C

!"#\$%&'()(*

A C A

+,'%+\$(*(-

./(%0'1/2%"!%2/(%3"\$4'41%5'*'42(1\$,2(*% (6(\$72/'41%,45%8'4(6\$,%9'4%'*%'4%&'()(*strewn across the foor, hanging precari: $\begin{array}{l} (\cdot)*+,*+-.*/012+*3-13*4(*35.(32*2.10+6*\\ 7.7,04.+*,8*3-4+*347.*5499*:.*0.);<.)*3,*\\);+3*1()*1+-=*$-13*+-.*5,(>3*0.7.7:.0*\\ 3-.*9,,?*,8*).@1+3134,(*4(*-.0*-;+:1())+*\\ .2.+*,0*3-.*<,9)*<,0/+.*,8*-.0*813-.0A\\ 4(A915*<,@.0.)*4(*:9,,)=*$-13*+-.*5,(>3*\\ 0.7.7:.0*-.0*)1;B-3.0>+*.2.+*4(*3-13*\\ 813.8;9*(4B-3=*'()*+,*+-.*5,(>3*0.7.7:.0*\\ .134(B*+,*7;<-*)02*/1+31*1()*/914(*04<.=*\\ $-13*+-.*5,(>3*0.7.7:.0*1(2*,8*43=*'()*+,*\\ +-.*/012+*+-.*5,(>3=*'()*+,*+-.*5,i9)(>3=*\\ '()*+,*+-.*5,(>3*1()*5,i9)(>3=*'()*+,*\\ 5-13C*D;+3*0.7.7:.0*3,*-.19=*E-13*1*04)4<A\\ ;9,;+*<,(<./3=*'+*48*199*/14(*4+*.F;19*\\ 1()*-.9/+*,(.*3,*B0,5=*'+*48*/14(*<1((,3*)))) \\ \end{array}$

C/(%2(,\$*%'42"%2/(%5#)2%2,&(%2"%,55% ,4"2/(\$%0,7(\$;% This is madness?

P""5%'*%&0,'4%>#2%4">"57%)"3&0,'4*;%</7% ?"#05%2/(7Q%G2=*%,00%2/(7%/,6(;%R(*'5(*@% 2/(7=6(%,00%>((4%2/\$"#1/%2/'%>(!"\$(;%+'45% "!%-4"?%2/(%5\$'00;%./(%&0,'44(**%'*%4"2%,%))/"')(;%F45%2/(%&0,'4(\$%'2%1(2*@%2/(%3"\$(% 2/(7%,\$(%'4%5,41(\$%"!%4"2%(,2'41%,2%,00;% C/(%\$,2'"4*%/(\$%'42,-(;%.,-(*%*3,00@% *0"?%>'2('*;%L(**%\$')(@%2/(%>#\$42%>"22"3%"!% 2/(%*2(?%&"2%2/,2%4"%"4(%?,42*;%F45%2/(4% 5'*)\$((207%*/(%&,**(*%3"*2%"!%2/(%!""5%2"% /(\$%5,#1/2(\$;% A(\$%/#*>,45%0""-*%,2%/(\$%!\$"3%,)\$"**%2/(%

