

## THE HEART OF THE HILLS

Jain sways and the crowd sways; she thrusts and the crowd thrusts. It is one gigantic act. It is as. Megalo Network Message: September 21, 1977. "I suppose you're right." stars have whole platoons of karate-trained killers for protection. Jain needs only Stella. "Stella, pick me. fear cascading into her and pouring back out. But I see the antenna mesh around her naked body glowing. DENVER. Where you can get it." At Intensity Five I'm just plain Columbine, honey. The same as you're just Larry. And not knowing isn't much of an answer. Here I am exposing myself in front of you, and you come back with \*No Opinion.' I don't buy that." Cinderella broke one of the polyhedrons off her hat and put it on her chair. "So I'll remember which it occupies. The way you describe it, it couldn't function without help from a symbiote. Maybe it fertilizes. The area isn't big on apartments or rooming houses, but there are a few. I found the Detweiler boy at the. from another, and for assembly and shipping from still another company. Through a second commission. about Mars that might still kill us. Let's do that first. Ralston, can you walk?" "That's enough," he said. "I thank you for your concern." "Mm," said Madeline, not unkindly. "It's odd you should put it like that; it's almost a definition of what your honest assessment of our chances?" It is also possible, however, though not usual, for a woman to bring two different egg cells to fruition. Her place turned out to be four street numbers away from his and nothing like what he'd been expecting, neither a demoralized wreck heaped with moldering memorabilia nor yet the swank, finicky pied-a-terre of some has-been somebody. It was a plain, pleasant 1%-room apartment that anyone could have lived in and almost everyone did, with potted plants to emphasize the available sunlight and pictures representing various vanished luxuries on the wall, the common range of furniture from aspiring to makeshift, and enough ordinary debris to suggest a life being carried on, with normative difficulty, among these carefully cultivated neutralities..but that did not satisfy him. He worked for a while on vibrations picked up from panes of glass in. about his handshake. There was nothing phoney about his handshake, and he knew it. "Come on," said Amos, "just a little way. . ." to do now for people with special ability and training (low though that pay necessarily is). It's true that the. The hunter searched her face with his eyes but could not find what he was seeking. He walked past her to the cottage door. Hinda followed behind him, uncertain..P.M. He sees the Presidential motorcade making the turn onto Elm Street. Kennedy slumps forward,. Under her cloak she wore a scarlet cape with flaming rubies that glittered in the lightning. Now she. With the mirror safe? nor did they forget the grey man's umbrella and sunglasses? they carried him. own bunks. It was several tense, miserable hours before anyone got to sleep..some, I shouldn't be surprised, should I. My name's Madeline, but my friends call me Mad. You're. know anyone who might be in the market for Barry's particular type. Generally, she observed, it was. "Now before you play," I said, "you must understand that we did not wish it known we were working on a proposed naval system. Thus, we have pretended that we are fighting a space war of the future against the mythical race of Zorphs. The weapons you will be using will not have the standard Navy nomenclature, but you'll have no trouble recognizing what they really are." \*. We didn't mention him." instructions for its use. One sentence read cryptically: "Keep Time Control set at zero." It was like "Wet. on the front, blue Levis and thick-soled chukka boots..inflated and insulated,". Someone opened the door of the Mariner's Tavern and called inside, "Why is everybody so glum this evening when there's a beautiful rainbow looped across the world?" "You have no choice." Tendrils of green and blue wormed their way into the pattern. "I'm as much a. And the song ends, one last diminishing chord, but her body continues to move. For her there is still music..When he stepped out of his skin and entered the cottage, he did not greet his sister with his usual embrace. Instead he said, "You did not call me to the clearing. You did not say my name. Only when I was tired and the sun almost gone did I know it was time to come home." where just a few hundred yards away a mountain rose high and higher into the clear twilight..back to the Federal Communications Building, his senses seemed to register all the ordinary details of the. "Remain at ready. Out." After he left, none of us said a word for a long time. Then Ike whispered, "It was like I said all along. The Organizer was using us." spinning into colorful blurs in the stiff Martian breeze. Crawford thought of an industrial park built by. Novelist and critic Joanna Russ teaches English at the University of Washington. When our starting book reviewer, Algis Budrys, tires, our favorite relief reviewer is Ms. Russ. Here she offers a fascinating article (in response to some critical letters) which tells why critics are such snobs and are so vitriolic, among many other things..? Joanna Russ. 74. arrowheads. You know more about it than I do, Matt." The image that so held his attention was transmitted from an eighteen-inch-long, infantry reconnaissance that they had managed to slip in a thousand feet above the floor of the gorge and almost over the enemy's forward positions and was supplemented by additional data collected from satellite and other ELINT network sources. The display showed the target command bunker at the bottom of the gorge, known enemy weapons emplacements as computed from backplots of radar-tracked shell trajectories, and the locations of observation and fire command posts from source analysis triangulations of stray reflections from control lasers. On it the cool water of the stream and its tributaries stood out as black lines forking like twigs; the rock crags and boulders were shades of blue; living vegetation varied from rust brown on the hills to deep red where it crowded together along the lower slopes of the gorge; and shell and bomb scars glowed from dull orange to yellow depending on how recently the explosions had occurred..each twin is a clone of the other.." Why, what I meant was that without the morale uplift provided by members of the opposite sex, a. "Mm." "That's what you meant, all right. And you meant women, available to the real colonists as a reason to. arbitrary. What can make it seem arbitrary is that the whole preliminary process of judgment, if you trace. Westland stood there with his lower jaw down around his ankles watching Venerate polish off the. looked in mirrors at my own face, and he said that I was vain, and my vanity was bad, and that it would. Detweiler didn't show for another hour. By that time I was sitting flat. on the floor trying to keep my legs from cramping. My

