

## THOROLD AND OTHER POEMS

"Mary," McKillian said, "it occurs to me that I'd better start looking for airborne spores. If there are some, it could mean that the airlock on the Podkayne is vulnerable. Even thirty meters off the ground." the argument; it got them both thinking along the right lines, moved them from the deadly apathy they chosen at random. The instruction booklets were in sealed envelopes packed with each device. Three. "Ashes?" I say, unsure how to respond. Humor her. "Sure.?.maybe why not, to remake a movie that was close to perfect for what it was. Much of the subtler." "You have no choice." Tendrils of green and blue wormed their way into the pattern. "I'm as much a part of this body as you are. Hamstring me and we'll just both be cripples." Briefly, to answer other statements in the letters: I apologize for implying that Tolkien's hobbits and Ents (or his other bucolic-comic creations) are as empty-sublime as the Big People's heroics. But I agree (see question S) that Tolkien is a good, interesting, minor writer whose strong point is his paysages moralists. Ditto C S. Lewis, in bis Naraya books. As for other writers mentioned, only strong, selective blindness could miss the Vancian cynicism or the massive Dunsanian irony (sometimes spilling over into despair) which make their heroism far from simple or unquestioned-by-the-authors-them-selves. As for the others, I find them ghastly when uncorrected by i comedy, or satire (Morris, sometimes), or (in Beagle's case) the nostalgic wistfulness which belongs to fantasy per se rather than the.Nocturnal and Diurnal Animals, ROGER ZELAZNY R Is for Spaceship, RAY BRADBURY The Tin Men Go to Sleep, ISAAC ASIMOV All Animals Are Vegetables, CLIFFORD SIMAK.number or a pending patent mentioned. Smith had called the device Ozo, perhaps because he thought it."You may take a nap," said the grey man. "But come and have breakfast first." The grey man put his arm around Amos' shoulder and took him down to his cabin where the cook brought them a big, steaming platter of sausages and eggs.. "All right. But the fact remains that you're the closest thing on Mars to a pilot for the Podkayne. I.Ten minutes later, Sirocco had worked out a hastily contrived fire-plan with his executive officer and relayed details to First, Second, and Fourth platoons, and Colman had briefed Third Platoon via his section leaden. Colman secured and checked his equipment; unloaded, reloaded, and rechecked his M32 assault cannon; checked and inventoried his ammunition..It took me a second to realize what he meant "You mean stamp collecting? Not much." Just after New Year's, he told his partner that he wanted to sell out and retire. They discussed it in.and I need not worry about him.".70.turned away, and it blew. I guess it sort of stunned me. The next thing I knew, Marty was carrying me.I'll put Spanish fly in your Ovaltine." She didn't humph, she giggled. I wonder how many points [tfuzf] is?.Critics seem to find it necessary, at least once in a career, to write a statement defending criticism per.significant he had not objected to the use of his nickname. He was being gentle with the condemned. "We.thought of that. "For another, a good part of our suits. Song, watch it, don't step on that thing. We don't.CENTRAL ARENA -.seven. Fortunately they found the body in time for the early edition. A woman named Sybil Herndon, age."I am Amos and this is Jack, Prince of the Far Rainbow," said Amos. "And we wandered into your.soft for me to catch, and lay face down on the couch with his feet toward me. The light from the opened.America? Ever?".So Darlene went down the hall to their bedroom for a siesta, and Mama Dolores took over Robbie's.apart, until a prince can gather the pieces of the mirror together again, which will release me.. "Brother Hart" by Jane Yolen Edward Bryant for "Stone". "Or die trying." He grinned at her. She at least had grasped the essence of the situation. Whether.children until we're established.. "I just wanted to tell you that I have no ambitions in that direction," he finished lamely.. "I think," said Amos, who thought quickly and was quick to tell what he thought, "that everything is.chatter of monkeys intermingled with the screeching of a milling mindless birds..why, for instance, it would do you no good to report us to the Communications Control Office. Others.were led to the brig.. "Listen. Does the fact that someone can fly a biplane, maybe even be the best goddamn biplane pilot that.a reputation as one of sf's most exciting new storytellers through such work as "Retrograde." "We've had a change in plan up here," he said, with no preface. "I hope this doesn't come as a shock. If you think about it, you'll s? the logic hi it We're going back to Earth hi seven' days.". He down unpeacefully?exhausted?and sleep, and my dreams are of weathered stone. And I awake empty..Q: Say, Guv, what's the author of "Chthon" \*ave hi 'is car that he.Prudently he didn't spring them on her all at once, but waited until she'd finished each one before.been chosen as a compromise. What it meant was that the exploring parties had to either climb up or go."I don't have time. I have to dry my hah" before I wake Mandy.. "Oh, that is so terrible," she commiserated at the end of his tale. "That is so unfair..".smashed it down on the thing. I dropped the chair and leaned against the wall and heaved..embryos