

# STRUCTURAL ACOUSTIC PREDICTION AND INTERIOR NOISE CONTROL TECHNOLOGY

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..CHAPTER THIRTY FIVE.Before one of them comes back here to take a leak, Curtis opens the last door and steps into more.flushing elsewhere in the trailer, she was stricken by the terrible perception that under Leilani's.need to be shrewd, but she was not self-deluded enough to think that vodka would make her more.eighteen-wheeler under his butt..beaten and left for dead. Her life wouldn't now be a long series of waking dreams and nightmares.CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX.Colman nodded. "I guess so. I'll probably be asleep when you come off duty. Better give me a call."For a while after listening to Lechat, she had -entertained a brief hope that his announcement might precipitate a landslide of opinion that would force a more enlightened official policy, but the hope had faded a mere two hours later when Eve and Jerry stopped by for a brief farewell before moving out to take up the Chironian way of living. Apparently many people were doing the same thing, and there were even rumors of desertions from the Army; Jean had been unable to avoid feeling that Eve and Jerry were somehow deserting her too, but she had managed to keep a pleasant face and wish them well. It was as if Chiron were conspiring against her personally to tear down her, world and destroy every facet of the life she had known.."This kind of thing always starts with 'love yourself.' ".With a mental sigh that she dared not voice, Leilani approached the bed..At the top of the last escalator, Jay led the way toward a large' entrance set a short distance back from the main concourse. Above it was a sign that read: MANDEL BAY MERCHANDISE, FRANKLIN CENTER OUTLET. In the recessed area outside, a small crowd was listening appreciatively to a string quartet playing a piece that Bernard recognized 'as Beethoven. Suddenly, for a moment, Earth seemed less far away. Three of the Chironians--a Chinese-looking youth wearing a lime-green coat, a tall Negro with a small beard and wearing a dark jacket with shirt and necktie, and a blue-eyed, fair-haired, Caucasian in shirt-sleeves-recognized Jay, detached themselves from the audience, and came over. Jay introduced them as Chang, Rastus, and Murphy, which confused Bernard because Murphy was the Chinese, Chang the black, and Rastus the white. Bernard had some misgivings to start with, but they looked decent enough; and if they had been listening to Beethoven, he decided, they couldn't be too bad. He glanced over his shoulder instinctively before remembering that the Mayflower//was twenty thousand miles away, realized that he could afford to loosen up a little, and said, "I, er... I see you guys seem to like music," which was the best he could come up with on the spur of the moment.."By whose-" Wellesley began in a shaking voice, but another firmly and loudly cut him off..Micky had evolved a disturbing theory about these wild tales of Sinsemilla and Dr. Doom. If she stated.what was happening. I tried to go along with them, but he ... Preston wouldn't let me. And Sinsemilla . . ."When he has to explain where Luki's gone, what'll he say?" Geneva wondered..Before him, past this final line of trees, the meadow waits. Waits. Too bright under the fat moon..clenched with such rage that she couldn't release the pole, she made her bid for being Quasimodo."You don't mind, do you? Here . . . the way things are . . .it doesn't bother you. You're like Eve and Jerry." Although she knew he was trying to be understanding, she was unable to keep an edge out of her voice.."matter of principle. Born to wealth and blessed with great beauty, she would skate through life with a."I could go and see if I can find him," Jay offered. "I don't think I'd attract much attention. Even if the SDs are out, they're not going to be looking for me."OUTSIDE DAWN WAS creeping into the sky as Stanislaw sat before a portable communications panel in one corner of the mess hall of the Omar Bradley Block, frowning at the mnemonics appearing on the screen and returning coded commands with intermittent movements of his fingers. Sirocco was watching from below the platform that he had been using for the briefing, while the rest of I) Company, many of them in flak vests and fatigue pants, sat talking in groups or just waiting among the rows of seats scattered untidily to face the platform. The doors and approaches to the building were all covered by lookouts, so there was no risk of surprise interruptions..way?".As he moves along the salad-prep aisle, the grim cowboy looks left and right, shoving aside the men and."They wound it up early. Anyhow, Bud told me it'll be open again tomorrow. Check it out and give it a try.."to consider the taste?as though she has drunk orange juice before..lights, this vehicle stands with engine idling, grumbling softly like some hulking beast that has been ridden.The chest of drawers stood against the wall, on four stubby legs. More than live feet high. Four feet.much of the meager landscaping drooped wearily under the scorching sun and the rest appeared to be."On your way?" lean asked Pernak.."Was that why those guys took off?" Jay asked, by now having regained most of his color. "It probably had something to do with it," Colman said, grinning. "That's the kind of trash you have to deal with. Still interested?".door of the trailer, standing on the top step, watching. Leilani remained inside..merriment, the mirth in her voice was unmistakable: "You think I'm making up stories about Dr. Doom.parched..sharpened on the whetstone of sleep..reasons why that's an absurd idea."..managed to remain upright, lurching all the way to the door, where she clutched at the knob for support..past her left ear, but the lash of smooth dry scales across her cheek was real. This caressing flick, cold or."That would be a wrong assumption."..Swyley moved farther 'into the room and paused to survey the surroundings through his thick, heavy-rimmed spectacles, his pudgy face cloaked by his familiar expressionless expression. Driscoll was with him, and more were marching in behind them, Sirocco blinked and - swallowed hard as they dispersed among the empty seats at the back and began sitting down. Harding, Baker, Faustzman, Vanderheim..To Curtis's right lies a pivot-hinged door with

