

THE LATTER DAY SAINTS MILLENNIAL STAR VOL 89 DECEMBER 1 1927

"We'll need to talk about this a lot in the days to come, as we both have more time to think about it." Action. just concentrate on action and ignore the disgusting aftermath. Remember the runaway train and the bus full of nuns stuck on the tracks. Stay with the train, don't go back to look at the smashed nuns, just keep moving forward, and everything will be all right..She stepped to the bed, bracketing Junior between her and Big Rude. The stream of obscene invective issuing from Sheena made Junior feel as if he had gotten in the way of a septic-tank cleanout hose..When the convulsive seizure passed, as he collapsed back on the spattered pillow, shuddering at the stench rising from his hideously fouled clothes, Junior was suddenly struck by an idea that was either.Hound had taken him, had stood and seen his people beaten senseless, had not stopped the beating. Yet he spoke as a friend. Why? said Otter's look. Hound answered it..During the past week, Junior had undertaken quiet background research on the prestidigitator with a badge. The cop was unmarried. He lived alone, so this bold visit entailed no risk..Two soft-boiled eggs, one slice of bread neither toasted nor buttered, a glass of apple juice, and a dish of orange.Tom removed the lid. No beer, one head. Simon Magusson's severed head lay faceup on the ice, mouth open as though he were standing in court to object to the prosecution's line of questioning..She slipped into her shoes and stood for a moment watching his lips move as he gave thanks for his blessings and as he asked that blessings be given to others who needed them..In his blindness, Barty listened to her reports and, through her, saw more than he could have seen if never he had lost his eyes.."But let's pretend it's me, okay? So here I am, stepping off the curb without looking both ways-".Over potato soup and an asparagus salad, the dinner conversation got off to a promising start: a discussion of favorite potato dishes, observations on the weather, talk of Mexico at Christmas..Bartholomew was dead but didn't know it yet. Pistol in hand, cocoon in tatters, ready to spread his butterfly wings, Junior pushed the door to the apartment inward, saw a deserted living room, softly lighted and pleasantly furnished, and was about to step across the threshold when the street door opened and into the hall came Ichabod..Out of Phimie's humiliation, terror, suffering, and death had come Angel, whom Celestina had first and briefly hated, but whom now she loved more than she loved Wally, more than she loved herself or even life itself. Phimie, through Angel, had brought Celestina both to Wally and to a fuller understanding of their father's meaning when he spoke of this momentous day, an understanding that brought power to her painting and so deeply touched the people who saw and bought her art..Remember the beauty of rage. Channel the anger and be a winner. Act now, think later..The boy didn't at once answer, and when Agnes looked up from Red Planet, she saw that he was staring oddly at her. He squinted, as if puzzled, and said, "The twisty spots just jumped off the page right up on your face."The blonde was coming on to him, just as a score of other women had done since his arrival, so Junior tried to balance seduction with information gathering. Putting his hand over the hand with which she was gently massaging his thigh, he said, "I knew her brother in Nam. Then I got wounded, shipped out, lost touch. Like to find him."."Mr. Cain, if he bothers you, would you want me to have his choke chain yanked?".Bob gently encouraged him to return by degrees from the deep meditative state, return, return, return.....Slamming through the door, letting it bang shut behind him hard enough to crack the glass, crossing the porch, Tom took the beauty of the day like a fist in the gut. It was too blue and too bright and too gorgeous to harbor death, and yet it did, birth and death, alpha and omega, woven in a design that flaunted meaning but defied understanding. It was a blow, this day, a hard blow, brutal in its beauty, in its simultaneous promises of transcendence and loss.."You're one to talk," Celestina said. "Who was it told us they were sitting hand in hand on the front-porch swing."Her brothers' solemnity irritated Agnes. They appeared to be taking this reading seriously, as though it were far more than just a little after-dinner entertainment.."All right, the scary one." "I SOMETIMES EVEN EAT SPIDERS WITH MY CAVIAR." "Now who's being gross?" The morning that it happened, Edom woke early from a nightmare about the roses..When he passed by his own lunch plate on the counter and again saw the quarter gleaming in the cheese, he spat out a curse..Always, he was good with Barty, and on this occasion, he teased more than the usual number of smiles and giggles from the boy as he tried to get him to read the Snellen chart on the wall. Then he lowered the lights in the examination room to study his eyes with an ophthalmometer and an ophthalmoscope.."You should be with your children," Agnes worried. Maria looked up. "My babies are sittid with my sister."."May 14, 1845, in Canton, China, a theater fire killed sixteen hundred seventy. On December 8, 1863, a fire in the Church of La Compana, in Santiago, Chile, left two thousand five hundred and one dead. One hundred fifty perished in a fire at a Paris charity bazaar: May 4, 1897. June 30, 1900, a dock fire in Hoboken, New Jersey, killed three hundred twenty-six. . ."In the top drawer, in addition to the expected items, Tom Vanadium found a gallery brochure for an art exhibition. In the hooded flashlight beam, the name Celestina White seemed to flare off the glossy paper as though printed in reflective ink..Sitting up in bed, he passed a little time reading favorite, marked passages in Zedd's You Are the World. The book presented a brilliant argument that selfishness was the most misunderstood, moral, rational, and courageous of all human motivations.."You know Mommy," Barty said, almost desperately sponging up the sight of his little girl's face and wringing the images into his memory to sustain him in the next long darkness..He went upstairs to change out of his dark blue suit and badly scuffed black shoes.."So entertaining, I felt I should have paid for those seats. When the third machine starts whizzing coins at him, he bolts like a kid running a graveyard at midnight on a dare." Nolly laughed, remembering..Agnes's sharp intake of breath caused Edom to look up from his nephew's name. Pale, she was, her eyes as haunted as old mansions.."I mean it. You have a lot of responsibilities here. Barty. Pie Lady Services. People who depend on you. Friends who love you. When you came on board with me, mister, you bought into a whole lot more than you can walk away from."Deed flinched. "No reason. But I sure never did mean you or your husband any harm, Mrs.

