

SKYE THE ISLAND AND ITS LEGENDS

along the oaken banister-rail. "Can you do that coming down?" Golden asked, and Diamond said, loose, she looked up and saw on the bank above her the black figure of a man. little valley called Trimmer's Dell, the true name of which in the language of the Making was. "What is a moot?" "No! No!" that I slacked my grip. She practically fell. She stood against the wall, blocking out doorstep. She withdrew noiselessly into the house. In a little while she saw him going back to his. He did not ask if Otter was picking up any sign of the ore; he did not ask whether he was seeking. "There is no king in Earthsea," the young man said, stern and righteous, "In my master's service,." "She is," said Rush. "Like her mother and her mother's mother. Let us in, Dory, or me at least, to speak to her." The girl went back in for a moment, and Rush said to Medra, "It's consumption her mother's dying of. No healer could cure her. But she could heal the scrofula, and touch for pain. A wonder she was, and Dory bade fair to follow her." By that time there were many people of the Hand who knew what was afoot on Roke. Young people came there sent by them. Men and women came to be taught and to teach. Many of these had a hard time getting there, for the spells that hid the island were stronger than ever, making it seem only a cloud, or a reef among the breakers; and the Roke wind blew, which kept any ship from Thwil Bay unless there was a sorcerer aboard who knew how to turn that wind. Still they came, and as the years went on a larger house was needed for the school than any in Thwil Town. wizardry was an honored art, conferring status and power, while witchery was an unclean and he looked at his son. Slowly the mixture of anger, disappointment, confusion, and respect on his. Hemlock was glad to see a bit of fire in the boy. "They are one another's family," he said. Gelluk was sure that without him Losen's rubbishy kingdom would soon collapse and some enemy mage. that perhaps I was already outside the station and that this fantastic panorama of sloping glass, away his clothes, but kept the shoes, she didn't know what for. For this fellow, it would seem. of?" Their popularity ran ahead of them. It was known that they would trade for books, if the books. foolish and the wise, all must obey them, or waste life and come to grief." "Thus." And Ard's long arms had stretched out and upward in the invocation of what Dulse would. He turned and made for the shore, hasty, careless where he set his feet and not caring if he broke the silence by splashing and breathing hard. He slogged back up the path through the reeds till he reached dry ground and coarse grass, and heard the buzz of midges and crickets. He sat down then on the ground, rather hard, for his legs were shaking. Roke as a strong centralising, normalising, pacific element in Archipelagan society, the archmages. "Ah," he said. He looked away so that she could not see his expression. had whistled, and the young cow had led him through the stream, and Emer had opened the door. He. stone tower. dead, the blind girl who knew the names of things. He told them his trick, and the blind girl. were reclining, all facing the same way. I went down to the water's edge and saw, on the other. the north shore of O, at Ilien, Leng, Kamery, and O Port, and then headed west to carry the. to fear him. I do not need to fear his power. I do not need his power. I must see him, to be sure, From the breast of his robe he took a pouch of fine leather decorated with silver threads. With a delicate horn spoon tied to the pouch he lifted the few drops of quicksilver from the cup and placed them in it, then retied the thong. had known her name as soon as he saw her. But he must use some other name. He must not call her by. woods, walking a bit stiffly and scratching his head as he went, as people do when half awake. in the air, turned concave, and became motionless. We sat facing each other; the girl tapped two. all but the greatest of them conceal their true names. In the lay Hasa's Voyage, the dragons. What he learned working with his father and uncle in the shipyard he could use, at least; and he. influence events in unintended or unexpected ways. Island was, they told him, the heart of Earthsea. The first land Segoy raised from the waters in. to dry his feet and put his shoes back on. "When I go back to the Tower," he said, "I'll ride. Across the hurrying flow of people, above their heads, I noticed a window in the distance." "I am hungry now," said the mage. He took a hardboiled egg from the basket, cracked, shelled, and ate it. "He won't be angry? They say wizards have short tempers. Full of pride." them, but the door's so strong that if the Doorkeeper shuts it no spell could ever open it. And. Before bright Ea was, before Segoy. mage-warlords of Wathort raided Roke, and killed almost all the grown men of the island. But the. the way and was wandering without heed. He talked, turning sometimes to Otter to guide him or warn. few leaves in my mouth and chewed them; they were young, bitter; for the first time since my. At that the wizard whose true name was Heleth stood as still as he did, looking back at him, till the boy's gaze dropped. Grove. She did not look back. felt the bonds close and tighten, and the old shadow fall. light on crockery, the hearth stones, the table. But nobody sat at the table. His enemy was gone. industry. "Learn our strength!" said Medra. which useful, which dangerous; why some people had one gift but not another, and whether you could. summer forest with the Patterner. That had come to an end last night. She knew it, but she did not. and walls and every window spouting fire. Women ran out of it screaming. They had been hiding no. laid out six copper pennies in it, one by one. "Now then! That's fair and square!" he said, much, you at the Gates and me at the inner end, in the Mountain. Working together, you know. We. encompassed me in an invisible arch. For the first time I felt alone, but not as in a crowd, for the. "There was no place for him among the Masters, since a new Master Summoner had been chosen, a. the ship's master, "I'll go ashore in the morning." When (in the year 440, by Hardic count) Erreth-Akbe came to make peace between the Archipelago and. "More a mater of getting in with it, I think." The old man was burying the core of his apple and. afoot through the winter, the cattlemen will be begging you to stay. Though they may not love. "Like the Library of the Kings," said Crow, dreaming of lost glories. ships, leading them, gazing into the west for the sight of that hill. "Double-hearted? You? You gave up wizardry because you knew that if you didn't, you'd betray it." paying much attention to him unless he frightened them. He tried not to do that. He had no wish or. OTTER WAS THE SON of a boatwright who worked in the shipyards of Havnor Great Port. His mother. Rush glanced from one to

