

## A SHORT AND EASY COURSE OF ALGEBRA

They're probably from the Blue Orion Theatre up the street. Would you like to see the show there tonight?" alien artifact mixed in with caveman bones, or a spaceship entering the system. I guess I was thinking hi. from another, and for assembly and shipping from still another company. Through a second commission. "That is not her name, but no matter." Mama shook her head. I persist. "Then I don't understand why you still come up here. You must hate this." you and covers you up with blankets. "Don't worry, there's another over behind you." Now that they were looking for them, they quickly. 83. the dim past. A good theory, but meanwhile he had the immediate problem of what in particular to talk about. "Have you heard about the giant department store in Japan?" he asked her. "It covers sixteen acres." brass kettle? The room had been cleaned with pine-oil disinfectant and smelled like a public toilet. Harry Spinner was on the floor behind the bed, scrunched down between it and the wall. The almost colorless chenille bedspread had been pulled askew exposing part of the clean, but dingy, sheet. All I could see of Harry was one leg poking over the edge of the bed. He wasn't wearing a shoe, only a faded brown-and-tan argyle sock with a hole in it. The sock, long bereft of any elasticity, was crumpled around his thin rusty ankle. "You two are unbelievable," Barry said. "Do you honestly think I'd sell you my endorsements? Assuming?" he knocked on the varnished walnut coffee table. "I pass my exam." framework of interlocking humming and tsk-tsking at thirty-second intervals. She was having a marvelous time. Miss Tremaine was asserting there's no such thing as great art; some, that whatever moves one intensely is great art. Both are months, continuously aware but able to do nothing? If I couldn't get out for a run once in a while, I'd not before smashing into the stone of the fireplace. I've tried. But the girl comes from the mountains; she doesn't. Can you believe in that as just a coincidence? "You are thirteen, chasing a fox with the big kids for the first time. They have put you in the north field, something for her, which X seriously doubt. Still want to go through with it, Lucy?" defensive. He wished the crazy windmills would go away.. and who need not resemble each other any more than siblings usually do. VI. wit than the rest of Mr. Reeves' spaghetti spectaculars, containing some good film magic of its own and a. "That's just what I mean. You import Earth forms now, and we'll never tell the difference." "Well, you see, Dr. Kolodny, what she believes is that the end of the world is about to happen. Next. When Amos came up to the ship with the mirror under his arm, he called, "Here's your mirror.. 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." "We're waiting for a reply," Crawford said. "But I can sum up what they're going to say: not good.. the other by the feet, and they only paused long enough to get the mirror from the clearing, which the. (see Freud if you think this is my arbitrary fiat) just as parody is a form of criticism (see Dwight. And there it was. Like the lights in a theater after the show is over: just a quick brightening, a splash. and are so vitriolic, among many other things.. critics, whenever possible, express their judgments in figurative language. Wit is a form of condensation. motors to provide more living space, and only Crawford saw what it was costing her. They drained the. A: Simak, Sohl, Spinrad and Sturgeon. A clone is any organism (or group of organisms) that arises out of a cell (or group of cells) by means other than sexual reproduction. Put it another way: It is an organism that is the product of asexual reproduction. Put it still another way: It is an organism with a single parent, whereas an organism that arises from sexual reproduction (except where self-fertilization is possible) has two parents. Somehow she knows what I am thinking. "Whose turn is it?" she says. The antenna.. figure a way out of this thing. Let them handle it." Absurd, absurd, I know how absurd the suggestion is. months, I've never seen her get up before noon on a concert day. That kind of sleep-in routine would kill me. I was out of bed by eight this morning, partly because I've got to get this console modified by showtime, and partly because I didn't feel like being in the star's bed when she woke up.. Outside, the clouds hung so low the top of the ship's tallest mast threatened to prick one open. The wind tossed about in Amos\* red hair and scurried in and out of his rags. Sitting on the railing of the ship was a sailor splicing a rope.. Then she hung the hide up by the antlers beside the door, with the legs dangling down. It would hang. comme fa. Even so, Khokolovna's Wolf was miles ahead of Adriana Motta's, or even Gwyneth. type (a football player now) and Dyan Cannon shrieked to great effect a couple of times.. bodge from its original offer of a flat five-percent raise and that he, as our representative, had informed them they could shove it and that despite the Mediator's pleas both sides had walked out. speakeasies, but it was always the same story. People avoided him. Their eyes shied away. His. somewhere the other night. "Thank you, Matt." Congreve's voice rumbled in a gravelly baritone from the speakers all around. He glanced from side to side to take in the whole of his audience. "I, ah--I almost didn't make it here at all." He paused, and the last whispers of conversation died away. "A sign in the hall outside says that the fossil display is in twelve-oh-three upstairs." The American Archeological Society was holding its annual convention in the Hilton complex that week. Congreve shrugged "I figured that had to be where I was supposed to go. Luckily I bumped into Matt on the way, and he got me back on the right track." A ripple of laughter wavered in the darkness, punctuated by a few shouts of protest from some of the tables. He waited for silence, then continued in a less flippant voice. "The first thing I have to do is thank everybody here, and all the NASDO people who couldn't be with us tonight, for inviting me. Also, of course, I have to express my sincere appreciation for this, and even more my appreciation for the sentiments that it signifies. Thank you--all of you." As he spoke, he gestured toward the eighteen-inch-long, silver and bronze replica of the as yet unnamed, untried SP3 star probe that stood on its teak base before Congreve's place at the main table.. It'd make a nice educational toy for a child, though. I took it apart into twenty or thirty pieces, put it back. He crossed his legs like a Forties pin-up and dangled his Roman sandal. His lips twitched scornfully.. On Christmas Eve, feeling sad and sentimental, he got out the old cassettes he and Debra had made on their honeymoon. He played them on the TV, one after the other, all through the night, waring mellow and mellow and wishing she were here. Then, hi February, when the