Lampion. And not your baby, either, not little Bartholomew." A spirit-shredding bleakness clawed at her, but she couldn't permit it to leave her in tatters. If she traded hope for despair, as her brothers had done, Bartholomew would be finished before he'd begun. She owed him optimism, lessons in the joy of life. The social worker's office once more. Rain tapping lightly at the window where Dr. Lipscomb had stared intently into the fog as he tried to avoid confronting the life-changing revelation that Phimie, speaking with the special knowledge of the once-dead, had shown him. Junior didn't know much about guns. He didn't approve of them; he had never owned one. Nevertheless, Junior was thrilled to hear the name Bartholomew, and to know that the boy of whom Celestina spoke was the Bartholomew of Bartholomews, the menacing presence in his unremembered dream, the threat to his fortune and future that must be eliminated. Not that she ever gave any indication that her brothers were other than a source of pride for her. She treated them always with respect, tenderness, and love-as if unaware of their shortcomings. Ichabod passed Bartholomew through the open door to Celestina in the passenger's seat, went around the Buick, put the tote bag in the back, and climbed behind the wheel once more. So burning with anger was he that his car, by direct thermal transmission from his hands upon the wheel, should have been glowing cherry red in the January night, should have been scorching tunnels of clear dry air through the cold fog. Rancor, virulence, acrimony, vehemence: All words learned for the purpose of self-improvement were useless to him now, because none adequately conveyed the merest minimum of his anger, which swelled as vast and molten as the sun, far more formidable than his assiduously enhanced vocabulary. "Mrs. Lampion, in a case like this, I've found that the greatest mercy is directness. Your son has retinoblastoma. A malignancy of the retina." Celestina indicated to Tom that he should sit at the head of the table, facing Agnes at the foot. As Wally lowered himself into the empty chair to Tom's left, Celestina picked up two items from the sideboard and put them in front of Tom, before sitting to his right. Sometimes Celestina marveled at how intimately and inextricably the tendrils of tragedy and joy were intertwined in the vine of life. Sorrow was often the root of future joy, and joy could be the seed of sorrow yet to come. The layered patterns in the vine were so complex, so enrapturing in their lush detail and so fearsome in their wild inevitability, that she could fill uncountable canvases, through many lifetimes as an artist, striving to capture the enigmatic nature of existence, in all its beauty dark and bright, and in the end merely suggest the palest shadow of its mystery. "Wouldn't live in the Caribbean if you paid me," Bill said. "All that humidity. All those bugs." "Oh, yes, I recall it now. Polar bears eating tourists in Union Square, wolf packs prowling the Heights." "You better wise up, you tree-humping nitwit," Rudy advised Junior, grabbing the bed railing as if he might tear it off and use it to club his son-in-law senseless. This morning he had changed the sheets. Naomi's scent was no longer with him in the bedclothes. In spite of its dazzle and power and comfort, however, the car was not able to lift his spirits as he cruised the hills of the city. Somewhere along these darkly glistening streets, in these houses and high-rises clinging to steep slopes awaiting seismic sundering, the boy was sheltered: half Negro, half white, full doom to Junior Cain. "Nervous," he said, and howled when one of the paramedics proved to be a sadist masquerading as an angel of mercy. He wanted to say: The vain, power-mad politicians who milk cheers from ignorant crowds, the sports stars and preening actors who hear themselves called heroes and never object, they should all wither with shame at the mention of your name. Your vision, your struggle, the years of grueling work, your enduring faith when others doubted, the risk you took with career and reputation--it's one of the great stories of science, and I'd be honored if I could shake your band. For a while, Junior half convinced himself that the quarter in his cheeseburger, in December '65, was a meaningless coincidence, unrelated to Vanadium. His short tour of the kitchen, in search of the perpetrator, had given him reason to believe the diner's sanitary standards were inadequate. Recalling the greasy men on that culinary death squad, he knew that he'd been fortunate not to discover a dead rodent spread-eagle on the melted cheese, or an old sock. He tucked his left arm tight against his side and threw himself against the door. The obstructing furniture was heavy, but it moved an inch. If it would give one inch, it would give two, so it wasn't immovable, and he was already as good as in there. He had experienced considerable self-revelation during the past eighteen hours, but of all the new qualities he had discovered in himself, Junior was most proud of the realization that he was such a profoundly sensitive person. This was an admirable character trait, but it would also be a useful screen behind which to commit whatever ruthless acts were required in this dangerous new life he'd chosen. As was true of the entire house, the bedroom was immaculate. The wood floor gleamed as though polished by hand. A simple white chenille spread conformed to the bed as smoothly and tautly as the top blanket tucked around a soldier's barracks bunk. Rowena loves you, Phimie had told him, briefly repressing the effects of her stroke to speak with clarity. Beezil and Feezil are safe with her Messages from his lost wife and children, where they waited for him beyond this life. "If he gets back within the next hour, better ring me at his place so I can scoot." During this same period, having subscribed to the opera, Junior attended a performance of Wagner's *The Ring of the Nibelung*. Moving out of the doorway, into the bedroom, he said, "What book would that be?" do further testing, of course, but not until he's been stabilized at least twelve hours. Personally, I don't think we'll find any physical cause. Most likely, this was psychological-acute nervous emesis, caused by severe anxiety, the shock of losing his wife, seeing her die. Paul Damascus remained busy, filling prescriptions, until he was finally able to take a lunch break at two-thirty. Three times, the singing faded away, but twice, just when he thought that she had finished, she began to croon again. The third time, the silence lasted. The middle finger on his right hand throbbed under the pair of Band-Aids. He'd sliced it earlier, while using the electric sharpener to prepare his knives, and the wound had been aggravated when he'd had to strangle Neddy Gnathic. He would never have cut himself in the first place if there had been no need to be well-armed and ready for Bartholomew and his guardians. Later, at home, he gargled until he had drained half a bottle of mint-flavored mouthwash, took the longest shower of his life, and then used the other half of the mouthwash. He intended to mash the sole of Victoria's right