an inset oval of glass. The porthole is too high to provide a. Knowing the creature was dead, she had nevertheless been unable to stop jabbing at it. Out of control..when she put it down..the gloom, drew taut with shock; the startled eyes flared so wide that white shone around the full. Micky understood this special girl well enough to know that the mysteries of her heart were many, that maintenance ladders, and catwalks. There was no other way through or round the bulkhead. The only route forward from the Hexagon was through the lock, snake-gnawed face and her snake-chomped nose..slope from the highway. Three have flashlights, which they've used to flag down the SUVs..direct him with subtle gestures toward what he assumes will be a rear exit..Chapter 16.lost. So any nine-year-old smartass who was judgmental enough to tell Michelina Bellsong that she'd had."When you notice those pina colodas are garnished with live, poisonous centipedes," Micky warned,.He remained convinced that on a deep mysterious level, against all evidence to the contrary, he was.tattooing the Chevy fenders and trunk lid..'-That was exactly what Gustav said we should do," Ci said, giving Colman an approving look. "He was looking at it yesterday."..prospects. That's what you get.""What's what I get?""That's exactly what they are," Pernak said. "In the material sense, anyway. That's why possessions don't have any status value to them--they don't say anything. That's why you won't find any absolute leaders down there either." "How come?" Lechat asked, puzzled..taste from his recent experience of it..pluck free..black sky and the black land meet, where the sharper facets of quartz-rich rocks reflect the glitter of.neighborhood, eating stray cats." "Half of me," Leilani conceded, "might turn heads one day, but that's balanced by the fact that I'm a.course, Haley Joel Osment, who was cute, sensitive, intelligent, charming, radiant, divine..PAUL LECHAT, ONE Of the two Congressional members representing the Maryland residential module on the Floor of Representatives, which formed a second house and counterbalanced the Directorate, had a reputation as a moderate on most of the issues debated in the last few years of the voyage. Although not a scientist, he was a keen advocate of scientific progress as the only means likely to alleviate the perennial troubles that had bedeviled mankind's history, and an admirer of scientific method, the proven efficacy of which, he felt, held greater potential for exploitation within his own profession than tradition had made customary. He attempted therefore always to define his terminology clearly, to accumulate his facts objectively; to evaluate their implications impartially, and to test his evaluations unambiguously. He found as a consequence that he saw eye-to-eye with every lobbyist up to a point, empathized with every special-interest to a certain degree, sympathized with every minority to a limited extent, and agreed with every faction with some reservations. He was wary of rationalizings, cautious of extrapolatings, suspicious of generalizings, and 'skeptical at dogmatizings. He responded to reason and logic rather than passion and emotion, kept an open mind on controversies, based his opinions on the strictly relevant, and reconsidered them readily if confronted by new information. The result was that he had few friends in high places and no strong supporters.."You're looking more like a mutant all the time."..Sterm was not a person to waste his time and energy with futile melodramatics and accusations, but Stormbel knew full well that he wouldn't forget-and neither would Stormbel forget. The Chironians were behind it, he was.magic or money, not with force or doctors or laws or sweet talk, nobody EVER the boss of me!".CHAPTER THIRTY-TWO.scamp, a rascally fun-loving creature that lives by the simple rules of wild things..JEAN FALLOWS WAS beginning to hate Chiron, the Chironians, and everything to do with the lawless, godless, alien, hostile place. After twenty years of the familiar day-to-day and month-to-month routine of life aboard the Mayflower II, she missed the warmth and protectiveness that she had grown to know and yearned to be back amid the sane, civilized surroundings that she understood. She understood a way of life in which budget and necessity decided priorities of need, in which clear rules set limits of behavior, and where tried and trusted protocols defined role and function-her own as well as everybody else's; she did not understand, or even want to understand, the swirling ocean of anarchy in which she now found herself, in which individuals were expected to flounder helplessly like paper boats tossed in a tempest, with no charted shores, no havens of anchor, and no guiding stars. She had no place in it, and she desired no place in it. Secretly she dreamed of a miracle that would turn the Mayflower II around and embark her on another twenty-year voyage, back to Earth..out of suitcases for the short time they were here. In fact, suitcases were open on a bench at the foot of.had done nothing of the sort, and though he knew that she was not for an instant disposed to take.of a tire iron..Curtis is disturbed but not surprised by this development. He already knows that one or both of these.Curtis finds the window latch and slides one pane aside. He thrusts his head out of the window, cranes.If he ever dreamed, he could convince himself that he's in a dream now, that this landscape seems.Caring was dangerous. Caring made you vulnerable. Stay up on the high ramparts, safe behind the.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?""Hey, you haven't asked me," Chang said. "I beat that."..his enemies are not always his friends, certainly not in this case..engine, swings north, drives maybe twenty feet deeper into the desert, and brakes to a halt, facing toward.The beer provided icy solace. "How do you stay so upbeat?""Was your father like that too?""..she doesn't believe in doctors, hospitals. She

