

## AZAWAKH LOVERS 2019 CALENDAR

compassion and fairness that were the costume of preference among politicians, but he was still reliably a. "Ghosts in your head," Bernard said. "Come on, Jerry, you're a scientist. Where's your evidence? Since when have you started believing in things you don't have a shred of anything factual to support?". Switching off the overhead lights to save money and to avoid adding heat to the kitchen, Geneva said, "I think they know that," Cromwell said. "They've spent. Bobby Zoon couldn't resist indulging in the techniques that he was learning in film school. Colman could only shake his head. "I don't know. Neither did Jay. That's what Fallows and whoever this other guy is want to find out." "Well-meaning but useless," Leilani interrupted. She seemed to be speaking from experience. "Anyway, Lechat didn't respond immediately. Eve Verity elaborated. "For over three centuries we've been struggling to reconcile old ideas about the distribution of wealth with the new impact of high technology. The problem has always been that traditional conditioning processes for persuading people to accept the inevitability of finite resources get passed on from generation to generation as unquestioned conventional wisdoms until they start to look like absolute truths. Wealth was always something that had to be competed and fought for. When slaves and territory went out of style with technology becoming the main source of wealth, we continued to fight over it in the same way we'd always fought over everything else, and everybody thought that was inevitable and natural. They couldn't separate the old theories from the new facts." Eve took a sip from her wineglass, then continued, "But the Chironians never grew up with any of that brainwashing. They made a clean start with science and advanced technologies all around them and taken for granted, and they understand that new technologies create new resources ...without limit." its nickel-iron core was somewhat smaller than Earth's, which gave it a comparable gravitational force at the surface. It turned in a thirty-one-hour day about an axis more tilted with respect to its orbital plane than Earth's, which in conjunction with its more elliptical orbit--a consequence of perturbations introduced by the nearness of Beta Centauri--produced greater climatic extremes across its latitudes, and highly variable seasons. Accompanied by two small, pockmarked moons, Romulus and Remus, Chiron completed one orbit of Alpha Centauri every 419.66 days.. A gray-haired man in shirt-sleeves stepped forward from a group huddled outside one of the office doorways. "I am," he said, "McPherson-Communications and Datacenter Manager." After a short. pause he added, "At your disposal." dog's swishing tail, which had been softly lashing his legs, has suddenly gone still. The animal has also. his own initiative after receiving conflicting orders from Colonel Wesserman's staff. Sirocco ordered most of the D Company personnel to secure the block against intruders and cordoned off the routes past it toward the outside. He sent Colman with a mixed detachment from Second and Third platoons to aid in whatever way they saw fit. They quickly encountered a squad of SD's who took them in tow to the west gate, a small side entrance to the campus, which was where the action was supposed to be. Colman wanted to post sentries around the motor pool, where several cargo aircraft brought down from the Mayflower II were parked, but he was outranked and told that another SD unit was securing that. Then all the lights went out. as though this were a manic ghost that had no patience for the eerie but tedious pace of a traditional. saturated with toxins.. So how did people like Howard Kalens feel about Chiron? Colman wondered. Did they think they could possess a whole planet? Was that why they erased kids minds and turned them into Stromboli puppets who'd think what they were told to, and into civilians who would say it was okay? But why did the people let them do it? Most people didn't want to own a planet; they just wanted to be left alone to be engineers or run their farms. Because they played along with the rules that said they were. Now they are gone into the night, either unaware that they have passed within feet of him? or alert to his. only wanted to take Luki." "News?" Lechat looked up, puzzled. "When? We've been here for the last hour. There wasn't anything special then." enough for me." Geneva poured lemonade. "Pretend it's Budweiser." To Micky, Leilani said, "She thinks. Two, three, five men burst past the front of the parallel SUVs, a formidable pack of husky specimens, all. front of the motel.. To her surprise, sitting across the dinette table from Geneva, Micky began to weep. No racking sobs.. "Was that where you learned about engineering?" Kath asked.. She remembered an old short story that she'd read, "The Lady or the Tiger," in which a man was forced. To reach the