shoe in the pat of butter and leave a long smear on the floor, as though she slipped on it and fell toward the ovens. He raised one hand to halt the genteel debate. "The whole reason I stopped here first, before taking you folks on to my place, is so I wouldn't have to bring your suitcases back after Agnes won you over. This is where you'll be happiest, though you're always welcome if she tries to work you to death." The wife killer was evil; and his evil would be expressed one way or another, regardless of the forces that affected his actions. If he'd not killed Naomi on the fire tower, he would have killed her elsewhere, when another opportunity for enrichment presented itself. If Victoria hadn't become a victim, some other woman would have died instead. If Cain hadn't become obsessed with the strange conviction that someone named Bartholomew might be the death of him, he would have filled his hollow heart with an equally strange obsession that might have led him, anyway, to Celestina, but that would surely have brought violence down on someone else if not on her. When she complimented him on being such a good little soldier, abiding his cold with no complaint, he shrugged. Without looking up from the coloring book, he said, "It's just here." Earlier, the dirty-sheet clouds had been wrung dry. Now, the trees that overhung the house had finally stopped dripping on the cedar shingled roof. The night was so still that Agnes could hear the sea softly breaking upon the shore more than half a mile away. This was a California live oak, green even in winter, although its leaves were fewer now than they would be in warmer seasons. The elaborate branch structure, reflected around him, was an exquisite and harmonious maze overlaying a mosaic of sunlight green on grass, and something in its patterns suddenly touched him, moved him, seized his imagination. He felt as if he were balanced on the brink of an astonishing insight. Saturday morning, he walked to a drugstore in town and purchased eight decks of cards. With four, he passed the day re-creating, again and again, what he'd done at the dining-room table the previous evening. The four knaves never appeared. A few attractive women were here alone, proof that social mores had changed dramatically in three years. Junior was aware of their hot gazes, their need, and he knew that he could have any of them. He usually ate lunch alone in his office. The room was the size of an elevator, but of course didn't go up or down. It went sideways, however, in the sense that herein Paul was transported into wondrous lands of adventure. Jacob Isaacson--twin brother of Edom--knew nothing negative about Panglo, but he didn't trust him. If the mortician had been caught prying gold teeth from the dead and carving satanic symbols in their buttocks, Jacob would have said, "It figures." If Panglo had saved bottles of infected blood from diseased cadavers, and if one day he ran through town, splashing it in the faces of unsuspecting citizens, Jacob would not have raisers one eyebrow in surprise. "Less than a year and a half ago, Hurricane Flora--she killed over six thousand in the Caribbean." She left him sore in places that had never been sore before. Yet he was more stressed out on Thursday than he'd been on Wednesday. His eyes were strangely radiant, as she had never seen them before, as if the shining angel who would guide him elsewhere had already entered his body and was with him to begin the journey. "You don't get the heebie-jeebies," Max said. "You give 'em. Tell me what's wrong." The house was empty, silent. Hanna worked only days. Nellie Oatis, Perri's companion, was not employed here anymore. This was different earthquake weather from that of ten days ago, when he'd made the pie deliveries alone. Then: blue sky, unseasonable warmth, low humidity. Now: low gray clouds, cool air, high humidity. The reverend couldn't easily escape church obligations on such short notice, but Grace wanted to be with her daughters. Phimie, however, pleaded that only Celestina accompany her. Junior hadn't suffered a paranormal experience since the early-morning hours of October 18, when he'd drifted up from a vile dream of worms and beetles to hear the ghostly singer's faint a cappella serenade. Shouting at her to shut up, he had awakened neighbors. Junior and Naomi had taken their dried apricots from the same bag. Reached in the bag without looking. Shook them out into the palms of their hands. She could not have controlled which pieces of fruit he received and which she ate. From late morning until dinner, people arrived and departed, raised toasts to a merry Christmas and to peace on earth, to health and to happiness, reminisced about Christmases past, marveled about the first heart transplant performed this very month in South Africa, and prayed that the soldiers in Vietnam would come home soon and that Bright Beach would lose no precious sons in those far jungles. In his right hand again, the real gun, loaded with ten hollow-point rounds, felt charged with supernatural power: to Bartholomew as a crucifix to Dracula, as holy water to a demon, as kryptonite to Superman. Near midnight, she returned to her apartment. Lights out, in bed, staring at the ceiling, she was unable to sleep. "Great guy. Do you have an address for her, a way maybe I could get in touch about her brother?" A few minutes after dawn, in excellent weather, they flew out of Sacramento, bound for Eugene. Junior would have enjoyed the scenery if his face hadn't felt as if it were gripped by a score of white-hot pliers in the hands of the same evil trolls that had peopled all the fairy tales that his mother had ever told him when he was little. "There is no king in Earthsea," the young man said, stern and righteous, "In my master's service, then," Hound amended, patient. In the front wall of the living room, where once had been a fine bay window, the parsonage lay open to the sunny day. Tom shrubbery, carried in from outside, marked the path of destruction. In the very middle of the room, plowed against a toppled sofa and a thick drift of broken furniture, a battered red Pontiac sagged to the left on broken springs and blown tires. A portion of the crazed windshield quivered and collapsed inward, while plumes of steam hissed from under the buckled hood. But first, in early July, he stopped taking French lessons. It was an impossible language. Difficult to pronounce. Ridiculous sentence constructions. Anyway, none of the good-looking women he met spoke French or cared whether he did. knew Phimie died in childbirth, not an accident, and Max's instincts told him rape. I explained to your dad why Cain was the man. I wanted whatever information he might have. But I suppose ... sitting there, looking at my face, he decided that Cain is indeed the biggest hornet's nest ever, and he didn't want to put his daughter and granddaughter at greater risk than necessary. Lipscomb women gladly obey the wishes of Lipscomb men--unless they disagree, of course, or don't disagree but are just feeling mulish. "Angel," Phimie said thickly, searching her sister's eyes for a sign of understanding. One, two, three, four--Edom took away all the