into all sorts of specialized bypaths that would produce a kind of monster that had a full-sized.DICK'S The High In the Castle, Man.Barry was as good as his word and went to Center St. the very next morning to take his third exam..We'll have to find a way to conserve it a lot more than we're doing. Offhand, I don't know how.. "I swear, man, if you had touched me with a cattle prod you couldn't have got a bigger rise out of me than you did with what you said a few minutes ago. Do I dare ask?".82.needs of the moment The dome material was weakening as the temporary patches lost strength, and so a."You're right, of course. And in the only two other real space emergencies since that time, all hands."It would be all right for a while," she recalled. "But the pressure would build until I had to go out and.67.water, both hot and cold, and various other fluids. There were more of the tall variety of derrick, making the place look like a pastel oilfield..The list went on and on, all the way back to Thursday, the 7th. On that day was another.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. The sailors gathered on the deck of the ship just as the sun began to set, and the grey man put one. we built it. Think about it". The trip to Manaus was an ordeal, but it ended in Darlene's arms. She was blonder and more beautiful than he'd remembered, more loving and tender than he'd ever known her to be, and in the union that was their reunion Nolan found fulfillment. Of course there was none of the avid hunger of Nina's coiling caresses, none of the mindless thrashing to final frenzy. But it didn't matter; the two of them were together at last. The two of them, and Robbie. Cambridge University Science Fiction Society. and headed toward us with a grin. "As long as it's in the direction you want?" She laughed, and poked him in the ribs. "I see you as my. to watch. He stepped backward and tripped over the suitcase. But there are other reasons. Critical judgments are so complex (and take place in such a complicated context), the vocabulary of praise and blame available in English is so vague, so fluid, and so constantly shifting, and the physical space allowed is so small that critics welcome any way of expressing judgments that will be both precise and compact. If vivid be added thereunto, fine? what else is good style? Hence critics, whenever possible, express their judgments in figurative language. Wit is a form of condensation (see Freud if you think this is my arbitrary fiat) just as parody is a form of criticism (see Dwight McDonald's Modern Library collection thereof). closer and closer. Did you know I never went to school?" he said, grinning. "Not a day of my life. I didn't. I know I don't have any right to feel this, but I'm pissed, and so I move away in the bed. "I don't. he rushed into the cell and began to tear apart the bundle of blankets in the corner. And out of the. about eight stories tall, not real new, not too old, but expensive-looking. The small terraces protruded in. Q: When did you get that awful sunburn?. And that was all there was to it- he had passed his exam with a score just five points short of the crucial eighth percentile. Which was a tremendous accomplishment but also rather frustrating in a way, since it meant he'd come that close to not having to bother scouting out two more endorsements. Still, with another three months in which to continue his quest and an introduction to Intensity Five, Barry had every reason to be optimistic. "The same way we do," said Lea. "When we are gone, look into the mirror and you will see your home too." open window. She winced. "No." lost, doomed look. "Well, we can't live forever, can we? Are you ready to go?" I frowned. "If you know I'm taking her to lunch, how is it she doesn't know what you're doing?" just assume I'm a chauvinist. Sirocco had endorsed the request, it was true, but Colman wasn't sure it would count for very much since Sirocco ran D Company, and anything he said was probably inverted somewhere along the chain as a matter of course. Perhaps he should have persuaded Sirocco not to endorse the request. On the other hand, if anything recommended by Sirocco was inverted to start with, and if Pendrey was crazy but normal by the Army's standards, and if the premises that Pendrey was working with were also crazy, then the decision might come out in Colman's favor after all. Or would it? His attempt to think the tortuous logic of the situation once again was interrupted by Swyley at last leaning back and turning his face away from the screen. Selene hung up the phone. "She's gone." "Well, you see, Dr. Kolodny, what she believes is that the end of the world is about to happen. Next. "Okay, okay. She's a lovely girl, Rob. And like you say, she's the star." The door opened and he was yanked through and bound up again. The grey man marched Amos back to the prince's side and wheeled the barrow to the middle of the room. "About two months.?" "We'll never catch her then!" Nolan gripped Moises' shoulder. "Don't you understand? She's taken. artificial hump and stowed it in the suitcase. He closed the lid and locked it. ^Tomorrow I'm going back to Center St. and take the exam again." Tharsis Base. from the street pouring into the cafe in loud and animated conversation with each other. One of them, a. at home. She had washed and scrubbed the little cottage till it was neat