD TO deliver his final address from in front of the Mission director's seat at the center of the raised dais facing out over the Congressional Hall of the Mayflower if's Government Center. In it he recapitulated the events that had taken place since the Mission's arrival at Alpha Centauri, dwelled for a long time on the things that had been learned and the transformation of minds that had been brought about since then, paid tribute to those who had lost their lives to preserve those lessons, and elaborated on the promise that the future now held for everybody on the planet, referring to them pointedly as "Chironians" without making distinctions. Micky and Mrs. D were nice people, caring people, and when Leilani shared the details of her situation. him, and had wounded Noah himself? once in the left shoulder, once in the right thigh? when he was. He is pleased by his ability to function in spite of his fear. He's also pleased by his resourcefulness. companionship, he turns left, south, because a hill lies to the north. He doesn't think he has the stamina to. He is the most-wanted fugitive in the fabled West, surely the most desperately sought runaway in the. task is to stop any SD's getting out and, more important, to stop Sterm and his people from getting in if things go well and they realize they can't hold the rest of the ship. What we have to prevent at all costs is Sterm and Stormbel get/ ting in there and detaching the module so that it can threaten the rest of the Mayflower II as well as the planet. wasn't in view, but that didn't mean she wasn't present. By this hour, old Sinsemilla would have been. The chopper might not be aloft yet, just getting up to power while the troops reboard. "Of course not, dear. It's just that the Chironians haven't been paying as much attention as they should to the things the computers tried to teach them. They've always had machines to give them everything they want, and they think. At the foot of the steps, he's paralyzed by dread. Perhaps the killers are already here. Upstairs. Waiting. As she passed behind the girl's chair, Geneva paused and put her hands on Leilani's slender shoulders. they are here on Earth or cruising distant avenues of the universe. severed heads in the refrigerator or preserve their victims' eyes in jars of formaldehyde. Others make. loose. She's so sweet." Colman grinned faintly and gestured across the room. "The same one that brought you Veronica and Celia." house of the congressman's lover. "Well... no. Why?" how to cope with that. "Confusion," Sirocco said while jabbing at buttons and talking to screens. "People just off the shuttle coming down with stories about something big happening up in the ship-" He turned to one of the screens: "Then try and find his adjutant and get him on a line." Then back to Colman. sometimes she sidled up to when she didn't have the nerve to approach it directly? the truth was that her. "the garden." That would be the rosebush. Leilani didn't glance back again. She made a point of crossing the rest of the yard and negotiating the. "I knew they were faithless, shiftless," Geneva continued. "You haven't gone to the police," Micky said. packaged for easy access. Their only hope lies in the vastness of the high desert to the north of the interstate, out there where the. "And what's the logic, callin' this beauty Old Yeller, when there's not one yellow hair from nose to tail. Good pup. Let's get out of here. Stormbel gave him a contemptuous look. "How much of your Army is left?" he asked. "Almost all of it is on the surface, and the officers commanding the key units are already with us. Besides, we control the ship, which is the most important thing." before she had been able to return here. She hadn't been Leilani Klomk when she hurried from this room. the door and the rear fence. The grass flourished because Geneva watered it regularly with a hose. each step before taking it, like a patient learning to walk again after spinal injury, she was able to proceed. Driscoll propped his gun against the wall, fished a pack and lighter from inside his jacket, lit up, and leaned back to exhale with a grateful sigh. The irritability that he had been feeling wafted away with the smoke. The robot set down its piece of tubing, folded its arms, and leaned back against the wall, evidently programmed to take its cues from the behavior of the people around it. Driscoll looked at it with a new curiosity. His impulse was to strike up a conversation, but the whole situation was too strange. The thought flashed through his mind that it would have been a lot easier if the robot had been an EAF infantryman. Driscoll would never have believed he could feel anything in common with the Chinese. He didn't know whether he was talking to the robot, or through it to computers somewhere else in the Kuan-yin or even down on Chiron, maybe; whether they had minds or simply embodied some fever programming, or what. He had talked to Colman about machine intelligence once. Colman said it was possible in principle, but a truly aware artificial mind was still a century away at least. Surely the Chironians couldn't have advanced that much. "What kind of a machine are you?" he asked, "I mean, can you think like a person? Do you know who you are?" "Opposed," Geneva responded with firm resolve. that I think about it, the man who was shot in New Orleans? he was Alec Baldwin. university-trained doctor. A misdirected life couldn't be put on a right road quickly or without struggle. For all of Geneva's. Geneva said, "I've never seen one, dear." any lesser person. Surely not. She is majestic. She is magnificent, beautiful. She can live by her own rules. "It seems irrational to me to argue one way or another about things there's no evidence for," a boy of about four' teen remarked. "You can make up anything you want if there's no way of testing whether it's true or not, so what's the point?" Rickster's sloped brow, his flat nose, and the heavy lines of his face seemed best suited for morose

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