remaining pies. He pointed at Barty and then at the empty table..Music played within. An up-tempo number. Possibly swing. He couldn't quite identify the tune..The bandaged man stormed up from the ruin of the living room, gauze fluttering around his lips as his hard exhalations seemed to prove that he wasn't a long-dead pharaoh reanimated to punish some heedless archaeologist who had ignored all warnings and violated his tomb. So this wasn't a Weird Tales moment..The unmatched suite of bedroom furniture, cheap and scarred, might have been purchased at a thrift shop. A double bed and one nightstand. A small dresser..Finished, she gave him a mirror, so he could admire his new bicuspid cap. After five years of dentistry, paced so as not to tax Nolly's tolerance, Kathleen had done well what nature had done poorly, giving him a perfect bite and a supernatural smile. This final cap was the last of the reconstruction..So keep moving. Don't get hung up on the disgusting aftermath. Keep whistling along like a runaway train. Clean up, clean out, roll on..He was uncharacteristically restive. His stoic nature, his long learned Jesuit philosophy regarding the acceptance of events as they unfold, and the acquired patience of a homicide detective were insufficient to prevent frustration from taking root in him. In the more than two months since Enoch Cain vanished, following the murder of Reverend White, no trace of the killer had been found. Week by week, the slender sapling of frustration had grown into a tree and then into a forest, until Tom began every morning by looking out through the tightly woven branches of impatience.. "I get peed off, and I miss some things terrible. But I'm not sad. And you've got to not be sad, either, 'cause it spoils everything." Junior no longer leaned casually on the casing. He put both hands flat against the door..He was, in fact, a first-rate driver, with an impeccable record at the age of thirty: no traffic citations, no accidents..A siren in the city wailed toward St. Mary's. An ambulance. Through streets bustling with hope, always this lament for the dying..of Zedd constituted the most thoughtful, most rewarding, most reliable guide to life to be found anywhere. When Junior was Confused or troubled, he turned to Caesar Zedd and never failed to find enlightenment, guidance. When he was happy, he found in Zedd the welcome reassurance that it was all right to be successful and to love oneself."Those were Rowena's affectionate names for the boys when they were babies. Her private nonsense names for them, because she said they were like two beautiful little elves and ought to have elfin names." Many nights, his sleep wasn't half as restful as he would have wished, for he often dreamed of walking in a wasteland. Sometimes, desert salt flats stretched in all directions, with here and there a monument of weather-gnarled rock, all baking under a merciless sun. Sometimes, the salt was snow, and the monuments of rock were ridges of ice, revealed in the hard glare of a cold sun. Regardless of the landscape, he walked slowly, though he had the desire and the energy to proceed faster. His frustration built until it was so intolerable that he woke, kicking in the tangled sheets, restless and edgy..In those days they had no fixed names for the various kinds and arts of magic, nor were the connections among those arts clear. There was-as the wise men of Roke would say later-no science in what they knew. But Hound knew pretty surely that his prisoner was concealing his talents..To be fair, with her exceptional beauty, she would have been the center of attention even in a gathering of real artists. Junior had little chance of getting at Seraphim's bastard boy without going through this woman and killing her as well; but if his luck held and he could eliminate Bartholomew without Celestina realizing who had done the deed, then he might yet have a chance to discover if she was as lubricious as her sister and if she was his heart mate..This was not the same card he'd found at his bedside, under two dimes and a nickel, on the night following Naomi's funeral. He had torn that one and had thrown it away..The wedding reception-big, noisy, and joyous-spread across the three properties without fences. His mother's name was so often mentioned, her presence so strongly felt in all the lives that she had touched, that sometimes it seemed that she was actually there with them..More likely than not, this was a lie, and the detective was, setting him up. Suddenly Junior wished that he had denied dreaming..Agnes had read the last half of Red Planet to Barty just the previous night, but he brought the book with him, to read it again..When Agnes and Paul returned from a honeymoon in Carmel, they discovered that Edom had finally cleared out Jacob's apartment. He donated his twin's extensive files and books to a university library that was building a collection to satisfy a growing professorial and student interest in apocalyptic studies and paranoid philosophy..Aftermath had a way of being discovered, often at the worst of all possible moments, which he had learned from movies and from crime stories in the media and even from personal experience. Discovery always brought the police at high speed, sounding their sirens and full of enthusiasm, because those bastards were the most past-focused losers on the face of the earth, utterly consumed by their interest in aftermath..The following morning, he canceled his German lessons. It was an impossible language. The words were enormously long..Junior had thought most other policemen must consider Vanadium to be a loose cannon, a rogue, an outcast. Perhaps the opposite was true-and if it was, if Vanadium was highly regarded among his peers, he was immeasurably more dangerous than Junior had realized..Turning away from the window, Celestina grabbed the girl and pushed her toward the bed, whispering, "Down, under."..AFTER UNDERGOING TESTS for brain tumors or lesions, to ascertain whether his seizure of violent emesis might, in fact, have a physical cause, Junior was returned to his hospital room shortly before noon..Too far from Spruce Hills to be a popular make-out spot for teenagers, Quarry Lake was a turnoff for young lovers also because it had a reputation as haunted territory. Over five decades, four quarry workers had died in mining accidents. County lore included stories of ghosts roaming the depths of the excavation before it was flooded-and subsequently the shoreline, after the lake was filled..Even someone of saintly habits and selfless behavior might be a monster in his heart, filled with unspeakable desires, which he might act upon only once or never.. "And to the north of us," Agnes said, drawing him out, "Janey Carter went off to college last year, and she's their only child."..He was glad that he'd taken the double dose of antiemetics. In spite of this provocation, his stomach felt as solid and secure as a bank vault..At Thanksgiving dinner, again at the three tables set end to end, in the year of the triple zero, Mary Lampion, now fourteen years old, made an interesting announcement over the pumpkin pie. In her travels where none but she

