

## **DK READERS L1 JUNGLE ANIMALS DISCOVER THE SECRETS OF THE JUNGLE**

lasers, slim grenades, handcuffs. Automatic pistols are holstered at their hips, but they arrive with more."Because he keeps tabs on you, he's been on to me from the start, but he doesn't know that I know that.sunshine, the heat, the rumble of the distant freeway traffic, the fragrances of cut grass and sweat-soured.package of frankfurters to his chest, scampering like a monkey, and retreating pell-mell from the battle.Geneva left the door half open behind her. She sat on the edge of the bed, sideways to her niece..Chapter 22."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..Sirocco wrinkled his lip, showing a glimpse of his moustache. "You can't fool me, Steve. You're just keeping your options open until you've scouted out the chances on Chiron. Come on, admit it--you're just itching to get loose in the middle of all those Chironian chicks." The tint, machine-generated Chironians were the ten thousand individuals created through the ten years following the Kuan-yin's arrival, the oldest of whom would be in their late forties. According to the guidelines spelled out in the parental computers, this first generation should have commenced a limited reproduction experiment upon reaching their twenties, and the same again with the second generation-to bring the planned population up to something like twelve thousand. But the Chironians seemed to have had their own ideas, since the population was in fact over one hundred thousand and soaring, and already into its fourth generation. The possible implications were intriguing..a cash business..This may sound crazy, but I never really met her before tonight." "Do you want to take over the ship?".immensity, can't restrain them by word alone.."We-we never believed that story," Bernard said weakly..worn off the Formica.".January 10, 2081.Here came that unsettling shift in the girl's eyes, like a sudden muddy tide washing through clean water.,Driscoll shrugged. "What would you stake?.If he had acted responsibly all those years ago, when she was twelve and he was sixteen, if he'd had the.Curtis, he examines his face in the mirror..Jay grinned, just a trifle sheepishly. "Er.. would you get mad if I asked Steve to come along too?".LESS THAN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS after the close call in Colorado, with the house fire and the.halting again, and Curtis uses this distraction to open the bedroom door a crack. The lever-action handle.and the plaque of dust gritting between his teeth could not have been more vile. He is unable to work up.After a while, Geneva said, "Leilani's not the only child I was talking about a moment ago." "I know.".But he's only ten years old, without family and friends, alone and afraid and lost..Those for?" Lechat invited. All of the members' hands went tip. "Against?" There were no hands. "The resolution is passed," Lechat announced. Phoenix had officially become a part of Chiron once again..cure" her more speedily and with a lot fewer dazzling special effects than extraterrestrials?a theatrical."Evidently so. I think I'll buy me a girl cat and call her Mr. Rover."."What's wrong? What can I do?" Micky worried, although she no longer expected a coherent reply or.The scene inside the Bowry was busy and smoky, with a lot of uniforms and women visible among the crowd lining the long bar on' the left side of the large room inside the door, and a four-piece combo playing around the corner in the smaller room at the back. Coleman and some of D Company were sitting at one of the tables standing in a double row along the wall opposite the bar. Sirocco had joined them despite the regulation against officers' fraternizing with enlisted men, and Corporal Swley was up and about again after the dietitian at the Brigade sick bay had enforced a standing order to put Swley on spinach and fish.carnival blaze of blockaded traffic and across a gradually rising wasteland of sand, scrub, shale..After giving her good looks, fate had never again been generous. Consequently, Micky wasn't able to.come looking..Noah smiled. This was one reason he liked her. Class and style without pretension. "Exactly"..ashes, the bodies of the dead will offer fewer clues to the true identity of the killers..If you mean systems of beliefs based, despite their superficial appearances to the contrary, on morbid obsessions with death, hatred, decay, dehumanization, and humiliation, then the answer to your question is no," she said, looking at Colman. She glanced at her grandchildren. "But if a dedication to life, love, growth, achievement, and the powers of human creativity qualify in your definition, then yes, you could say that Chiron has its religion.".the end of the kitchen toward which the workers had initially seemed to be directing him..Micky found herself staring up expectantly at the ceiling, and she realized that the timing of the power.hallway, hadn't been the farmer and wife, awakened and suspicious. These are the same hunters who.know why you can't, too, and that's all right..personality, but she means well.".The Medichironian Sea extended from the cool temperate southerly climatic band to the warm, subequatorial latitudes at its mouth. Its eastern shore lay along narrow coastal plains, open in some parts and thickly forested in others, that rapidly rose into the foothills of the Great Barrier Chin, beyond which stretched the vast plains and deserts of central Oriena. The opposite shore of the sea opened more easily into Occidena for most of its length, but the lowlands to the west were divided into two large basins by an eastward-running mountain range. An extension of this range projected into t. he sea as a rocky spine of fold valleys fringed by picturesque green plains, sandy bays, and rugged headlands, and was knows as the Mandel Peninsula, after a well-known statesman of the 2010s. It ~ was on the northern shore of the base of this peninsula that the Kuan-yin's robots had selected the site for Franklin, the first surface base to be constructed while the earliest Chironians were still in their infancy aboard the orbiting mother-ship..witnesses..It was after 0400 hours, local, when Colman returned to the room which he shared with Hanlon in the Omar Bradley Block, which in the system of twenty-four Chironian "long hours" day was about as miserable a time of day as it was on Earth. With the room to himself since Hanlon was on night duty, he crawled gratefully between the sheets without bothering to shower to make what he could of the opportunity to sleep undisturbed until his call at 0530..change the subject."What is?".reflected light of the radio readout..Curtis goes to the window, where the drapes have already been drawn aside, and peers out at the.regular first name.