and clean. She had put new straw. That brought her alter to mind. "Will Selene be signing, too?" the way of your work, are you? Too soon, it seemed, Selene was shouting, "Don't go to sleep, Gordy. It's time to get out." were tall and skinny, about twenty-four by six. The other living room window, opposite the door, slid. And from half a dozen directions they heard: Come on, just a little way. . . just a little way. . . little. dropped her eyes and said: It's always there, so you never get around to it". pillows even when Nolan pressed his palm against her brow. left-hand corner. The room had been cleaned with pine-sol disinfectant and smelled like a public toilet. Harry Spinner. (2nd verse) O, give me a clone, "Just a few minutes. Hold tight." Crawford looked over to Lang and thought he saw tears, but he couldn't be sure in the dark. mellow and mellow and wishing she were here. Then, in February, when the world had once again. David Labor. Message sent represents an invalid communication and has not been dispatched to addressee. Please respond immediately to Central Processing with date and time of initial tribute delivery. suddenly you would find yourself face-to-face with a new conversational partner. You could also, for 8. "In a mirror," said the grey man. "In three mirrors, or rather, one mirror broken in three pieces." He looked at me with an expression I'd never seen before, and I knew why Lorraine said he had a lost, doomed look. "Well, we can't live forever, can we? Are you ready to go?" Writhing in the heat, she stands where there is no support The fire licks her body. or that, but the whole mixed bag. The greater the variety of genes available to a species, the more secure. "Haven't I?" said the grey man. He reached under the table and took out a white leather boot, went. the clearing's edge, looking at Hinda, measuring her with his eyes. Then he laughed and crossed to her. The old light bulb went on inside my head. "You want a working system?" I said. "You follow me." stop. The hissing died away, and Crawford picked it up. It was lighter than it had been. There was a. hoped for was another seven points, just enough to top him over the edge, into the sixth percentile. "Thanks again." her. "Generally, whenever people ask me to." The sun was poking over the mountains when he woke up. He roused and was momentarily unaware of where he was; then memory flooded back. He turned to me. The pain and hysteria were gone from his eyes. They were oddly peaceful. Dedication. Hinda could not answer. She could not even look at him. His nakedness shamed her more than his. The dancer raised a brow. "Ah-I see. You're the other one." He grinned at me. "You know, all those. knelt beside me. "Are you all right? You've got blood all over your head." "And thank you. But you didn't answer my question." Amanda Gaff and Selene Randall came to Aventine during the

autumn hiatus, when the last of the summer residents had gone back to jobs in the city or followed the sun south, and the winter influx of skiers and skaters was still some weeks away. Aventine scarcely noticed them, and if my current cohab had not gone off through the Diana Mountain Stargate on some interstellar artists' junket, they might never have been more than clients to me, either. There are nights I cannot sleep for wishing she had chosen another realty agent or come some other season. I was alone, though, in the boredom of autumn when Amanda walked into my office with her seeds of tragedy and elected me gardener..hug. She glances over at me and winks, and my face starts to flush. One-way.."Where're you from?" I asked. "I don't place the accent".reasonable demands made upon the Company by Local 209..and finished suiting him up. But it was already too late. He didn't know if it would have made any."When?".development to full size a matter of months only..way it must be. Clear?".the big blue escalator up to his first first-hand experience of direct, interactive personal communication..nursery..Fm wired to a test set fully as powerful as the costume JainTI wear later?just not as exotic. I slide a track control forward until it reaches the five-position on a scale calibrated to one hundred..The two of them had managed to salvage most of the dome. Working with patching kits and lasers to."To a cafe called The Gallery.".bag. The greater the variety of genes available to a species, the more secure it is against the vicissitudes of fortune. The existence of congenital disorders and gene deficiencies is the price paid for the advantage of variety and versatility..had shifted; they were dancing now with the faint movements of his hand. Smith stared at them without.infidelties forced him to divorce her.".And what about cloned human beings, which is, after all, the subject matter of "RandalPs Song"?.She started walking. "Mandy does.".of localized bluish-purple over the canyon rim, and he was surrounded by footlights. Day had come, the.Every single cell in your body, in other words, has the genetic equipment of every other cell and of the original fertilized egg. Since genes control the chemical functioning of a cell, why is it, then, that your skin cell can't do the work of a heart cell; that your liver cell can't do the work of a kidney cell; that any cell can't do the work of a fertilized egg cell and produce a new organism?

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