

# Discord in Scarlet (1939)

By A. E. van Vogt

## DAY 1

### Reading Assignment

beginning - bottom of p. 6 (paragraph ending "He felt oddly annoyed that there were none")

#### Task 1

**DIRECTIONS:** As you read, make note of the following characters as they are introduced in the story. For each of the character, answer the clarifying question or questions following their name in complete sentences. You will use this activity to help you for a later assignment.

**Example:** Xtl: Who or what is Xtl?

**Answer:** He is an alien creature who finds the *Beagle* while floating in space.

**Complete the rest on your own paper.**

**Xtl:** What does it want?

**Commander Morton:** What is his career? What is his decision to make about Xtl?

**Gunlie Lester:** What is his connection to Commander Morton? What is his career?

**Korita:** What is his connection to Commander Morton? What is his career?

**Van Grossen:** What is his connection to Commander Morton? What is his career? What does he advise doing about Xtl?

#### Task 2

**DIRECTIONS:** For each days reading, summarize the action in no more than a paragraph. Remember: a summary only includes the most IMPORTANT events. Do NOT rewrite the story.

## DAY 2

### Reading Assignment

bottom of p. 6 (paragraph beginning "Xtl waited")- top of p. 13 (paragraph ending "Quick-- we must surround it")

#### Task 1

**DIRECTIONS:** As you read, make note of the following characters as they are introduced in the story. For each of the character, answer the clarifying question or questions following their name in complete sentences. You will use this activity to help you for a later assignment.

**Xtl:** Why does it allow the men to "capture" him? How does it escape?

**crewmember with gun:** What is his connection to Xtl?

**Van Grossen:** What is his attitude toward Xtl (speaking as a biologist)?

**Kellie:** What is his connection to Commander Morton? What is his advice?

**Korita:** What is his theory about the creature?

### Task 2

**DIRECTIONS:** For each days reading, summarize the action in no more than a paragraph. Remember: a summary only includes the most IMPORTANT events. Do NOT rewrite the story.

## DAY 3

### Reading Assignment

top of p. 13 (paragraph beginning "To Xtl, returning from a brief exploration of the monster ship's interior") - p. 20

### Task 1

**DIRECTIONS:** As you read, make note of the following characters as they are introduced in the story. For each of the character, answer the clarifying question or questions following their name in complete sentences. You will use this activity to help you for a later assignment.

**Darjeeling** (last man in the corridor): What is his connection to Xtl? What does Xtl do to him?

**Dr. Eggart:** What is his connection to Commander Morton? What is his professional opinion about the dead man?

**Pennons:** What does Morton ask him to do? Can it be done?

**Van Grossen:** What is his connection to Xtl? What does he identify as a weakness of Xtl?

### Task 2

**DIRECTIONS:** For each days reading, summarize the action in no more than a paragraph. Remember: a summary only includes the most IMPORTANT events. Do NOT rewrite the story.

## DAY 4

### Reading Assignment

p. 21 – middle of p. 24 (paragraph ending “He needed more hatching places for his eggs”)

#### Task 1

**DIRECTIONS:** As you read, make note of the following characters as they are introduced in the story. For each of the character, answer the clarifying question or questions following their name in complete sentences. You will use this activity to help you for a later assignment.

**Zeller:** What is his career? Why was Van Grossen correct? What is his contribution to fighting Xtl?

**Pennons:** What is his news about energizing the ship?

**xtl:** Why does it want the men alive?

#### Task 2

**DIRECTIONS:** For each days reading, summarize the action in no more than a paragraph. Remember: a summary only includes the most IMPORTANT events. Do NOT rewrite the story.

## DAY 5

### Reading Assignment

p. 24 (paragraph beginning “On the ninth level now, the men slaved”) – bottom of p. 29 (paragraph ending “We’ve got him!”)

#### Task 1

**DIRECTIONS:** As you read, make note of the following characters as they are introduced in the story. For each of the character, answer the clarifying question or questions following their name in complete sentences. You will use this activity to help you for a later assignment.

**Gunlie Lester:** What is his career? What is his theory about Xtl?

**Pennons:** What is his connection to Xtl?

**Zeller:** What is the problem with mass-producing neutronium-alloy suits?

**Korita:** According to him, what is the only thing the creature can understand?

#### Task 2

**DIRECTIONS:** For each days reading, summarize the action in no more than a paragraph. Remember: a summary only includes the most IMPORTANT events. Do NOT rewrite the story.

## DAY 6

### Reading Assignment

top of p. 29 (paragraph beginning "Xtl retreated reluctantly") - end

#### Task 1

**DIRECTIONS:** As you read, make note of the following characters as they are introduced in the story. For each of the character, answer the clarifying question or questions following their name in complete sentences. You will use this activity to help you for a later assignment.

**Xtl:** What is its relationship to the four guuls? As it retreats, what does it realize? Why does he leave the *Beagle*? Where is the crew of the *Beagle* when Xtl gets outside the ship? Where do they go?

**Dr. Eggert:** What is his connection to Van Grossen?

#### Task 2

**DIRECTIONS:** For each days reading, summarize the action in no more than a paragraph. Remember: a summary only includes the most IMPORTANT events. Do NOT rewrite the story.