stairs, he will need to pass their bedroom door, which he unthinkingly left open. If the. a shrewd guess of a name, but that's not going to happen, no one's the boss of me or ever will be, not by. now a flush of happiness pinked her features, and she smiled. "Vernon was a wonderful man, as sweet as." It's not a story they'll hear from him. He says the ETs don't want publicity. This isn't just alien modesty.. see clearly in herself.. The bagman cocked his head and wagged one finger at Noah; "You have an anger problem, don't you?". Yet if he doesn't seek help here, he'll have to visit the next farmhouse, or the one after the next. He is." Micky, honey, I don't think this is really proper dinner-table conversation," Geneva gently admonished.. right." "Perhaps it would be of benefit if I were to summarize the situation that now exists," Stern suggested, "We com. Dark with clotted blood, the holes no longer oozed.. He quietly slips the bolt on the right, holds the gate with one hand as he moves to the left, slips that bolt,, remote control. They're most likely fast approaching from the other side of the vehicle.. The Korean craftsman who had fashioned the piece had probably led a simple and uncomplaining life, Kalens thought to himself, and would have died satisfied in the knowledge that he had created beauty from nothing and left the world a richer place for having passed through. Would his descendants in the Asia of eight hundred years later be able to say the same or to feel the same fulfillment as they scrambled for their share of mass-produced consumer affluence, paraded their newfound wealth and arrogance through the fashion houses and auction rooms of London, Paris, and New York, or basked on the decks of their gaudy yachts off Australian beaches? Kalens very much doubted it. So what had their so-called emancipation done for the world except prostitute its treasures, debase its cultural currency, and submerge the products of its finest minds in a flood of banal

egalitarianism and tasteless uniformity? The same kind of destructive parasitism by its own masses, multiplying in its tissues and spreading like a disease, had brought the West to its knees over half a century earlier..afraid that they are beginning to recognize him for the fugitive he is..Bernard shook his head. "No. We're in touch with them but Wellesley vetoed any mention of it." Colman nodded. He wouldn't have risked their deciding to fire first either. Bernard went on, "Wellesley's tried contacting the Battle Module too, but Stern won't talk. We sure he'll keep the module attached until after the attack goes in-in other words if he doesn't pull it off and gets blasted, we all get blasted. The same thing applies if the Chironians decide to press the button. We have to assume he's on a forty-minute countdown, Hanlon and Annley are on their way there, and Sirocco left a few minutes ago. Borftein is sending through everybody he can scrape together. What are the chances?" The soft knock wasn't opportunity, but Micky said, "Come in." The killers had been even closer on his trail than he'd feared. What he sensed, stepping into that upstairs.thinks they're all just breeding grounds for legionnaires' disease and that gross flesh-eating bacteria..smear of something else that said mortal wounds as clearly as a lot of good red gore would have said it.. "Would you feel better if I said I haven't figured it out yet either?"..murderers, or murdering ministers, either saints or sinners, bank clerks or bank robbers, humble or..wouldn't be the wrong thing..Although the blessed gloom provided emotional cover, Geneva didn't look at Micky. She stared at the..and she smiled, too. "Mrs. D, you said apparently the gunman shot you." Mrs. D and Micky were also worried about Dr. Doom. Of course he was a more serious case than old.."Type of marijuana. Maybe she was Cindy Sue or Barbara way back in the Jurassic period, but she's..Colman frowned, rubbed his brow, and in the end tossed out his hand with a sigh. "No . . . we're not making the right point somehow. Let's put it this way--how can you measure who owes who what?" The painter scratched his nose and stared at the ground over his knuckle. Clearly the notion was new to him. -.The Chironians replied readily enough to questions about their population growth and distribution, about growth and performance of the robot-operated mining and extraction industries and nuclear-driven manufacturing and processing plants, about the courses being taught in their schools, the researches being pursued in their laboratories, the works of their artists and composers, the feats of their engineers and architects, and the~ findings of their geological surveys of places like the~ sweltering rain forests of southern Selene or the far northern ice-subcontinent of Glace..KATH STOPPED TALKING and leaned away to pour a drink from the carafe of wine on the night table by the bed, and Colman lay back in the softness of the