2,>0(;%G%-4"?%?/,2%7"#=\$(%5"'41;% My fesh is on the menu. Get back to your

C?'\$0*%,45%*?'\$0*%"!%5#*2%?/'\$0% "#2*'5(%2/(%?,00*%"!%/(\$%/"#*(;%U,1'41;% J(*2\$#)2'6(;%F*%'!%2/(%6(41(,4)(%"!% >#00(2*%,45%2/(%\$,'4*%"!%>0""5%,\$(%4"2% (4"#1/%2"\$3(42%!"\$%2/('\$%)'27%,45%2/('\$% spite-flled country. Now, dust heaves its *'1/*8#&"482/('\$8\$""!@8'14"\$(*82/(8)0"*(58 5""\$*%,45%*(,0(5%2'1/2%?'45"?*;%0,\$(*%4"2% !"\$%0,)-%"!%?,2(\$%"\$%)"#1/'41%)/'05\$(4;% G2%*'2*%,2"&%(6(\$7%1\$((4%&0,42%2/,2%?,*% 4"2%7(2%5(*2\$"7(5%,45%)0"#5*%(6(\$7%&,2)/% of blue sky that was already flled with *3"-(%,45%*""2%,45%2/(%5'*2'4)2%*3(00%"!% 5(,2/;%G2%*0,&*%,1,'4*2%2/(%10,**7%?'45"?*% ,45%?""5(4%5""\$*%,45%*((&*%2/\$"#1/%)\$,)-*% */(%5'54=2%\$(,0'E(%?(\$(%'4%2/('\$%?,00*%,45% '4%2/('\$%0'6(*;%F45%'2%&'0(*%,45%&'0(*% ,45%&'0(*%#42'0%*/(%/(,\$*%'2*%)\$#4)/% >(4(,2/%/(\$%!((2%,*%*/(%(42(\$*%2/(%3(\$)': 0(**%-'2)/(4%,45%2,*2(*%'2%"4%/(\$%>\$(,2/% ,0"41%?'2/%2/(%6(4"3%'4%2/(%,'\$;%V42'0% '2%)",2*%2/(%?/'2(%)"#42(\$*%,45%*2')-*% 2"%2/(%7(00"?'41%?,00*;%V42'0%*/(%/,*%2"% ?,*/%2/(%\$')(%"6(\$%,45%"6(\$%,45%"6(\$%,1,'4% ?'2/%?,2(\$%2/,2%>,\$(07%(K'*2*%>()),#*(%5#*2% '4%2/(%,'\$%'*%3"\$(%2/,4%(4"#1/%,45%2/(7% 4((54=2%2/,2%'4%2/('\$%!""5;%G2%>0"?*%,45% *?'\$0*%,45%\$'*(*%,45%!,00*%#42'0%(6(\$7: 2/ '41@%(6(\$72/ '41% '*%?/ '2(%,45%4"2/ '41@% 4"2/'41%'*%)0(,4;

%

C/(%0""-*%2/\$"#1/%2/(%&,42\$7%,45%

,00%2/(%?"\$05=*%#10'4(**%,\$(%!"\$%4,#1/2;% C"3(2'3(*%2/(\$(%,\$(%4"%3,*2(\$&'())(*@%M#*2% >\$"-(4%&'())(*%2/,2%4"%"4(%-4"?*%/"?%2"%% >,)-%2"1(2/(\$;%F45%*"%*/(%?"4=2%!"\$1(2%,45% ?"4=2%/(,0%,45%?"4=2%>\$(,2/(%)0(,4%,'\$;% F45%*"%*/(%?'00%\$(3(3>(\$%(6(\$72/'41%0'-(%,% >\$"-(4%\$())"\$5;%F45%*"%2/,2%>\$"-(4%\$())"\$5% will be the only thing that can fx itself *"%'2%),4%&0,7%,1,'4%,45%,1,'4%,45%,1,'4%

C

O(*,\$%GE,%O,*2'00"

./(%?'45*%"!%!,2(%"!2(4%0(,6(%#*%>(\$(!2% "!%"#\$%&"**(**'"4*@%,45%37%!,3'07%!"#45% '2*(0!%'4%*#)/%,%&\$(),\$'"#*%&"*'2'"4% 5#\$'41%2/(%,#2#34%"!%=WX;%O'\$)#3*2,4)(*% >(7"45%P,2/(\$=*%)"42\$"0--,45%)(\$2,'407% ,47"4(%(0*(=*%*,?%/'3%0"*(%/'*%M">@% /'*%"?4%!,2/(\$=*%,4)(*2\$,0%/"3(@%,45% ,%3,M"\$'27%"!%/'*%>(0"41'41*%'4%I#')-% *#))(**'"4;%J(*&(\$,2(%2"%&\$"6'5(%!"\$%/'*% !,3'07@%/(%*"05%?/,2%0'220(%?,*%0(!2%,45% &#\$)/,*(5%,%>,22(\$(5%/"#*(%#&&"4%2/(% 3"#42,'4;%G%-4(?%4"2%/'*&0,4*%2/(4@%,45%),4%>,\$(07%)"4)('6(%"!%2/(3%4"?@%7(2%G% ,**#3(5%/(%*"#1/2%?"\$-%,*%,%0"11(\$;