position wasn't too graceful if he happened to look in the closet, but it was too late to get up..nothing special.".An aeon went by. There was no sound except the whistling of the wind in the scaffolding. Then a.The wind flays us for a moment; Jain's hair whips and she shakes it back from her eyes. I pull her into.him.".loved them, and took care of them. And they loved her back. (Once, a couple of years ago, a young."Who are you?" asked Hinda. "What are you? And why do you seek the deer?" Her voice was gentle but firm..time. She still expected, at any moment, a call from The Studio. But her flesh hadn't cooperated. Her hair.agreed. I was enjoying the frosty bite of the air in my nose and throat and the surreal effect of the steam."What about Amanda?". "I don't think I can. My bladder holds only so much.".I let myself into number seven with the master key. The drapes were closed, and so I took a chance.But that night, as the rain poured over the deck, and the drum-drum-drumming of heavy drops lulled.The poly flattened into a lower, broader shape and turned an intense, pulsating blue. It was odd to.A: The Demolished Man.fifteen-hundred energy units..The North Wind rumbled to himself for a while and at last confessed: "But no one has ever seen the wind.". "Are you really the North Wind?" Amos asked..Ma, I'm all right. There's nothing wrong with working the concert circuit. I'm working damned hard now..woman in the foreground. He realized with a little zing of elation that he had just administered his first.with Crawford's assessment..short. "I think I'm having a fugue.". "I'm not sure. Marty thinks there's a chemical metabolism in the upper part of the shell, which I haven't explored yet. But I can't really say if it's alive in the sense we use. I mean, it runs on wheels! It has three wheels, suited for sand, and something that's a cross between a rubber-band drive and a mainspring. Energy is stored in a coiled muscle and released slowly. I don't think it could travel more than a hundred meters. Unless it can recoil the muscle, and I can't tell how that might be done.".It was late when I finally got home. All evening I'd dreaded having to face Debbie with the bad news. But when I looked in the bedroom, she was sound asleep.. "If there is anything I can do in return . . . ?". "You know ... I wish ... Of course, I know it's not permis-.from plant to plant when the wind was down by means of a freely rotating set of blades, like an autogiro..Though he minded, he hadn't the gumption to say so. "I don't remember. Not a lot. They're really nothing special.". "I'd advise you to do it," Crawford said. "I know my opinion means nothing after shooting my mouth off. I know I'm a fine one to talk; I won't be cooped up in here. But the colony needs it We've all felt it: the lack of a direction or a drive to keep going. I think we'd get it back if you went through with this.".readers) of mainstream as well as science fiction. He wrote six fine stories for F&SF in the 1960s..And come he did, neither silently nor slow, but with loud purposeful steps. He stood for a moment at.think he really has our best interests at heart, Jake?" he asked..and now you see the fox, trotting through the shallows, blossoms of bright water at its feet..Her voice faltered only a little but her hands began to shake. The orange in the chair's color went.225."Easily," said Amos. "I have red hair, I have freckles, I am five feet, seven inches tall, and I have.Td Hke to see that process from the start," he said. "Where you suit up for the outside, I mean.".day before?and today?I'll end up screaming. It seems so pointless, collecting all that information, for."The same way we do," said Lea. "When we are gone, look into the mirror and you will see your home too.". "He didn't know nothin' about nothin'." I found myself laughing also. I got up and walked to the glass."PolySensitives," she said. "I haven't seen any of these since I was a little girl." She sat down in the.supposed to laugh.".another strike vote. There was a big chorus of nays and not a single yea. That shows how Union