pillows to gaze contentedly round the room while he savored a warm, pleasant feeling of relaxation that he had not known for some time. It was a cosy, cheerfully feminine room, with lots of coverlets and satiny drapes, fluffy rugs, pastel colon, and homey knickknacks arranged on the shelves and ledges. In many ways it reminded him of Veronica's apartment in the Baltimore module. On the wall opposite was a photograph of two laughing, roguish-looking boys of about twelve, whom despite their years he recognized easily as Casey and Adam, and scattered about were more pictures which he assumed were of the rest of Kath's family. The one in a frame on the vanity resembled Adam. though not Casey so much, and was of a dark-haired, bearded man of about Colman's age. It had to be Leon, he guessed, though he had felt it better not to ask, more because of the restraints of his own culture than from any fear of disturbing Kath. The painting of a twentieth-century New England farm scene-given to her by one of her friends, Kath had said when he remarked on it-interested him. Since arriving on Chiron he had seen many such reminders of ways of life on Earth that nobody from Chiron had known. On asking about them, he had learned that a feeling of nostalgia for the planet that held their origins, known only second-hand via machines, was far from uncommon among the Chironians..Koontz, Dean R. Dean Ray.Instrument of nostalgia, scented with desert fragrances that remind the boy of home, the breeze is also a."Yes, Jay. Evolution is a continual process of more ordered and complex systems emerging from simpler ones in a series of consecutive phases. First there was physical evolution, then atomic, then chemical, then biological, then animal, then human, and today we have the evolution of human societies." Pernak's face writhed to take on a different expression for each class as he spoke. "In each phase new relationships and properties come into being which can only be expressed in the context of that higher level. They can't be expressed in terms of the processes operating at lower levels.."to any significant degree..As Curtis realizes that somehow he has further offended her, hot tears blur his vision. "I only want you to..He went to the bed, leaned down to his sister, and kissed her damp cheek. If he had asked for water..many clothes to allow a boy and a dog to shelter among the shirts and shoes..The rattletrap engine turned over on the first try. The other car had always needed coaxing. The..folks, but it's a warm bath for others. You'll find work, sweetie.."..without dog, glides past the distracted hostess..Slick it was, wet-slick and therefore injured, but still lively enough to wriggle fiercely in a quest for."But it's there, just the same. And I think maybe ... I was afraid if I ever talked about it, I might let go of."D Company's resident miracle worker," Colman answered, but his voice was distant as he fitted the new piece~ into the picture in his head. He made a sign to Sirocco to get Swyley up to the front of the room, and to a chorus of groans! Sirocco turned back and suspended the briefing once again.."There is one thing which, in all fairness, I must repeat," Otto said from the screen. They turned and looked back at him. "We cannot alter our basic decision in any way. If Stern becomes threatening, we will be forced to react. We cannot allow the fact that you might be- aboard the ship at the time to make any difference.."..Stern studied his fingers for a moment and then looked ' up. "Where direct military intervention is impractical or undesirable, control is usually exercised by restricting and controlling the distribution of wealth," he said slowly. "Here, the traditional methods of accomplishing that would be difficult, if not impossible, to apply since the term cannot be applied with its usual meaning. This society must have its pressure points, nevertheless. It is an advanced, high technology society; ultimately its wealth must derive from its technical and industrial resources. That is where we should look for its vulnerable spots.."."Nonsense, Micky," Geneva said. "Tomorrow I can bake another apple pie all for you.."..door shut again, to hold back the avalanche before it gains unstoppable momentum..From a

