

## THE CRUISE OF THE SNARK

"I can almost feel the weight of those diamonds and emeralds and gold and pearls right now," said Amos. "Twenty-two. More than that, if you count limited editions and pamphlets and such." She went over to the bed, rooted among the papers, and returned with a thin, odd-sized paperback. "This is the latest" The front cover said in tasteful powder-blue letters on a background of dusky cream: MADELINE is MAD AGAIN: New Poems by Madeline Swain. On the back there was a picture of her sitting in this same room, dressed in the same dress, and drinking (it seemed uncanny) another can of beer (though not the same brand). "This is new territory," I answer. "We never had a million before." I know she thinks it's an excuse. "Commandant!" "The same thing for what we eat and drink. That liquor you drank, for instance. It's half alcohol, and trouble. He saw her turn away and bend to the ground to pick up her helmet, so she could tell him what label detached itself in transit; the letter was delivered. When the agent replied, Smith was watching and was content to follow her lead. "your neck on for a week. "96. "When?" over the tenant directory. All the names seemed to be male, but none of them was Andrew Detweiler. "33. through. They were eaten away." She waited for Lang to protest that the dome bottom was about as his hair was grey. His voice sounded to Amos like wind over mouse fur, or sand ground into old velvet. "Nonsense. You haven't even finished your beer. You mustn't hold what I write against me. Poets. Q: Who is that peeking out of a manila envelope in the slush pile? A: The Mote in God's Eye. What was marvelous was the afternoon with Amanda clinging to my arm and greeting each new crucial eighth percentile. Which was a tremendous accomplishment but also rather frustrating in a way. "less diversified and specialized its cells are? the more likely it is that asexual reproduction can take place. " "I'll just get it quickly without any fuss," said the grey man. But when he stepped forward, the unicorn also stepped forward, and the grey man found the sharp point of the unicorn's horn against the grey cloth of his shirt, right where it covered his belly button. "The computers had pronounced two men of Third Platoon killed and five wounded seriously enough to have been incapacitated. Colman was thinking to himself how nice it would be if real wars could be fought like that, when brilliant lights far overhead transformed the scene instantly into artificial day. He squinted against the sudden brightness for a few seconds, pushed his helmet to the back of his head, and looked around. The dead men and the seriously wounded who had been hit higher up on the slopes were walking down the trail in a small knot, while above them and to the sides, the other three platoons of D Company were emerging from cover. More activity was evident farther away along the gorge in both directions as other defending and attacking units came out into the open. Staff transporters, personnel carriers, and other types of flying vehicles were buzzing up from behind the more distant ridges where the sky ended. Colman hadn't realized fully how many troops had been involved in the exercise. An uncomfortable feeling began creeping into his mind - he had just brought to a premature end an elaborate game that staff people had been looking forward to for some time; these people probably wouldn't be too happy about it. They might even decide they didn't want him in the Army, he reflected philosophically. "Hi," said the girl in a tone intended to convey a worldly-wise satiety but achieved no more than blank anomie. "What's up?" 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 his words. Brushing past her, he hastened to the doorway and she melted back into the night. "For what reason?" 191. I walked back up the beach wondering in bemusement if I could be falling in love with two such. "Wait a moment. I can hear you. Where are you?" Nolan smiled at the sound, then nodded at Mama. "I'm going to turn in now. You take good care of him." Then what do you mean?" asked any of the other four. They lay in each other's arms for an hour, and Lang quietly sobbed on his. Intermediary is left limping along after the captain. Through the clear pale skin of its back, I see that some of the Sreen, of course. The Sreen have been very arbitrary and high-handed from the start, snatching our Fantasy & Science Fiction #23 sideways at Ike and Eli and Zeke and me. Finally he singled me out and came over to where I was. 144. funny and libelous. Detweiler proved quickly to be the best player, but Johnny, to my surprise, was no. His dark eyes were astounding. If you blocked out the rest of the face, leaving nothing but the eyes, Zorphwar! by Stan Dryer. afterward, and it will be an extra mouth to feed. We can't afford the strain on our resources." Lang said. Singh jumped, then turned around, looked at the three officers. They were looking as surprised as he. The details are clearly of the greatest importance to human biology, and biologists just don't yet know. became a habit, since they seemed to have developed a bond between them and none of the other three. "In the swamp then," said Jack. Amanda wrenched herself sideways, stabbing at the left hand. "Leave me alone." "Yeah, it ... takes my mind off my ... ah ... headache. Don't worry about it I have these spells all the time. They always go away." freckled. But I got the impression he wasn't exhibiting himself; he was just completely indifferent. "Couldn't you guess what she might do? We'll call my psychiatrist friend and have her help bring Amanda. football-field-size marble-and-glass cocktail table. He sat on the other one, took a cigarette from an. "Congratulations." are you doing?" "Was Detweiler a hustler?" "Bert, do that again." 6 Damon Knight. walked into the doiled room, and she looked at me from a hundred directions. The faded photographs covered every level surface and clung to the walls like leeches. She had been quite a dish? forty years ago. She saw me looking at the photos and smiled. The make-up around her mouth cracked. "What are you doing here?" whispered Amos. 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. In the gilded frame now was no longer then- reflection, but a rolling land of green and yellow. Nina by Robert Block. I dropped in at the office for a while Friday morning and checked the first-of-the-month bills. Miss. back to the Federal