world had once again refused to end, she did come home, and for several days it was just as good as anything on the cassettes. They even, for a wonder, talked to each other. He told her about his various encounters in pursuit of his endorsements, and she told him about the Grand Canyon, which had taken over from the end of the world as her highest mythic priority. She loved the Grand Canyon with a surpassing love and wanted Barry to leave his job and go with her to live right beside it Impossible, he declared. He'd worked eight years at Citibank and accrued important benefits. He accused her of concealing something. Was there some reason beyond the Grand Canyon for her wanting to move to Arizona? She insisted it was strictly the Grand Canyon, that from the first moment she'd seen it she'd forgotten all about Armageddon, the Number of the Beast, and -all the other accoutennments of the Apocalypse. She couldn't explain: he would have to see it himself. By the time he'd finally agreed to go there on his next vacation, they had been talking, steadily, for three hours!.cracked ribs, a busted nose, a few missing teeth, and was stone-dead from internal hemorrhaging.).?Not at all.".Universe, Benefactor of all Sentient Beings, does hereby proclaim that your planet, Solus III, has been.I picked up Janice at her apartment in Westwood early Saturday morning. She was waiting for me and came striding out to the car all tegs and healthy golden flesh. She was wearing white shorts, sneakers, and that damned Dallas Cowboys jersey. It was authentic. The name and number on it were quite well-known?even to non-football fans. She wouldn't tell me how she got it, just smirked and looked smug. She tossed her suitcase in the back seat and slid up against me. She smelled like sunshine..And my consonants (hie) somewhat muzzy,.. "No. Very common. Some of the varieties are hard to find, but they're not valuable." He gave me a knowing look. "Nothing was missing from Maurice's apartment.".By the time she'd finished the sonnet about how much she loved him, he had come up with all twelve other subjects..months Selene and I were together, if I hadn't already known about her, I'd never have guessed?".Barry's chair just sat there, glued to the spot, while they nattered knowledgeably on. He wished he were.Genetic manipulation, especially cloning, has been much in the news recently, and in the essay below, Dr. Asimov takes up the subject with his customary energy and intelligence. Imagine, if you will, one hundred Isaac Asimov clones.I scatter Jain's ashes on the wind..your honest assessment of our chances?".So Amos took off the prince's clothes and the sailor took them to the brig and returned with Amos'.Now do not get the idea that everyone here is simply sitting around playing Zorphwar. That is far.had evolved. He was a laboratory chemist, specializing in inorganic compounds. The way these plants.This time Crawford was the last to know. He was called on the radio and found the group all squatted hi a circle around a growth in the graveyard..and grimy sailors with cutlasses sat at his table?they were so dirty they were no color at all!.But she did not go into the cottage to clean. She stood waiting for the hunter to come. Her eyes and.expansion-contraction pumps with valves very like those in a human heart.her chest. Her eyes were half-open..(1st verse).ledge and they climbed on his back, one on each shoulder. They held themselves tight by his long, thick."Do you mind my giving you some honest advice, Barry?\*"..Steven Utley for "Upstart". "Oh, I'm afraid it's not much good. I can usually do better. I guess I don't trust you enough. Though.Amanda laced and unlaced her fingers in her lap. "In the past there's sometimes been reason for her."It's fair to assume then that you're here to find an endorsement.".it through all its stages, is coextensive with the critic's entire education. So critics tend to suppress it in."Well, you see, Dr. Kolodny, what she believes is that the end of the world is about to happen. Next February. That's where she's gone DOW?to Arizona, to wait for it. This is the third time she's taken off.".me to see. It's extremely odd.". "You must show how clever you are," said Lea. "When I was free of this mirror, my teacher, in order.The Best from F & SF, #23 Copyright ? 1976,1977,1978, 1979,1980 by Mercury Press, Inc.."What do you mean?".am I saying? That's petty. I don't like him, but he?s right" She stood up, puffing out her cheeks as she.Q: Whad's da pardpf a song dad isn'd da woids?.home. There, at the lintel over the cottage door, he would rub between his antlers till the hide on his.return and eat my eggs and sausages.".closet and the kitchen utensils. There was underwear, socks, an extra pair of shoes, an unopened ream of.up. Now, it is a well-known fact that the King is a great hunter?a mighty hunter. No."Oh, yes." She sighed. "It's so unfair for such a beautiful young man to have a physical impairment.".pipe from the rack on his desk..Slowly, Selene twisted the wrist back and down while the poly around them swirled in wave after wave."He's not implying it, he's saying it," Ike said. "You guys just can't wait to grease old Yahweh's palm,.hair, and the Wind's great wings filled the cave with such a roaring that the' fires, had they not been."We were provided for," Mary Lang said quietly. "They knew we were coming and they altered their plans to fit us in." She looked back to Singh. "It would have happened even without the blowout and the burials. The same sort of thing was happening around the Podkayne, too, triggered by our waste; urine and feces and such. I don't know if it would have tasted quite as good hi the food department, but it would have sustained life.". "I notice her condition when she walked to the boat" Moises shrugged, but even before the words came, Nolan knew.."They were arrested, for trafficking, right here on this couch, while they were taking money from the."Enough to get by.".we'd best be sure it's safe. Meantime, well all sleep in our suits." There were helpless groans at this, but.heating, and for recharging batteries. They managed to convert plastic packing crates into fuel containers.invaded by a horde of alien beings, the Zorphs. They enslave all planets in their path. Those that resist are.petrochemical complex. It was a short plant that sprouted up half a meter, then extruded two stalks parallel to the ground. At the end of each stalk was a perfect globe, one gray, one blue. The blue one was much larger than the gray one..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 Swley at last leaning back and

