

Problem men of today are often the most talented

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discharge. Anything to say?»

David swallowed. The week's pay meant little, but a bad discharge would mean difficulty in ever getting another ship. «No, Sir», he said.

«Then you may go.»

Randy was waiting in his cabin. «We might as well finish the last of the gin», he said cheerfully. «I'll get no more. How did you do?»

«Logged a week's pay and a bad discharge.»

«Me — I've been fired again. Cheers!» They clinked glasses, and after drinking them off, Randy refilled them.

«Funny thing», he said. «Fired from my last ship for the alleged rape of a female, which I didn't do, and from this one for having a disgusting unnatural low-class liaison with a crew member, which I haven't had either, at least not on board. I'm never right.» He grinned mischievously, leaned over, and brushed David's cheek lightly with his lips.

«Only two more days to go in this little hell», Randy continued. «Think you can stand it? What's the atmosphere like down below?»

«The atmosphere's very frigid, but I can stand it», David admitted. «The boys think there has been a disgusting liaison, but they don't put it in those words. It would have been all right if it had not been with you. As an officer, you're untouchable. I think they're all very pleased I beat Fishface up. Sullivan says so, but he's the only one who will talk to me. I couldn't care less of course.»

«In two days time», Randy repeated, «we'll be out of it all. We'll go to the flat; I always keep that on. When I get the other lads together we'll buy the yacht and off we'll go. The end of the world is our limit, our Ultima Thule. What do you say?»

David said nothing. He lay back on the bunk and closed his eyes and smiled. Already he could feel the heat of the sun, and hear the crash of surf on far-away shores; already he could smell the perfume of magnolia and jasmine from the garden by the temple, and from other gardens also. When he opened his eyes Randy was looking down at him, half serious, half smiling. He opened wide his arms.

Problem men of today are often the most talented

Two doctors who have made a special study of homosexuality report today that out of 5,000 patients who went for psychiatric consultation 5 per cent. of males over 16 were homosexuals.

Of 100 homosexual patients they specially studied, 51 had been to public schools, 19 to grammar schools, 13 to secondary schools, and only ten to elementary schools.

The doctors, Dr. Desmond Curran, a consultant psychiatrist, and Dr. Denis Parr, of the Department of Psychiatry at St. George's Hospital, London, report in the *British Medical Journal* that 41 of the 100 had been to universities.

Thirty-four were professional men, including clergymen, doctors, teachers and Civil servants.

Some were «important and talented individuals of high integrity, successful, efficient and respected members of the community.»

Very few showed the traditional «pansy» picture of homosexuals. The doctors discovered that 19 of the 100 had at some time been married and 17 had physical experience of women.»

«Many homosexuals», they point out, «indulge in intercourse with women out of academic curiosity, or in an attempt at self-diagnosis or treatment.»

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