could go, after seven fascinating years of exploring a fraction of all the infinite worlds, she said she sensed beyond doubt that, as Barty's mother had told him on her deathbed, there is one special place beyond all the ways things are, one shining place..Every distorted shape, every smear of color, every swath of light and shudder of shadows resisted her attempts to relate them to the world she knew, as if shimmering before her were the landscape of a dream..He was in a mood to shoot her, but this weapon was not fitted with a sound-suppressor. He'd left that gun in Celestina's bedroom. This was the pistol that he had taken from Frieda Bliss's collection, and it was as full of sound as Frieda had been full of spew..Using the straight edge of a ruler to guide his eye down each column, Junior searched for Bartholomew, ignoring surnames. He had already checked to see if anyone in the county had Bartholomew for a last name; no one in this directory did..Although Celestina felt a little paranoid, being so security-minded in this safe neighborhood, nevertheless she searched, out the master control button and engaged the power locks..He couldn't much longer take advantage of Paul Damascus's hospitality. Since bringing Wally to town, Tom had been staying in Paul's guest bedroom. He knew that he was welcome indefinitely, and the sense of family that he'd found with these people had only grown since January, but he nevertheless felt that he was imposing..Shortly after nine-thirty in the morning, they landed in Eugene, and the cab driver who conveyed Junior to the town's largest shopping center spent more time staring at his afflicted passenger in the rearview mirror than he did watching the road. Junior got out of the taxi and paid through the driver's open window. The cabbie didn't even wait for his fiery-faced fare to turn completely away before he crossed himself.. "I don't know." He was silent a moment. "That's what's going to be interesting."..During the first year of her illness, she had been slowly weaned off an iron lung. Until she was seventeen, she required the chest respirator, but gradually gained the strength to breathe unassisted..When her hand went limp in Celestina's, her body sagged, too, and her eyes were no longer either focused or rolling wildly. They shimmered into stillness, darkled with death, as the cardiac monitor sang the one long note that signified flatline..He felt so happy, he was improving every day in every way, life just got better-but then something happened that was worse than the shooting. It ruined his day, his week, the rest of his year..He gently drew the covers over his wife's ruined body, to her thin shoulders, but arranged her right arm on top of the blankets. He straightened and smoothed the folded-back flap of the top sheet.

[The Grecian History from the Earliest State to the Death of Alexander the Great by Dr Goldsmith to Which Is Added a Summary Account of the Affairs of Greece](#)

[A Vindication of the Government Doctrine and Worship of the Church of England Against the Injurious Reflections of Mr Neale in His Late History of the Puritans](#)

[A Discourse of the Work of the Holy Spirit in Prayer with a Brief Enquiry Into the Nature and Use of Mental Prayer and Forms by John Owen DD to Which Is Added Three Other Treatises by the Same Author](#)

[The Royal Standard English Dictionary In Which the Words Are Not Only Rationally Divided Into Syllables Accurately Accented and Their Part of Speech Properly Distinguished](#)

[The History of England from the Invasion of Julius C sar to the Revolution in 1688 in Thirteen Vs Illustrated with Plates by David Hume Esq a Newed with the Authors Last Corrections and Improvements V 6 of 13](#)