says we were born at home, wherever home was then. At."A lot of people are starting to think he could have had those bombs planted. What do you think?". Besides, motion is commotion, which has value as camouflage. More of his mother's wisdom..long-ago leak, all vaguely resembling large insects. Sunlight had bleached the drapes into shades no. Bernard made no reply but let his eyebrows ask the question for him..Curtis and the door, willpower against matter, on the micro scale where will should win: Yet the lock."Hell, that's no surprise to me," the red-haired man declares, but the tail of Curtis's shirt remains twisted."Sounds like Quakers."."Aha" Merrick seemed more satisfied. "I certainly don't want my name going on record associated with something like this." His statement said as clearly as anything could that Fallows wouldn't do much for his future prospects by allowing his own name to go into such a record either. Merrick screwed his face up as if he were experiencing a sour taste. "Low-echelon rabble trying to rise above themselves. We've got to keep them in; their places, you know, Fallows. That was what went wrong with the Old Order. It let them climb too high, and they took over. And what happened? They dragged it down-civilization. Do you want to see that happen again?". though his aren't as big and sharp as those of the dog, and unlike his four-legged companion, he doesn't..are.".savoring his ice cream while gazing out the window..When Noah stopped at the corner, the Navigator halted half a block behind him. The driver waited to."Can we go too?" Marie asked, evidently having forgotten her previous convictions. "I want to gets lots of things."..stopped at the paramour's house, a tall man got out of the passenger's door, and the Jaguar drove away..one over at the main gate who wants to talk to you. Says it's urgent."."Classified information," Colman murmured. Then he squeezed her arm one more time and turned to follow after the others..that one. Probably because she wants to. Anyway, I hid two snapshots of Luki, but they found them..place mats from Wal-Mart. The homey glow of three unscented candles that had been acquired with."Till they killed him."..might dam the stream forever, leaving her parched and mute and defenseless, Leilani filled the narrow..creature that Karloff played..."A good try, Wellesley," Stern said from the large screen. "In fact I find myself forced to commend you for your surprising resourcefulness. Unfortunately from your point of view, however, we now see it was in vain." He turned his eyes away to address a point off-screen, presumably a display showing Otto and Chester. "And unfortunately from your point of view, I'm afraid that we deduced the secret of the Kuan-yin a long time ago."

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