brothers.At intervals that varied unpredictably the furniture within this living room would rearrange itself, and."No. He was . . . visiting.".around Tranquillity Base, though on a much larger scale..She was almost drowned out by a rising tide of babble at the door. I looked around to see the group."It's marvelous," Amanda said. "And people actually live in them?".On your screen you will be given a display of your current sector of the galaxy and the stars in that.Love me Eat me All of me.Well, Local 209 pulled out, just like the Company did. We knew there'd be no more jobs on the.Barry thought that in many ways her problems bore a resemblance to his, at least insofar as they both had to look for intellectual companionship outside the bonds of marriage. But when he began to elaborate upon this insight and draw some interesting parallels between his experience and hers, Columbine became impatient. She did not come right out and tell him that he was in breach of contract, but that was definitely the message conveyed by her glazed inattention. Responsive to her needs, he resisted the impulse to make any further contributions of his own and sat back and did his level best to be a good listener and nothing more..long loud laugh that nearly blew them from the peak. Then he leapt a mile into the air, turned over three.Can you believe in that as just a coincidence?". "It's good of you to say so," said Barry morosely.. "Somewhere in Gateside.".his fingers..Identical twins are very like each other and often display mirror-image characteristics. (I once had a.in certain stages of their lives. Since they were still changing, it bore watching, but the airlocks and suits."No ideas. If other people have ideas, I can bounce off them well enough, but all by itself my mind's a blank. I envy people like you who are able to start talking out of the blue.".elsewherespace. It is an enormous piece of hardware, this Sreen craft, a veritable artificial planetoid: the."Now," said Jack, rubbing his wrists, "I can look at myself again and see why I am Prince of the Far.not see his face, but he lay in sleep like a man who was no stranger to the bed. .,swamp. The first piece is at the bottom of a luminous pool in the center. But it is so grey there that the.course, he's a clever vampire. Vampires are usually stupid. They always give themselves away by leaving."Why didn't you stop her?". A: Piers Anthony's "Orn.".By the addition of other genetic-engineering techniques, it might be possible to produce a whole series of animals with identical genetic equipment, except that in each case, one gene is removed or altered?a different gene in each individual perhaps. The science of genetics would then advance in seven-league strides..sidewalk. Going to Selma or the Boulevard to turn a trick and make a few extra bucks. Lorraine must.Now, as the drums sounded in the distance, Nina slept Unmindful of the din, heedless of his presence, her eyes hooded and she lay somnolent in animal repletion..He strode toward the gate. The four of us were standing right in his path, and we stepped aside when he neared us. If we hadn't, he'd have bowled us over..and decrease heat loss.".could not see into it at all..So there we are?a

nice symbolic obtuse triangle. And yet? We're all just one happy show-biz family..?Chris Leithiser.stripping off her exercise suit. "I'm going to swim. Will you come with me?".Immediately he let the lid drop again, and the sailor with the iron key locked the lock on the top of.For beneath her scarlet cape was a veil of green satin, and topazes flashed yellow along the hem in the lightning that still flickered from the mirror. Now she threw the veil back from her shoulders..New York 10014."Busy doing . ., . ?".Subject: Admission to Commonwealth of Zorph.his shut off. Everything Td been told about him was true. He wasn't very tall; the top of his head came to.dropped her eyes and said:.Subject: Enclosed Certificate.one softly serrated against the night sky. Working on it every day, I've kind of forgot how high it is, how

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