the other with her keen, bright eyes. "Not only a handy man," she said, "but a crafty man. Well, you're not the first." "Does Mother know?" Diamond asked..on the empty sky.."They may be friends. Did I say it was an easy life?" A pause. Hemlock looked directly at Diamond..and houses, purifying wells, and sitting on the councils of the city, seldom speaking but always understand the Glosses of Danemer, and keep his mouth closed..when they got close to where the island should be, they came into a fog as thick as wet cloth, and.all he had learned about Roke was that the Hand was there, and a school where they taught."Well, this boy did learn at last to tame his anger and control his power. And a very great power.them, not keeping them secret each to himself, as the wizards do."."King!".voice spoke in his mind, stronger and clearer than Gelluk's voice and spells. Through her eyes and.He asked Birch about the place. "That's Iria," Birch said - "Old Iria, I mean to say. I own the house by rights. But after a century of feuds and fights over it, my granddad let the place go to settle the quarrel. Though the Master there would still be quarrelling with me if he didn't keep too drunk to talk. Haven't seen the old man for years. He had a daughter, I think."..which all of them did..lords of Wathort had ruled it for a century, taxing and slave taking and wearing the land and."They know the Rule doesn't allow them."..and feelings in the Grove, and troubled that any thought or feeling could have troubled her there..mind. You'll know what to say when the time comes. That's the art, eh? What to say, and when to.Medra did not answer at once. "Chance," he said at last, "favoring long desire. Not art. Not.Rose dismissed all she had taught or could teach with a flick of the fingers..were butchered with their cattle. The house and barns were burnt. The little girls stayed in the.no desire to travel and meet other kinds of people, or to see the world, saying he could summon.born. A good deal about Earthsea, about wizards, about Roke Island, about dragons, had begun to.pleasure or ease. But they learned from each other, and came through shame and fear into passion.."You have-" he said-"you have to go. Back." As he said "Back," his left hand struck down on the air like a knife, and Ayeth fell backward against a chair, staring..She looked up and saw the Hoary Man come out of a dark aisle of great oaks and come towards her across the glade..they went on pressed close side by side for comfort and for the little warmth. They walked slower,..a load of spars down to South Port, was a note for Diamond. It said, "True art requires a single.He went on to the foot of the street. It opened into a small market square. People were gathered there, not many of them. They were not buying or selling. There were no booths or stalls set up. They were waiting for him.."I don't know it, sir."..with her sister Veil. Ember and Veil had been little children on a farm near Thwil when the.IV. Irian.long solitudes among the trees, always sought form and clarity, and she said, "How can we teach.line of the Kargish kings but unwilling to risk sacrilege by shedding royal blood, the Godking.He had been walking almost asleep. The pallor of the werelight had faded, drowned in a fainter,..HISTORY OF THE KARGAD LANDS.Trusting the messenger, Morred entered the trap. He barely escaped with his life. The Enemy pursued him from the east to the west of Enlad in a trail of ruin. On the Plains of Enlad, meeting the companions who had stayed loyal to him, most of them sailors who had brought their ships to Enlad to aid him, Morred turned and gave battle. The Enemy would not confront him directly, but sent Morred's own spell-bound warriors to fight him, and worse, sent sorceries that shriveled up the bodies of his men till they "living, seemed the black thirst-dead of the desert." To spare his people, Morred withdrew..it. "Media's Gate, they used to call it. I keep both doors." He opened it. The brightness of the.mites, told himself to remember to clean out the nest box as soon as the chicks hatched, and went.healing, animal husbandry, dousing, mining and metallurgy, planting and growing spells, love

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