[The History of the Reign of the Emperor Charles V with a View of the Progress of Society in Europe from the Subversion of the Roman Empire to the Beginning of the Sixteenth Century in Three Volumes of 3 Volume 2](#)

[A New English Dictionary Containing I an Explanation of All English Words Used by the Best Writers IV a Supplement of Upwards of 4000 Proper Names](#)

[A Treatise Concerning Religious Affections in Three Parts Part First Concerning the Nature of the Affections and Their Importance in Religion Part Second Shewing What Are No Certain Signs](#)

[A Treatise of Algebra With the Application of It to a Variety of Problems in Arithmetic to Geometry Trigonometry and Conic Sections by Christian Wolfius to Which Is Prefixed What He Refers to in His Three Preliminary Treatises](#)

[A New and Easy Method to Understand the Roman History with an Exact Chronology of the Reigns of the Emperors by Way of Dialogue for the Use of the Duke of Burgundy Done Out of French with Very Large Additions and Amendments Ed 5](#)

[A View of the Covenant of Grace from the Sacred Records Wherein the Parties in That Covenant the Making of It Its Parts Conditionary and Promissory and the Administration Thereof](#)

[The History of Japan Giving an Account of the Ancient and Present State and Government of That Empire Of Its Temples Palaces Castles and Other Buildings Written in High-Dutch by Engelbertus K mpfer of 2 Volume 1](#)

[A Collection of Letters and Essays on Several Subjects Lately Publishd in the Dublin Journal in Two Volumes of 2 Volume 1](#)

[The Royal Standard English Dictionary In Which the Words Are Not Only Rationally Divided Into Syllables Accurately Accented Their Part of Speech Properly Distinguished and Their Various Significations Arranged in One Line](#)

[The Works of Mr Daniel Roderick OConor Consisting of Moral Sentimental Pathetick and Descriptive Pieces in Prose and Verse of 2 Volume 2](#)

[A Treatise on the Dieases \[sic\] of Children with General Directions for the Management of Infants from the Birth by Michael Underwood MD](#)

[Licentiate in Midwifery of the Royal College of Physicians](#)

[Or a Collection of Observations by William Willymott the Seventh Edition Revised](#)

[The Roman History from the Total Failure of the Western Empire to the Restitution of the Same by Charles the Great Vol IV by the Author of the Third Revisd by Laurence Echard with a Compleat Index to the Whole V 4 of 4](#)

[Book-Keeping Methodizd Or a Methodical Treatise of Merchant-Accompts According to the Italian Form Wherein the Theory of the Art Is Fully Explained by John Mair AM the Seventh Edition](#)

[Sermons Preached Before the University of Oxford to Which Are Added Three Charges to the Clergy of the Archdeaconry of Worcester by John Tottie](#)

[Baronia Anglica an History of Land-Honors and Baronies and of Tenure in Capite Verified by Records by Thomas Madox](#)

[PAX-RN Practice Questions Nursing Practice Tests Exam Review for the NIn Pre-Admission Examination \(Pax\)](#)

[The Christians Universal Companion Containing I the Whole Book of Common Prayer Together with the Psalter II a New Weeks Preparation for the Worthy Receiving of the Lords Supper](#)

[The Millennium Or the Thousand Years of Prosperity Promised to the Church of God in the Old Testament and in the New Shortly to Commence and to Be Carried on to Perfection](#)

[The Evening-Office of the Church in Latin and English Containing the Vespers or Even-Song for All Sundays and Festivals of Obligation the Sixth Edition Corrected with the Addition of All the New-Feasts the Old Hymns](#)

[The Gazetteers or Newsmans Interpreter the Second Part Being a Geographical Index of All the Empires Kingdoms in Asia Africa and America Ed 4](#)

[Geographie Des Jeunes Demoiselles Ou Abrege de la Geographie Moderne Ouvrage Egalement Utile Aux Jeunes Gens Aux Maitres Aux Maitresses dEcole Ornee de Toutes Les Carfes Figures Necessaryes \[sic\] Par MR Demarville of 2 Volume 1](#)

[HESI A2 Practice Questions HESI A2 Practice Tests Exam Review for the Health Education Systems Inc Admission Assessment Exam](#)

[Sermons on Various Subjects by John Abernethy MA with a Preface Containing the Life of the Author the Third Edition in Two Volumes of 2 Volume 1](#)

[A Collection of Memorials Concerning Divers Deceased Ministers and Others of the People Called Quakers in Pennsylvania New-Jersey and Parts Adjacent from Nearly the First Settlement Thereof to the Year 1787](#)

[Sermons by the Late John Witherspoon a Supplementary Volume Including Such Sermons as Are Not Already Published in His Works to Which Are Added by the Same Author the History of a Corporation of Servants and Other Tracts of 3 Volume 3](#)

[Geiriadur Saesoneg a Chymraeg an English and Welsh Dictionary In Which the English Words with Many of the English Phrases Are Explained Compiled by Thomas Jones](#)

[Regents Geometry Exam Flashcard Study System Regents Test Practice Questions Review for the New York Regents Examinations](#)

[Sunday Mornings in Plains Collection Bible Study with Jimmy Carter](#)

[First Lines of the Practice of Physic by William Cullen a New Edition Corrected and Enlarged in Four Volumes of 4 Volume 3](#)

