

## ATIONS DURING WHICH TIME THE LOGGERS HAVE PIONEERED THE WAY THROU

was the pale-haired man with narrow eyes..Labby's band!" cried the pretty girl nearest Diamond. "Come on, they're the best!" .crowd, Abs offered me his hand with an understanding smile: "Easy, now. . .".That gave her pause. She stood silent. "It's the name the witch Rose of my village on Way gave me, in the spring under Iria Hill," she said at last, standing up and speaking truth..trees, not many people. The ashy soil grows a rich, bright grass, and the people there keep.believed to purify and concentrate power; but most witches lead active sexual lives, having more."Why so, Tern?". "Thank you," he said, opening the gate for the heifer, who went to greet her mother, while he stumbled across the dark houseyard to the door.."Should I speak to him?" Gift asked in a steady voice..where the lorebooks and wordbooks were, or asleep. Hemlock was a stickler for early abed and early. "What I have to do, you see," the old wizard said, still talking to Silence because it was a comfort to talk to him even if he was no longer there, "is get into the mountain, right inside; but not the way a sorcerer-pro prospector does; not just slipping about between things and looking and tasting. Deeper. All the way in. Not the veins, but the bones. So," and standing there alone in the high pasture, in the noon light, Heleth opened his arms wide in the gesture of invocation that opens all the greater spells; and he spoke..in something that shone like phosphorized metal. The fabric clung to her: she was as if naked..BUT OF COURSE he went down to Havnor South Port, in one of his father's carts driven by one of his father's carters, along with Master Hemlock. As a rule, people do what wizards advise them to do. And it is no small honor to be invited by a wizard to be his student or apprentice. Hemlock, who had won his staff on Roke, was used to having boys come to him begging to be tested and, if they had the gift for it, taught. He was a little curious about this boy whose cheerful good manners hid some reluctance or self-doubt. It was the father's idea, not the boy's, that he was gifted. That was unusual, though perhaps not so unusual among the wealthy as among common folk. At any rate he came with a very good prenticing fee paid beforehand in gold and ivory. If he had the makings of a wizard Hemlock would train him, and if he had, as Hemlock suspected, a mere childish flair, then he'd be sent home with what remained of his fee. Hemlock was an honest, upright, humorless, scholarly wizard with little interest in feelings or ideas. His gift was for names. "The art begins and ends in naming," he said, which indeed is true, although there may be a good deal between the beginning and the end..House, but inside the wood it was all shadows..And the Old Powers of the Earth, which are manifest at Roke Knoll, the Immanent Grove, the Tombs.wharf, when the streets ran up and down in waves, the cobbles bursting out of them, and walls of.Hardic. Kargish has diverged most widely in vocabulary and syntax from the Old Speech. Most of its.ascent. Yes, it took courage to design such a shape, to give it the cruelty of the precipice, the.He drank a mug of beer down in one draft, and the girls with him watched the muscles in his strong throat as he swallowed, and they laughed and chattered, and he shivered all over like a cart horse stung by flies. He said, "Oh! I can't --!" He bolted off into the dusk beyond the lanterns hanging around the brewer's booth. "Where's he going?" said one, and another, "He'll be back," and they laughed and chattered.."Tinaral," said Tern. "I knew him." .held the other end, following him. He let Otter walk into a couple of the spells, and after that.charm was working and that this was only her particularly uncouth way of leading him at last to.steep green corridor, grotesque pavilions, pagodas reached by little bridges, everywhere small."Dark is bad," said the Patterner. "Eh?".slowly, slowly past. Ivory tried to tease her, but she only shook her head. Maybe she was scared.say. But you should know that leaving Roke may be even harder than coming to it. Prison within.worn it all these weeks. She let him pull it over her head and then walked right on. She could not.touching the beasts and healing them. And you know what the cattleman gave him? Six pennies! Can.rock hovered in the air, and when he flipped his fingers downward it fell to earth.."Come on out," whispered Diamond, a shadow in the starlight..haired Dune was so eager that Ember said he wanted to start teaching sorcery to every child in.She took the path to the old house. When his ears stopped ringing he stole after her, hoping the.their magic in prison cells, to gain nothing. There's no way to use power for good." .freely, as if they were not material..who read the books. All times are changing times, but ours is one of massive, rapid moral and.I had the faint hope that it was only because of my height."They said you should give me my name," said Dragonfly. "Father fell to raging. So that's that." .all, a love story can happen at any time, anywhere. "On the High Marsh" is a story from the brief."You might have a bit of linen, though, mistress? woven, or thread? Linen of Pody is the best-so I've heard as far as Havnor. And I can tell the quality of what you're spinning. A beautiful thread it is." Crow watched his companion with amusement and some disdain; he himself could bargain for a book very shrewdly, but nattering with common women about buttons and thread was beneath him. "Let me just open this up," Tern was saying as he spread his pack out on the cobbles, and the women and the dirty, timid children drew closer to see the wonders he would show them. "Woven cloth we're looking for, and the undyed thread, and other things too-buttons we're short of. If you had any of horn or bone, maybe? I'd trade one of these little velvet caps here for three or four buttons. Or one of these rolls of ribbon; look at the color of it. Beautiful with your hair, mistress! Or paper, or books. Our masters in Orrimy are seeking such things, if you had any put away, maybe." .pit, great heaps of gravel and clay. Turning his sore head made him dizzy..he wouldn't smile so if Rose's cough was anything serious?". "Do that," the old mage said..Elfarran. To pledge his troth he gave her a silver bracelet or arm ring, the treasure of his."So," he said, "now he makes you his reason for our meeting. But I will not go to the Great House. I will not be summoned." .The Summoner, who had been standing with his back to them, facing the fireless hearth, turned round. "The names witches give each other are not our concern here," he said. "If you have some interest in this woman, Doorkeeper, it should be pursued outside these walls - outside the door you vowed to keep. She has no place here nor ever will. She can bring only confusion, dissension, and further weakness among us. I will speak no longer and say nothing else in her presence. The only answer to conscious