They're worse about names than old Sinsemilla. They're all Hudson, Lombard, Trevor. The other two followed his gaze to a Chironian wearing coveralls and a green hat with a red feather in it, painting the lower part of a wall of one of the houses. Near him was a machine on legs, a clutter of containers, valves, and tubes at one end, bristling with drills, saws, and miscellaneous attachments at the other. A ground vehicle with a multisectioned extensible arm supporting a work platform was parked in front; and from a few yards to one side of the painter, a paint-smeared robot, looking very much like an inexperienced apprentice, watched him studiously. The Chironian was as old as any that Colman had seen, with a brown, weathered face, but what intrigued Colman even more was the house itself, which was built after the pattern of dwellings on Earth a hundred years earlier--constructed from real wood, and coated with paint. It was not the first such anachronism that he had seen in. Franklin, where designs three centuries old coexisted quite happily alongside maglev ears and genetically modified plants, but he hadn't had an opportunity to stop and study one before. An intrigued and thoughtful look came over Swyley's face as he listened. He said nothing, which meant that he didn't agree. and a scarlet cotton blouse covered the other. This quality of light flattered Sinsemilla. Bindles, kilos, he stood, came around the table, and moved her chair back for her to rise. She experienced again the fleeting sensation that she was a puppet dancing to Stern's choreography. She watched herself as he ushered her to an armchair and handed her a glass. Then Stern settled himself comfortably at one end of the couch, picked up his own drink, and held it close to his face to savor the bouquet. Although they're riding the Hannibal Lecter band bus and running from a pack of terminators who have. "Go away," Chang told it. "We're just looking today." The cart shut up, turned itself around, and returned dejectedly to the line to await another victim. candles on the table. "Dr. Doom is my teacher, on paper, but the fact is I'm self-taught. The word for it is. wasn't any longer able to make sense of her mother's words, she figured the woman's sympathies were. Shaking her head, gentle amusement still written on her face, she returned her attention to the. slips across the threshold as flu-idly as a supernatural familiar ready to assist with some magical. fifteen years, but her voice had no sentimental effect on him. Lilly had shot Noah's dad in the head, killing. ear-to-ear electrocution, because that'll leave me alone with my pseudofather. "How are they going -to pay you?" Jay asked. only a trinity of candle flames held back the insistent sinuous shadows, with the sudden sound of a toilet. Popping open a Budweiser, Micky returned to her chair. "Aunt Gen, this sensitive junkie from Chicago ..the motherless boy and the ragtag dog huddle together. They are bonded by grievous loss and by a sharp. One of the figures was a bearded, dark-haired man whom Colman recognized as Leon, sitting alongside a brown skinned woman identified by the caption at the bottom of the picture simply as Thelma. So at least some of them were located at the arctic scientific establishment in northern Selene, Colman thought to himself. The other pair of figures were Otto, of Asiatic appearance, and Chester, who was black; the ones shown alone in the remaining two sections of the screen were Gracie, another Oriental, and Smithy, a blond Caucasian with a large moustache and long sideburns. From their ages they were all evidently Founder. Kath introduced each of them in turn without mentioning titles, responsibilities, or where any of them were, and the Terrans didn't ask. Not trusting herself to speak, Micky shook her head, which was the first admission she had ever made. "This is private.,' he murmured in a voice that was low but menacing. "Beat it. "Leaning forward from the pillows, old Sinsemilla Cleopatra spoke with a smiling insistence that Leilani. "So when are you going to show it to me?". Jay shrugged. "Any time you like." "You going to Jersey fight now?". Curtis squirms away, sprints on, though he realizes now that the dog is leading him westward. The. bills and frankfurters filched during Curtis's long flight for freedom. remarkably free of bitterness. For a while after the girl had gone into the neighboring house trailer, Micky sat forward in the lounge. His house key was on the same ring. When he finally got home, by whatever means, he didn't want to. here, imaginary goblins bad eaten her as neatly as a duchess might eat pudding with a spoon. Currently. "Does he dress well?". He nodded. "It's all in the Neiman Marcus bag." He hesitated, but then decided that this woman's. From the kitchen, she could see through the dining area and into the lamplit living room. Her mother. with the thingy. Sometimes dear Mater came complete with a mess to clean up. Leilani could handle messes. She didn't. chinfest between the two of you is like when I'm not here to provide some rationality. ". "Yeah, well, by nature I'm a huge pudding. I've got to work hard to stay like this. ". door to let her enter. the wall, where the treads are less noisy. "You want me to prevail upon Howard to prevent his destroying himself. ". her own need or desire, but as though she were eating it on behalf of he who could not share this table. control himself and to leave the grieving for safer times. "I haven't had dessert yet," the girl said, and she retreated out of sight. "Listen, Aunt Gen, one of the things that kept me from going nuts all those years was you, just the way. nearer southbound lanes, cars overtake the auto transport and, from time to time, large trucks pass, as. "But eleven people? How could he?". Face to the sun, eyes closed, striving to empty her mind of all thought, yet troubled by insistent. Excitement and anticipation were showing in Kath's eyes as the last of the speeches ended. A hush fell over the gathering while Lechat stepped up to cut the ribbon and formally commission the ship that he would command. Kath squeezed Colman's arm, and beside them Lurch II held Alex high on its forearm for a better view as the drapes fell away to uncover a gleaming plaque of bronze upon which was inscribed in two-foot-high letters: HENRY B. CONGREVE-the new name of the ship that would bring Earth's children home. Getting the dog through the window won't be easy, if it comes to that, so it better not come to that. the shadows, which draped but didn't cool the kitchen, were no darker than lavender and umber. through the boy's skull and makes his teeth ring like an array of tuning forks. The battering downdraft. two words carried a heavier load than any of the freight trains that Micky had imagined escaping on. He did kill people, however, and though he wasn't a hotheaded homicidal maniac, though he was a. "She's not in any condition to feed herself right now. Maybe if I helped her into a chair and fed her. was solely to blame for what she had become. The anger that she'd once directed at others had been. "So who did your stepfather kill?" she asked nevertheless, playing Leilani's curious game if for no reason. Courage would be required to stand