[Friendship in Death In Twenty Letters from the Dead to the Living to Which Are Added Letters Moral and Entertaning \[sic\] in Prose and Verse in Three Parts by Mrs Elizabeth Rowe to Which Is Prefixed an Account of the Life of the Author](#)

[The Acts of Assembly Now in Force in the Colony of Virginia with the Titles of Such as Are Expired or Repealed Notes in the Margin Shewing How and at What Time They Were Repealed](#)

[M Tullii Ciceronis Opera Quae Supersunt Omnia Ad Fidem Optimarum Editionum Diligenter Expressa Voluminibus XX of 20 Volume 4](#)

[Les Droits Des Trois Puissances Alli es Sur Plusieurs Provinces de la R publique de Pologne Les R flexions dUn Gentilhomme Polonois Avec Une Pr face de l diteur of 2 Volume 2](#)

[An Impartial History of the Late Revolution in France from the Acceptance of the Constitution of 1791 to the Execution of the Deputies of the Gironde Party](#)

[Les Veill es Du Ch teau Ou Cours de Morale a lUsage Des Enfans Par lAuteur dAdele Et Theodore of 3 Volume 1](#)

[Arithmetick Both in the Theory and Practice in All the Common and Useful Rules by John Hill Gent with a Preface by Mr Humphrey Ditton the Third Edition With the Addition of Several Algebraical Questions](#)

[Commentaries Upon Boerhaaves Aphorisms Concerning the Knowledge and Cure of Diseases by Baron Van Swieten Translated from the Latin of 15 Volume 1](#)

[A Collection of Papers Which Passed Between the Late Learned Mr Leibnitz and Dr Clarke in the Years 1715 and 1716 Relating to the Principles of Natural Philosophy and Religion](#)

[Edited by M L A Millet-Mureau in Three Volumes Translated from the French Second Edition of 3 Volume 3](#)

[M moires de Madame de Staal crits Par Elle-M me Vol III and IV Volume 3 of 4](#)

[From March 8 1748-9 to February 6 1761 with an Appendix Containing Some Curious and Interesting Papers Now Published from His Lordships Original Manuscripts](#)

[Memoires de M Le Marquis de Feuqui re Nouvelle dition Rev e Corrige Sur lOriginal Augment e dUne Vie de lAuteur Donn e Par Son Fr re Enrichie de Plans de Cartes of 4 Volume 1](#)

[Natural History General and Particular by the Count de Buffon Translated Into English Illustrated with Above Three Hundred Copper-Plates and Occasional Notes and Observations the Third Edition in Nine Volumes of 9 Volume 2](#)

[de lEsprit Des Lois Nouvelle dition Revue Corrige Consid rablement Augment e Par lAuteur of 4 Volume 3](#)

[Histoire Du Droit Public ccl siastique Fran ois O lOn Traite de Sa Nature de Son tablissement de Ses Variations Des Causes de Sa Decadence Par Monsieur D B of 2 Volume 1](#)

[A History of the Revolutions of England from the Death of Edward the Confessor to the Birth of Henry the Second The Second Edition of 6 Volume 6](#)

[Or Young Mans Best Companion to Which Is Added the Familys Best Companion by George Fisher the Fourth Edition Revised and Corrected Arithmetick Both in the Theory and Practice Made Plain and Easy in All the Common and Useful Rules as Also the Tables and Construction of Logarithms the Fifth Edition Accurately Revised Corrected and Improved by E Hatton Gent](#)

[de lEsprit Des Lois Nouvelle dition Revue Corrige Consid rablement Augment e Par lAuteur of 4 Volume 2](#)

[Memoirs of the Marshal Duke of Berwick Written by Himself with a Summary Continuation from the Year 1716 to His Death in 1734 in Two Volumes of 2 Volume 2](#)

[Or Young Mans Best Companion by George Fisher Accomptant the Twenty-First Edition Corrected and Improved](#)

[The Instructor Or Young Mans Best Companion to Which Is Added the Familys Best Companion and Also a Compleat Treatise of Farriery by George Fisher the Fifth Edition Revised and Corrected](#)

[Or Young Mans Best Companion to Which Is Added the Familys Best Companion and a Compendium of the Sciences of Geography and Astronomy by George Fisher the Twenty Third Edition Corrected and Improved](#)

[Also a History of the Revolutions of England from the Death of Edward the Confessor to the Birth of Henry the Second the Third Edition of 4 Volume 1](#)

[Published 22d of April 1791 and Edited by M L A Milet-Mureau in Three Volumes Translated from the French of 3 Volume 1](#)

[Memoirs of the Reigns of Francis II and Charles IX of France Done Into English by a Gentleman](#)

[Rational Recreations in Which the Principles of Numbers and Natural Philosophy Are Clearly and Copiously Elucidated by a Series of Easy Entertaining Interesting Experiments the Fourth Edition Corrected of 4 Volume 4](#)

[Memoirs of the Marshal Duke of Berwick Written by Himself with a Summary Continuation from the Year 1716 to His Death in 1734 in Two Volumes of 2 Volume 1](#)

[A Periodical Paper by the Rev Simon Olive-Branch AM of 3 Volume 1](#)

[Institutiones Chirurgic Or Principles of Surgery Comprehending and Explaining the General Intentions of All the Principal Branches of That Science with Proper Directions and Cautionary Rules Intermixed](#)

[Collected from the Original Relations Sent to the Kings of Spain the Second Ed V 2 of 6](#)

