

ANALOG

badly we'd fucked the economy. But me? I was too much of a coward for suicide. And because the whole government collapsed shortly afterward, I didn't even get any jail time.

So yeah. That's my story. That's really about it. And now I'm paddling in the same boat as everyone: richer than hell but still hungrier than . . . um . . . well . . . hungrier than some well-known cultural referent for hunger. Shut up. I'm too underfed for good analogies. But, I

notice you've got yourself a nice box of Snickerdoots. That's jackpot. How'd you land that one? Honestly, I really don't care about the details, but I'll buy one for, say . . . twenty-seven million?

Oh. All right. I get it. "You need them."
How about a *billion*?

No, no. It's fine. They're yours. I get that. We're totally cool.

No worries, man. . . . ■

IN TIMES TO COME

O, the double issue! I sing your praises! What can't you do? Present a lead story about a future where social media and augmented reality have converged with mixed results? Indeed, we have "No Strangers Any More," by Ian Creasey.

Can you give us not *one* but *two* novellas? Yes! When you take a path, it necessarily means there are other paths you cannot go down, and when humanity as a whole goes down one path, well . . . you'll see, in Brad R. Torgersen's "Purytans." We'll also look in on the travels of Arlan Andrews' Rist in "Fall."

What of material by luminaries like John Shirley, or Larry Niven & Jerry Pournelle? Indubitably! In fact, there will be both! See "Cory for Coriolis" and "Story Night at the Stronghold" for proof that your eyes do not deceive you!

Perhaps more short pieces, fiction and nonfiction alike, from authors such as Nick Wolven, Stanley Schmidt, James Van Pelt, Elisabeth R. Adams, Andrew Barton, Sean Vivier, Christina De La Rocha, and Karl Bunker? I believe we can accommodate you there, yes.

And columns. Oh the columns. Never will you see columns such as these again . . . except perhaps in the issue that follows.

Return in two fortnights!

All contents subject to change