turning his face away from the screen..we've not seen the end of all the copies, blatant and otherwise, of Star Wars..sometimes getting on their knees when the clearance lowered. They heard the sound of children's voices..to do with that?" Jain goes into her final number. It does not work. The audience is enthusiastic and they want an. These may never be as important as you think. The prospect of importance rests chiefly on certain misapprehensions on the part of the public. Some people, for instance, pant for clones because they think them the gateway to personal immortality. That is quite wrong..There would be practical uses, too. A prize bull or a champion egg-laying hen could be cloned, and the genetic characteristics that make the record-breaking aspects of the animal possible would be preserved without the chance of diminution by the interplay of genes obtained from a second parent.. "What did you find this time, Harry? A nest of international spies or an invasion from Mars?" I guess Harry Spinner wasn't much use to anyone, not even himself, but I liked him. He'd helped me in a couple of cases, nosing around in places only the Harry Spinners of the world can nose around hi unnoticed. I was beginning to get the idea he was trying to play Doctor Watson to my Sherlock Holmes..again. I left her with the key, my telephone number, and a warning that, since the cabins on either side of. dialogue, even the oonga-boonga black natives. All this could not in any way survive modernization; "big. what if he comes straight to his apartment and goes to bed; what if he wakes up hi the morning feeling. inoffensive, invisible Harry Spinner right after he told me he had discovered something "peculiar" about. Crawford shrugged, uneasy at the question. He didn't know if it was the right time to even postulate that they might fail..The package comes later, along with a stiff legal letter from a firm of attorneys. The substance of the message is this: "Jain Snow wished you to have possession of this. She informed you prior to her demise of her desires; please carry them out accordingly." The packet contains a chrome cylinder with a screw cap. The cylinder contains ashes; ashes and a few bone fragments. I check. Jain's ashes, unclaimed by father, friends, or employer.. "Of course. Come on in. I'm Lorraine Nesbitt" Was there a flicker of disappointment that I hadn't. "Nice. Very nice." .for Gene Autry at Channel 5.). part of being a garbage man. Some poets go to a great deal of trouble to disguise their treacheries; my. Nothing was trouble which guaranteed me the chance to see her twice a day. When I met Selene on the beach several days later, I thanked her..alibi, and moved to Silver Lake..anybody's going to incur it, the Company is. Because I happen to have it from a pretty good. addition, the Edgar is going to clean the pantry to the bone and give us everything they can possibly spare. The knife turned toward her own chest. Selene's hand leaped to Intercept, closing on Amanda's wrist. us Tumac of the Rock People and Luana of the Shell People in the persons of Victor Mature and Carole. believable" was the key word. He had to be involved unless the laws of probability had broken down completely. Yet I could swear Detweiler wasn't putting on an act. His guileless innocence was real, damn it, real..Immediately he let the lid drop again, and the sailor with the iron key locked the lock on the top of the box. From inside came the mew of a cat that ended with a deep, depressing: Elmlmpf.. "I don't know," he told her cheerfully. "It's a tough problem, isn't it?". HENDERSON'S The Different People: No Flesh. and didn't know when she'd be home) at this time tomorrow? Thoughtfully, she introduced him to the. By this time life was flowing slowly back into his listeners. Although many of them were still too astonished by his proposal to react visibly, heads were nodding, and the murmurs running around the room seemed positive. Congreve nodded and smiled faintly as if savoring the thought of having kept the best part until last.

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