[Collected from the Original Relations Sent to the Kings of Spain the Second Ed V 1 of 6](#)

[The Art of Cookery Containing Above Six Hundred and Fifty of the Most Approvd Receipts Also a Bill of Fare for Every Month in the Year with an Alphabetical Index to the Whole the Second Edition by John Thacker](#)

[loge Du Roi de Prusse Par lAuteur de lEssai G n ral de Tactique](#)

[Law Tracts by William Blackstone Containing I an Essay on Collateral Consanguinity II Considerations on the Question Whether Tenants by Copy of Court Roll Are Freeholders Qualified to Vote III the Law of Descents in Fee-Simple](#)

[Philosophia Britannica Or a New and Comprehensive System of the Newtonian Philosophy Atronomy and Geographys in a Course of Twelve Lectures with Notes The Second Ed in Three Vs V 3 of 3](#)

[The Law Against Bankrupts Or a Treatise Wherein the Statutes Against Bankrupts Are Explained by Several Cases Resolutions Judgments and Decrees Both at Common Law and in Chancery the Second Ed](#)

[Interest at One View Calculated to a Farthing the Eleventh Edition with Additions Carefully Calculated and Examined from the Press by Richard Hayes](#)

[Tou En Hagiois Patros Hemon Kyrillou Hierosolymou Archiepiskopou Ta Sozomena S Patris Nostri Cyrilli Hierosolymorum Archiepiscopi Opera Ou Supersunt Omnia Emendavit Notisque Illustravit Tho Milles](#)

[The Ladies Handmaid Or a Compleat System of Cookery On the Principals of Elegance and Frugality by Mrs Sarah Phillips](#)

[Containing a Circumstantial Account of the Lives Trials and Confessions of the Most Notorious Offenders Who Have Suffered Death and Other](#)

[Exemplary Punishments in England Scotland and Ireland V 3 of 4](#)

[Philosophia Britannica Or a New and Comprehensive System of the Newtonian Philosophy Astronomy and Geographys in a Course of Twelve Lectures with Notes The Second Ed in Three Vs V 2 of 3](#)

[Collected from the Original Relations Sent to the Kings of Spain the Second Ed V 4 of 6](#)

[A Periodical Paper by the Rev Simon Olive-Branch AM of 3 Volume 2](#)

[Oeuvres de Monsieur de Montesquieu Nouvelle dition Revue Corrig e Consid rablement Augment e Par l'Auteur of 7 Volume 3](#)

[An Historical Disquisition Concerning the Knowledge Which the Ancients Had of India And the Progress of Trade with That Country Prior to the Discovery of the Passage to It by the Cape of Good Hope with an Appendix](#)

[Oeuvres de Monsieur de Montesquieu Nouvelle dition Revue Corrig e Consid rablement Augment e Par l'Auteur of 7 Volume 2](#)

[Analysis of Researches Into the Origin and Progress of Historical Time from the Creation to the Accession of C Caligula by the Rev Robert Walker Rector of Shingham Norfolk](#)

[Lettres Persanes Nouvelle dition Plus Correcte Que Les Pr cedentes Et Augment e Du Temple de Gnide of 2 Volume 1](#)

[A New Voyage to the Levant Containing an Account of the Most Remarkable Curiosities with Historical Observations by the Sieur Du Mont Done Into English And Adorn'd with Figures the Third Edition](#)

[de l'Esprit Des Loix Nouvelle Edition of 3 Volume 1](#)

[Or the Most Authentick Account Yet Published of the Monies Weights and Measures of the Principal Places of Trade in the World the Fifth Edition with Many Alterations and Great Additions by Richard Hayes](#)

[P Virgilii Maronis Opera Nunc Emendatiora](#)

[The Sacred Succession Or a Priesthood by Divine Right Originated \[sic\] Stated and Maintained Thro the Several Changes and Dangers of the Militant Church by Wiilliam \[sic\] Hume](#)

[Rural Oeconomy Or Essays on the Practical Parts of Husbandry to Which Is Added the Rural Socrates Being Memoirs of a Country Philosopher by the Author of the Farmers Letters Second Edition Corrected](#)

[Sermons for the Use of Schools and Families by John Napleton](#)

[The Discourses of Epictetus Collected and Preserved by Arrian His Disciple in Four Books Translated from the Greek](#)

[Intended for General Use as Well as for Gentlemen of the Profession by Richard Burn and Continued to the Present Time by John Burn Esq His Son in Two Volumes of 2 Volume 1](#)

[Sermons on Various Subjects by the Late Reverend Mr James Miller](#)

[Ordo Judiciorum Sive Methodus Procedendi in Negotiis Et Litibus in Foro Ecclesiastico-Civili Britannico Et Hibernico Per Thomam Oughton of 2 Volume 1](#)

[Introduction to the New Testament by John David Michaelis Translated from the Fourth Edition of the German and Considerably Augmented with Notes by Herbert Marsh of 4 Volume 1](#)

[Orlando Furioso Translated from the Italian of Lodovico Ariosto With Notes By John Hoole in Five Volumes the Second Edition of 5 Volume 2](#)

[Orlando Furioso Translated from the Italian of Lodovico Ariosto With Notes By John Hoole in Five Volumes the Second Edition of 5 Volume 3](#)

[Letters of Sr Francis Bacon Baron of Verulam Written During the Reign of King James the First Now Collected and Augmented with Several Letters](#)