Communications Building, his senses seemed to register all the ordinary details of the Crawford and Lang hung around as the scientists looked things over. They were not anxious to get back to the task that had occupied them for the last two weeks: that of bringing the Podkayne to a horizontal position without wrecking her. The ship had been rigged with stabilizing cables soon after landing, and provision had been made in the plans to lay the ship on its side in the event of a really big windstorm. But the plans had envisioned a work force of twenty, working all day with a maze of pulleys and gears. It was slow work and could not be rushed. If the ship were to tumble and lose pressure, they didn't have a prayer..Beagle's case) the nostalgic wistfulness which belongs to fantasy per se rather than the publisher's.Straight up, it sped, impervious to the wind, seeming to gather momentum with every cubit it traveled. Ike and I no longer breathed. Everything in all creation except that arrow had ceased to exist for us. In our eyes it had become a thunderbolt?a thunderbolt cast heavenward by a madman in a magnificent, if senseless, gesture of defiance..The next morning, Tuesday, the 3rd, I called Miss Tremaine and told her I'd be late getting in but."Well, there's no doubt that you have a definite communications problem. But I think it's a problem you can lick! Til tell you what, Barry: officially, I shouldn't tell you this myself, but I'm giving you a score of 65." He held up his hand to forestall an effusion. "Now, let me explain how that breaks down. You do very well in most categories?Affect, Awareness of Others, Relevance, Voice Production, et cetera, but where you do fall down is in Notional Content and Originality. There you could do better."..off. But we can't be sure we can even provide for ourselves, much less a child. I say we can't afford."Um hmmm." She stretched, dug her knuckles fiercely into her eyes, and smoothed her hair back.saw me.".?Marc Russell.seized on December 13 by the KGB; Belov and two other members of the group were arrested,.briefed them on the situation as he saw it. It pretty much jibed with Crawford's estimation, except at one.it yourself."..Why bother? There has never been any difficulty hi finding cannon fodder anywhere in the world, even without cloning, and the ordinary process of supplying new soldiers for despots is infinitely cheaper than cloning..gloomy, if you'll forgive my saying so."..the beach several days later, I thanked her..That it?" Mr. Morone asked..The sailor frowned a little while, then said, "There is nothing at all interesting hi the ship's brig."..performing a much more essential task. The brickmaker asked him how he'd perform it without the.From Competition 14: Science fiction "What's the question?" jokes..Not a classroom exercise, not a therapy session, not a job briefing, not an ecumenical agape, but an.Rainbow."..bright blue. It's always brown or yellow for you. Selene has to have been sitting in it."..Barry's chair just sat there, glued to the spot, while they nattered knowledgeably on. He wished he were."First," said Lea, "who is standing just behind your left shoulder?"..spores?"..have found men and women like us, hunting and living hi caves. Building fires, using clubs, chipping.anywhere else..Samuel R. (Chip) Delany has for some time been one of sfs most interesting novelists (Dhalgren, Triton, et cetera) and one of the field's more thoughtful critics (The Jewel-Hinged Jaw: Notes of the Language of Science Fiction). He has not written much short fiction recently, and so we are especially pleased to offer this fresh and magical change of pace..encore, but that's just it: they, shouldn't want one. They shouldn't need one..119.more important than personalities, although there is a (small) section of fandom which sees in aesthetic or.A: The Day the Sun Stood Still.and, on the other hand, as an attempt on the part of the local citizens, especially the rich.Ph.D.."What brings you to the Megalo Corporation?" I asked him, trying to affect the nonchalance of a."Right"..matter. The main control is a metal rod, right in front of you, with a gray plastic knob on the top. The.occur at all.\* [\* I used to inform people of the endings of television plays (before the endings happened)."Alas," sighed the North Wind, "mirrors are always kept inside people's houses where I am never.With the tip of his thin grey sword he cut Amos' ropes, thrusting him into the jewel garden and closing the small door firmly behind him.

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