U(1,\$50(**@%9"2/(\$@%N>,5',/%,45%G%?(\$(% 0(!2%2"%0(,6(%"#\$%2"?4%'4%*/,3(%,45%5(&,\$2% 2"?,\$5*%"#\$%4(?@%*()0#5(5%/"3(;%./(% YV40#)-7%8,00"?,7*Z%2/(7%?"#05%),00%#*@% ,00%2/(%?/'0(%2,#42'41%,45%M((\$'41;

./(%/"#*(%'2*(0!%?,*%4"%1\$(,2%2/'41@%) but once the fre got going it seemed cozy (4"#1/;%.?"%\$""3*%?(\$(%,00%?(%/,5@%"4(%!"\$% 3(%,45%N>,5',/%,45%2/(%"2/(\$%!"\$%9"2/(\$;% P,2/(\$%/,5%*(42%4"2')(%2/,2%/(%?"#05%M"'4% #*%*""4@%,!2(\$%/'*%2\$,'4'41%/,5%)"4)0#5(5;% G%?,*%4"2%-((4%"4%0(,6'41%9"2/(\$%,0"4(@% >#2%*/(%'4*'*2(5@%,45%>7%2/(4%G%-4(?% >(22(\$%2/,4%2"%,\$1#(%?'2/%/(\$;

The frst few nights were drearily #4(6(42!#0;%G%)"42(3&0,2(5%/"?%I#')-07%G% ?"#05%1\$"?%,))#*2"3(5%2"%2/'*%4(?%/"3(;% F0\$(,57%2/(%/,00*%*((3(5%I#,'42%2"%3(@% ?/(\$(,*%2/(7%/,5%>((4%5,\$-%,45%10""37%"4% 37%,\$\$'6,0;

9"2/(\$%*&(42%3#)/%2'3(%>7%/(\$*(0!%'4%)/%) /(\$%>(5\$""3@%>(5\$'55(4;%C/(%?"#05%4"2%1(2%) #&&*,6(%?/(4%*/(%?,*%*')-@%,45%2/(%/"#*(%)),\$\$'(5%2/(%*"#45%"!%/(\$%\$(2)/'41%,00%2/(% ?,7%2"%37%\$""3;%N>,5',/@%'4%,00%/'*%)/'05: 0'-(%'44")(4)(@%1#(*2'"4(5%/(\$%*')-4(**@% >#2%G%,**#\$(5%/'3%2/,2%*/(%/,5%>((4%0'-(% 2/'*%"4)(%>(!"\$(@%,45%2/(\$(,!2(\$%/(\$%>(007% /,5%*?"00(4%?'2/%/'3;%[K)'2(5%,2%2/(% &\$"*&()2%"!%,%4(?%3(3>(\$%"!%2/(%!,3'07@% N>,5',/%)"#05%/,\$507%)"42,'4%/'3*(0!;% C2'00@%G%,*-(5%2/,2%/(%0(2%9"2/(\$%\$(*2%!"\$% 4"?;%A(\$%!,)(%/,5%1\$"?4%1,#42%,45%*')-07@% ,45%G%*()\$(207%?"\$\$'(5%!"\$%/(\$;