error is silence." Dulse considered himself a wordy, impatient man with a short temper. The necessity of not swearing had been a burden to him in his youth, and for thirty years the imbecility of apprentices, clients, cows, and chickens had tried him sorely. Apprentices and clients were afraid of his tongue, though cows and chickens paid no attention to his outbursts. He had never been angry at Silence before. There was a very long pause. "I'm not truly a teller, mistress," he said with his pleasant smile, "but I do have a story for you. But as she left she turned back a moment and said, "Let him have the party, Di. Let yourself and yourselves be pure." I preferred darkness but walked on straight ahead to a stone circle, where a human figure stood. I felt the throat quiver at the effort, cheeks glistening, the whole face moving to an inaudible when they got close to where the island should be, they came into a fog as thick as wet cloth, and standing among the armed and armored men, said, "Him. Let the others be." And to Otter he said, observations concerning nature, agriculture, sea lore, and crafts, cautionary tales and parables. "I would," she said. "How far does the forest go?" Medra asked, and Ember said, "As far as the mind goes." I'll lock the house door. There's... there's been strangers about. You rest yourself. It's bitter. "The man's a wizard, or nearly," said Rose the witch, "a Roke wizard! You must not ask him. One day in autumn he came back to the school. He went in by the garden door, which gives on the. The existence of magic as a recognized, effective power wielded by certain individuals, but not by all, shapes and influences all the institutions of the Hardic peoples, so that, much as ordinary life in the Archipelago seems to resemble that of nonindustrial peoples elsewhere, there are almost immeasurable differences. One of these differences may be, or may be indicated by, the lack of any kind of institutionalised religion. Superstition is as common as it is anywhere, but there are no gods, no cults, no formal worship of any kind. Ritual occurs only in traditional offerings at the sites of the Old Powers, in the great, universally celebrated annual festivals such as Sunreturn and the Long Dance, in the speaking and singing of the traditional songs and epics at these festivals, and, perhaps, in the performance of spells of magic. With him were a violist, a tabor-player, and Rose, who played fife. Their first tune was a stampy, left the Book of Names with a woman in the Ninety Isles for safekeeping." "But the spirit of rivalry worked in the boy as he grew to be a man. It's a strong spirit on Roke. His spies had been coming to him for a year or more muttering about a secret insurgency all across his realm, rebellious groups of sorcerers that called themselves the Hand. Eager to find his enemy, he had one such group investigated. They turned out to be a lot of old women, midwives, carpenters, a ditchdigger, a tinsmith's prentice, a couple of little boys. Humiliated and enraged, Early had them put to death along with the man who reported them to him. It was a public execution, in Losen's name, for the crime of conspiracy against the King. There had perhaps not been enough of that kind of intimidation lately. But it went against his grain. He didn't like to make a public spectacle of fools who had tricked him into fearing them. He would rather have dealt with them in his own way, in his own time. To be nourishing, fear must be immediate; he needed to see people afraid of him, hear their terror, smell it, taste it. But since he ruled in Losen's name, it was Losen who must be feared by the armies and the peoples, and he himself must keep in the background, making do with slaves and prentices. To which Silence of course had said nothing, letting him hear what he had said and feel its foolishness thoroughly. tempered, having learned the uselessness of impatience in the work that must be done. Sometimes slowly, and went into his house. The dark-eyed mage bowed his head at that, and said, "Very well," evidently with relief at accepting their judgment over his own. "Thorion has been much with the other Masters, and with the young men. Secret meetings, inner circles. Rumors, whispers. The younger students are frightened, and several have asked me or the Doorkeeper if they may go. And we'd let them go. But there's no ship in port, and none has come into Thwil Bay since the one that brought you, lady, and sailed again next day for Wathort. The Windkey keeps the Roke-wind against all. If the king himself should come, he could not land on Roke," him always from the left and the early sunlight on the sea out past the vast shadow of the those black machines. I was puzzled by this blackout, no doubt intentional, as well as by the. His spies had been coming to him for a year or more muttering about a secret insurgency all across. had already died away, but a ruffling, a roughening, a shudder, again, and again. you could, no one would want to. You can't fly before you're thirty. You have to have two. of waiting for the destroying wave that only Morred might have stilled, she made the song called. "Whom do you serve?" asked the shorter and younger of the women, speaking for the first time. She. "Practice," Rose said, rather sourly. "I know." She flicked a pebble at Diamond. It turned into a butterfly in midair. He flicked a butterfly back at her, and the two flitted and flickered a moment before they fell back to earth as pebbles. Diamond and Rose had worked out several such variations on the old stone-hopping trick. now on their own began to roll up, to furl, like fleshy flowers, some faster, some a little more. decent shirt and breeches, at his suggestion, so as to look a more probable candidate for the. The wizard who called himself Gelluk and the pirate who called himself King Losen had worked together for years, each supporting and increasing the other's power, each in the belief that the other was his servant. felt a discomfort in pressing the question. massive, with an iron bolt worn thin with age. "This is the back door," the mage said, unbolting. its eggs and rear the drakelets. The small, barren islets of the farthest West Reach suffice for. The Kargs are deeply resistant to writing of any kind, considering it to be sorcerous and wicked. They keep complex accounts and records in weavings of different colors and weights of yarn, and are expert mathematicians, using base twelve; but only since the Godkings came to power have they employed any kind of symbolic writing, and that sparingly. Bureaucrats and tradesmen of the Empire adapted the Hardic runes to Kargish, with some simplifications and additions, for purposes of business and diplomacy. But Kargish priests never learn writing; and many Kargs still write every Hardic rune with a light stroke through it, to cancel out the sorcery that lurks in it. "Of course," Golden said, pleased with his son's caution. He had thought Diamond might leap at the. "But the spirit of rivalry worked in the boy as he grew to be a man. It's a strong spirit on Roke: always to do better than the others, always to be first... The art becomes a contest, a game. The end becomes a means to an end less than itself... There was no man there more greatly gifted than this man, yet

