!"#\$%&'()(

C

## $\mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{A}}\mathbf{C}$

+,'%+\$(\*(-

./(%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:

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

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/\*%#&"4%2/('\$%\$""!@%'14"\$(\*%2/(%)0"\*(5% 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/(\87(00"?'41\8?,00\*;\V42'0\8\*/(\8/,\*\82"\8 ?,\*/%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\$)))-\$2"1(2/(\$;\$F45\*\*"\$\*/(\$?"4=2\$!"\$1(2\$,45\$))) ?"4=2\$/(,0\$,45\$?"4=2\$>\$(,2/(\$))0(,4\$,'\$;\$) F45\*\*"8\*/(\$?"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;

## 0

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; G2%2""-%,%0"41%)",)/%\$'5(@%!"00"?(5%>7% , % \* / " \$ 2 % / ' - ( % # & % 2 / ( % 3 " # 4 2 , ' 4 @ % 2 " % \$ ( , ) / % "#\$%/"#\*(;%G2%\*2""5%,2"&%,%/'00@%,\*% ((\$'07%"#2%"!%&0,)(%,\*%,%0'1/2/"#\*(%'4%,% 6,00(7;%./(\$(%?(\$(%4"%2\$((\*%,\$"#45%!"\$%,% 3'0(@%>#2%2/(%!"\$(\*2%,2%2/(%>,\*(%"!%2/(% /'00%?,\*%2/')-%,45%(46(0"&'41;%9"2/(\$%/,5% 0""-(5%&,0(%"4%"#\$%M"#\$4(7%,45%/,5%6"3'2(5% 4#3(\$"#\*%2'3(\*;%G%,22\$'>#2(5%\*#)/%/,&&(4: '41\*%2"%2/(%3"2'"4%\*')-4(\*\*-,!2(\$%,00@%G% !(02%I#'2(%!,'42%37\*(0!;

./(%/"#\*(%'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/(%/"#\*(% 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 <math display="block">3#22(\$'41\$'4\$/'\*\$\*0((&@\$!"\$\$\*4')-\$\*4')-\$(K,3'4,2'"4\$%(6(,0(5\$/'3\$2"\$>(\$\*"#45\$,3'4,2'"4\$\$(6(,0(5\$/'3\$2"\$>(\$\*"#45\$,3'0)(&;

G%3#\*2(\$(5%37%)"#\$,1(%,45%)\$",-(5%2/(%?"\$5\*@%YG\*%2/(\$(%,47"4(%"#2%2/(\$(QZ

">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%,66(0,0(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&(\*%"!%?,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%I#'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/(%&#00%"!%2/(%2'5(%,45% 2"1(2/(\$%?(%?,2)/(5%2/(%\*#4%\*(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/(5\*0'-(%2/,2\*!"\$\*,\*2'3(\*,\*\*2/(8\*#4\*)"42'4#(5\*2"\*\*(2\*,45\*2(,\$\*\*flled the traveler's eyes. He sagely told <math>3(\*2/(\*\*'1/2\*'\*\*)(,#2'!#0\*,45\*6,\*2\*,45\*)