./(%5,7*%"4%2/(%/'00%?(\$(%0"41%,45%)) >"\$'41@%>#2%N>,5',/%,45%G%-(&2%"#\$*(06(*%)) >#*7;%N4%2/(%2/'\$5%5,7@%?(%?(42%"#2%2"%)) /#42%!"\$%3(,2@%,*%G%/"&(5%2/(%2,*2(%"!%'2%)) ?"#05%/(0&%9"2/(\$%\$()"6(\$;%<(%*)"#2(5%2/(%))) !"\$(*2%!"\$%3,47%3'0(*@%7(2%"5507%(4"#1/%)) could fnd no game. Our traps had been !\$#'20(**%,*%?(00;%F02/"#1/%?(%*(,\$))/(5%)!"\$%'"#\$*@%,00%?(%\$(2#\$4(5%?'2/%?(\$(%,%!(?%)))) !"\$%/"#\$*@%,00%?(%\$(2#\$4(5%?'2/%?(\$(%,%!(?%)))) \$""2%,45%>(\$\$'(*;%F!2(\$%2/,2@%2/(%5,7*%)))

G%\$(3(3>(\$%5'*2'4)207%/"?\$/"\$\$'5%2/'41*% became on the ffth day. How could I not? P"\$%,*%0"41%,*%G%0'6(@%2/"*(%4'1/2:2(\$\$"\$*% */,00%>(%(2)/(5%'4%37%&*7)/(;

It was in the middle of the ffth night that I frst heard the murmurs. They ,\$"#*(5%3(@%>#2%4"%3,22(\$%/"?%)0"*(07% G%?"#05%0'*2(4@%G%)"#05%4"2%3,-(%2/(3% out. At frst, I assumed my brother was 3#22(\$'41%'4%/'*%*0((&@%!"\$%% 4'1/2:2(\$\$"\$*%&0,1#(5%/'3@%>#2%,%I#')-% (K,3'4,2'"4%\$(6(,0(5%/'3%2"%>(%*"#45% ,*0((&;

F*&G&l,E(5%#&"4%/'3@%G%/(,\$5%2/(% ?/'*&(\$*%,1,'4@%*0'1/207%3"\$(%5'*2'4)2@% ,45%*"%G%2#\$4(5%,45%0(!2%2/(%\$'"3;%G% ?,0-(5%'4%2/(%5'\$()2'"4%G%>(0'(6(5%2/(% ?/'*&(\$*%),3(%!\$"3@%?/')/%0(5%3(%5"?4%2/(% *2,'\$*%,45%'42"%2/(%0'6'41%\$""3;%F2%0,*2%G%)"#05%/(,\$%2/(%?/'*&(\$%3"\$(%)0(,\$07@%>#2% !"\$%,00%37%7(,\$*%"!%*2#57'41%G%)"#05%4"2% #45(\$*2,45%,\$*'410(%2"\$5;%./(7%*((3(5%3"\$(% 0'-(%1,\$>0(5@%2,410(5%3#22(\$'41*%2/,4%,47% /#3,4%0,41#,1(;

G%3#*2(\$(5%37%)"#\$,1(%,45%)\$",-(5%2/(% ?"\$5*@%YG*%2/(\$(%,47"4(%"#2%2/(\$(QZ F*%*""4%,*%G%*&"-(@%2/(%/"#*(%!(00%
'0(42@%,45%2/(%?/'&(\$*%I#'(2(5;%./(%
*'0(4)(%/#41%0'-(%,%5,\$-%)0"#5%"6(\$%
3(;%P"\$%,%?/'0(%G%*2""5%'4%2/(%5,\$-@%
0'*2(4'41;%G%>(1,4%2"%2/'4-%G%?,*%*0((&:
?,0-'41@%>#2%\$(3,'4(5%"#2%2/(\$(@%2\$7'41%2"%
/(,\$%2/(%?/'*&(\$*%,1,'4;%F0,*@%2/(%*'0(4)(%)
&(\$*'*2(5@%,45%G%\$(2#\$4(5%2"%37%>(5;
N4%2/(%*'K2/%5,7@%)0"#5*%\$"00(5%"6(\$%2/(%)/'00*%,45%*#\$\$;#45(5%"#\$%/"#*(%'4%,%3'*27%)
!"1;%N>,5',/%1\$(?%*0'1/207%#44(\$6(5%,2%2/(%)*'1/2@%>#2%G%*""2/(5%/'3%?'2/%37%?"\$5;%F*%
1"'41%"#2%2"%/#42%?,*%4"2%,4%"&2'"4%1'6(4%
2/(%!"1@%2/(%2/\$((%"!%#*%*,2%,\$"#45%2/(%))))))

```
">0'1(5%2"%5"%*";%./(%?/'*&($*%?($(%
4"?%&"#45'41%,2%37%(,$*@%,45%,02/"#1/%
G%)"#05%4"2%3,-(%"#2%?/,2%2/(7%*,'5%
'4%!#00%G%3,4,1(5%2"%0'*2(4%2"%*"3(%
garbled words, "f y hal -
```