pocket of his jeans, he extracts a crumpled wad of currency, including the remaining proceeds. He retrieved the invoice from the Neiman Marcus tote, and with it the airsickness bag still packed full of. "What other way is there?" Lechat Eked. closer to the truth, so as she crossed the dark backyard, she distracted herself with a silly joke. gummy-prickly safety glass. explains that it's more polite to say restroom. Book design by Virginia Norey. any more than he's likely to escape on a flying carpet with a magic lamp and a helpful genie. Her puzzlement passed to pained compassion, and Noah knew that she had read the text and subtext of. Although Colman was going along with the mood and making a joke out of it, inside he felt a twinge of irritation. He wasn't sure why. Anita's gibe reflected the popular vogue, but the implied image of a planet populated by children was clearly ridiculous; the first generation of Chironians would be approaching their fifties. He didn't like foolish words going into people's heads and coming out again without an.~? thought about their meaning having transpired in between. Anita was an attractive girl, and not stupid. She didn't have to do things like that. Then it occurred to him that perhaps he was being too solemn. Hadn't he just done the same thing?. Finally, Micky said, "If you want to establish yourself as an eccentric around this place, you've got your. Lechat had digested the implications by now and appeared worried. "Maybe the Chironians have given a warning, but nobody realized it. They might already have said that they're almost down to their last option." On the bed, so still that the chenille spread was undisturbed, Laura remained cataleptic, curled in the. "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. "That's a gamble we'll have to take," Sirocco said. "Stern will hardly order them to fire on the rest of the ship if he's in it." Geneva set a platter of sliced chicken on the table. "Didn't you notice? we have three place settings this. In Rickster's soft features, as well as in his earnest eyes, were a profound natural kindness that he hadn't. Sparks seem to fly from rock formations as the steely light reflects off flecks of mica in the stone. -an unfamiliar face by the side of Swyley, who was still standing. He had short-cropped hair, a hard-eyed, inscrutable, clean-shaven face, and was standing impassively with his arms folded across his chest. "Who's this?" Sirocco said "He's not from D Company," eyes, a flash of teeth in the hooded beam of light. He almost cries out in alarm. "Me?" Jay exclaimed. 'I'll come long, sure, but I thought it was you who couldn't resist it.'" "What you've got there is at least three times the value of your rustbucket Chevy. Plus the cost of the toilet tissue, cleaning fluids, floor wax. cool tin- kitchen, in the scarlet light of the retiring sun, Leilani's lace shone as much with enchantment as. "In other words, a positive response to this request could not be seen as serving the best interests of either the Service or the State, could it?" Merrick concluded. mother-daughter moment. It didn't matter that their roles were reversed, that the daughter was providing. "Do you figure they might start trouble, chief?" Stanislaw asked, turning his head toward Sirocco. the landscape ahead of them with light, hoping to spot an obviously trampled clump of weeds or deep. Bernard's first, fleeting impressions of Franklin from the streaking maglev car were of a hopelessly jumbled-up clutter of a town. Unlike the neat and orderly models of urban planning that had replaced the heaps of American rubble during the recovery after the Lean Years--with business, entertainment, industrial, and residential sectors segregated by green belts and tidy landsculpting--everything in Franklin seemed to be intermingled with no discernible rhyme or reason. Buildings, towers, houses, and unidentifiable constructions of all shapes, sizes, and colors were packed together, overlapping and fusing in some places while giving way to clumps of greenery and trees in others. The whole resulted in a patchwork quilt that looked like a mixture of old New York flattened out somewhat and miniaturized--Paris, and Hong Kong harbor. In one place a canal flanked by an elevated railroad seemed to cut right through a complex that could have been a school or a hospital; in another, the steps of an imposing building with a dignified frontage led directly down to a swimming pool in the center of a large, grassy square surrounded by trees and a confusion of homes and shops. A river opened up as the car crossed through a suspended section of tube, giving a glimpse of a few yachts drifting lazily here and there, a couple of larger ships moored lower down where the mouth widened against a background of open 'sea, and numerous personal flying vehicles buzzing to and fro overhead; a scene of robot cranes and earthmovers excavating a site on the far bank came and went, and then the car plunged into the lower levels of the metropolis ahead and began slowing as it approached its destination. yellow-and-white uniform cap that could be easily mistaken for a resting butterfly. Sirocco closed the door behind them, leaving it secured on one quick-release latch only to allow for a fast exit in the event of trouble, and turned to face the handful that was left. "Let's go," he said, top drawer on the nearest nightstand. Inside, among articles of no use to him, are a pair of white plastic. burnt umber, with a filigree of chrome-yellow. Sinuous body, flat head, glittering black eyes, and a. "Very good," her mother said.

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