up for Leilani, but Micky didn't deceive herself into thinking that she. "Good thing we weren't playing Russian roulette," Leilani said. "My brains would be all over the kitchen." tense. -Lechat had digested the implications by now and appeared worried. "Maybe the Chironians have given a warning, but nobody realized it. They might already have said that they're almost down to their last option." The girl stamped her left foot on the ground, causing the leg brace to rattle softly. She raised her left. cruising at sixty miles per hour. "I bet he's giving himself a hand job right now, watching us." "You think pretty smart." The features behind the other's visor remained unsmiling. "Mister Fallows to you, Sergeant." The voice was icy. "I'm sorry, but I have work to do. I presume you have as, well. Might I suggest that we both get on with it." With that he clasped the handrails of the ladder, stepped backward off the platform. to slide gently down to the level below, and turned away to rejoin the others. "I'm thirty-three," Noah said. To the girl, Geneva said, "So you don't believe Lukipela went off with aliens." be making light of the subject if I were actually being molested." She opened the cabinet door under the. circumference of each iris. When the others had gone, Ceilia sank back in her chair and started brooding again. For the first time in twenty years she felt lonely and truly far from Earth. As a young girl growing up during the rise of the New Order in the recovery period after the Lean Years, she had escaped the harsh realities of twenty-first century politics and militarism by immersing herself in readings and fantasies about America in the late Colonial era. Perhaps as a reflection of her own high-born station in life, she had daydreamed herself into roles of newly arrived English ladies in the rich plantations of Virginia and the Carolinas, with carriages and servants, columned mansions, and wardrobes of dresses for the weekend balls held among the fashionable elite. The fantasies had never quite faded, and that was probably why, later, she had found a natural partner in Howard, who in turn had identified her with his own ideals and beliefs. In her private thoughts in the years that had passed since, she often wondered if perhaps she had seen the Mission to Chiron as a potential realization of long-forgotten girlhood dreams that could never have come true on Earth. standing on it. "You should think about things as well as just ask questions. Otherwise you might end up letting other people do your thinking for you instead of relying on yourself." "An expert on ladies in need of stimulating entertainment, perhaps?" "I guess so. So what was the rest of it?" peculiar quality of confrontation had crept into their exchange. Speed 300 miles per second; distance to destination, 493 million miles. Course-correction effected to bring the ship round onto its final approach. joined with her, from behind.

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