2/'41*;%G2%'*%,%*,)\$(5%&0,)(%"!%37*2(\$'(*% ,45%)#\$'"*'27%,45%I#(*2'"4*%?'2/"#2% ,4*?(\$*;

./(**#\$!,)(*"!%2/(%0,-(%,02(\$4,2(07% \$(6(,0(5%,%)0(,\$%6'(?%2"%2/(%\$")-7%>"22"3@% ,45%2/(4%4"2/'41%,2%,00%?'2/%2/(%*#>20(%)/,41(*%"!%2/(%0'1/2;

F00%2/'*%G%/,5%*/"?4%2"%2/(%2\$,6(0(\$@%
and I asked him if he was satisfed with
?/,2%/(%/,5%5'*)"6(\$(5;%A(%!"\$3,007%*/""-%
/'*%/(,5%4"@%,45%*"%'2%?,*%2/,2%G%/,5%4"%
)/"')(%>#2%2"%>'41%/'3%2"%2/(%>(,)/;
G%?,*%/(*'2,42%2"%*/"?%'3%2/'*%0,*2%
!"\$3%"!%?,2(\$@%!"\$%2/(%*/"\$(%),4%>(%
5,41(\$"#*;%N407%"4(%?/"%'*%(K&(\$'(4)(5%
?'2/%,00%27~k(**"!%?,2(\$%),4%\$'*-%2/(%0,\$1(%
,45%#4&\$(5')2,>0(%?,6(*@%,45%,00%2/"*(%?/"%
;\$(%#4?,\$7%"!%2/(%5,41(\$*%,\$(*'4(6'2,>07%)),#1/2%'4%2/(%)/'00'41%#45(\$2"?;%./(%>(,)/%
'*%?/(\$(%?,2(\$%'*&2/(%3"*2%6#04(\$,>0(@%!"\$%
6(4%?,2(\$%/,\$507%-4"?*%?/(\$(%'2%(45*%,45%)2/(%*/"\$(%)(1'4*;

R#2%2/(%2\$,6(0(\$%/,5%1\$"?4%1#'2(%,))#*: 2"3(5%2"%2/(%'42\$'),)'(*%"!%?,2(\$@%,45% *"%'2%?,*%2/,2%G%*2""5%,4K'"#*07%>(/'45% /'3%,*%/(%),#2'"#*07%,&&\$",)/(5%2/(%6,*2% *(,;%A(%(K&0"\$(5%2/(%3"2'"4%"!%2/(%?,6(*% ,45%\$(1'*2(\$(5%2/(%�%"!%2/(%2"6(\$%2/(% ?,2(\$@%*(45'41%5,EE0'41%)"0"\$*%\$'&&0'41% ,)\$"**%2/(%(450(**%*#\$!,))(;%A(%5#1%/'*% !((2%'4%2/(%?(2%*,45%,45%0(2%2/(%!",3%),#2'"#*07%,&&\$",))%/'3%,45%-'**%/'*&2"(*; ./(7%(K'*2(5%2"1(2/(\$%0'-(%2/,2%!"\$%,% 2'3(%,*%2/(%*#4%)"42'4#(5%2"%*(2%,45%2(,\$*% filled the traveler's eyes. He sagely told 3(%2/(%*'1/2%'*%>(,#2'!#0%,45%6,*2%,45%