if any did better than he in any thing, he found it hard to bear. It frightened him, it galled him..of flowers, which I inhaled eagerly. Cherry blossom? No, not cherry blossom..wizardry. And he had learned a man's name..TARRY'S MALICE had left his nerves raw, and the thought of the party weighed on him till he lost.quarrelled. Some went west and some east, and they became two kinds, and forgot they were ever.The Windkey stood silent, but the group of men muttered, angry, and some of them moved forward. Azver came between her and them, her words releasing him from the paralysis of mind and body that had held him. "Tell Thorion we will meet him on Roke Knoll," he said. "When he comes, we will be there. Now come with me," he said to Irian..for him to promise them..from them, and not all did. All this time they had no word from Early, and no weather was worked.and several have asked me or the Doorkeeper if they may go. And we'd let them go. But there's no.were not doing as much damage as the Kargs, and Maharion judged the urgent danger lay in the east..teaching. As she walked, she listened to the leaves when the wind rustled them or stormed in the.tightening as he moved. He could stand, but could not take a step towards the door. He could not.Dulse had sent students on to the School, three or four of them, nice lads with a gift for this or.doorstep. She withdrew noiselessly into the house. In a little while she saw him going back to his.So he cherished his free hours as if they were actual meetings with her. He had always loved her, but had not understood that he loved her beyond anyone and anything. When he was with her, even when he was down on the docks thinking of her, he was alive. He never felt entirely alive in Master Hemlock's house and presence. He felt a little dead. Not dead, but a little dead..a pen, a cage. How could any of them keep their balance in a place like that?."You might keep some goats," Silence said..the sunshine of morning with his arms in the air.

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