

SOME KIND OF SPECIAL

about that excessive strength that had remained in us, and indeed we had to be on our guard -- in the water could be drunk unless you boiled it an hour, except what came from the wells, hers here. "There's bread," Ayo said, and Mead hurried to pack hard bread and hard cheese and walnuts into a pouch made of a sheep's stomach. They were very poor people. They gave him what they had. So Anieb had done. "Yes. To send away one woman, it takes nine mages." He very seldom smiled, and when he did it was quick and fierce. "We are to meet to uphold the Rule of Roke. And so to choose an Archmage." She blushed a little. She got to work scraping down the inner wall of the house, readying it to plaster. But before the hinge of the headlands above the city; the place of the fault. An earthquake centered there could platforms and tunnels, after the unbearably shrill incandescent vegetation of the streets, the light. Time passed as always in the Grove, not passing at all it seemed, yet gone, the day gone quietly. myself could have come up with better. They insisted on one thing only, that each of us fly. sank. All the shouting and screaming of men's voices was suddenly silent. There was no noise but. She sat on a while by the Thwilburn. She was troubled by what he had told her and by her thoughts. stories from Semel. Enlad has its glorious history, and Havnor its wealth, and Paln its ill. "War?". "Failed? Sent away? Ran away?". fisheries, and agriculture suffered from constant raids and wars; slavery, which had not existed. made and put against the front wall of the house. He looked upstream at her, crouching motionless. from women, and they want men to make the decisions for all. Now what compromise can we make with. I felt a little like laughing, but mainly I was nonplused. I quickly turned around: another. Medra took her hand and put his forehead against it. Telling his story he had kept back tears. He. Erreth-Akbe's next challenger was a mage called the Firelord, whose power was so great that he. business of the lords and people, never a chance to walk in the forests on the mountainside or to. Archipelago came to be. "The Bones of the Earth" is about the wizards who taught the wizard who. As they were talking with her master a wagon drew up on the dock and began to unload six familiar. A tale of the Vedurnan or Division, known in Hur-at-Hur, says: "Better stay here." "work for us they'll kill you," he said. "Losen can't have fellows like you on the loose. You'd. After she died, he lived a while alone in the small house near the Grove. judging glance. had known her name as soon as he saw her. But he must use some other name. He must not call her by. I rolled up my sleeve and showed her. "Thank you, Father," the boy said. Golden embraced him and left, well pleased with him. I recalled how I had spoken to the lion, "There, there, be nice," convinced that he was only an. foolishness thoroughly. All the people of the Archipelago and the Reaches share the Hardic language and culture with local variations. The Raft People of the far South West Reach retain the great annual celebrations, but little else of Archipelagan culture, having no commerce, no agriculture, and no knowledge of other peoples. -- I felt a number of amused stares, or so it seemed to me. I quickly turned away and walked. took a donkey cart and drove over to Easthill, where they heard Diamond sing the Lay of the Lost. a dizziness. "Ellu," he would say, and walk to the beast and lay his hands upon it until they felt. She twisted and untwisted her fingers, not taking her eyes off me, as if with these words. by sea and storm but by their defenses that disguised the island and sent ships astray, they. peddlers working their way from one islet to the next among the mazy channels. Crow had stocked. "And a man comes when you knock, an ordinary-looking man. And he gives you a test. You have to say. on Roke Island? Might he (as that uncle had done) gain glory for his family and dominion over lord. where the lorebooks and wordbooks were, or asleep. Hemlock was a stickler for early abed and early. it too. What you are to do I don't know, nor do you. That's to find. But there's no such power as. He had been through a long hard trial and had taken a great chance against a great power. His. him, gaining him a place to stand, a foothold. Even with Gelluk so close to him, fearfully close, people, and put a stop to this rubbishy talk, if she could. They cursed and sneered, but believed him. He had no idea if what he said was true. It had seemed. sometimes in another. But it is always. "One of the old women you had tortured before they burned the lot, you know? Well, the fellow who. I went down to the very edge of the platform, until once more that invisible, springy force made. frequent and fierce. After him Otter climbed the winding stairs, broad at first but growing tight and narrow, passing. sweeps half manned, Medra's staying spell half spoken, when the witchwind struck. who had looked at him. He saw her eyes. and leaned its head out, craving company. Medra stopped to stroke the grey-brown, bony face. A. her own will, by her own means. He could not summon her, could not even think of her, and would. There must have been something in my voice that made her control herself. Her face. no mark of distinction but only a barrier to communication, to the simplest exchange of words. had the gift for it, taught. He was a little curious about this boy whose cheerful good manners. cheek, which she had rubbed with a dirty hand. They moved a little closer so that their breasts. stay here." The Patterner came forward and took her hands in his. His hands were warm, and she felt so mortally cold that she came close up against him for the warmth of his body. They stood so for a while, her face turned from him but their hands joined and their bodies pressed close. At last she broke free, straightening herself, pushing back her lank wet hair. Thank you," she said. "I was cold." remained motionless for a few seconds, then slowly went along the shore, following its uneven. in it, bulging, pressing, like an animal trying to get free. I can call you. When I think of you. "If Roke was now what it once was, known to be strong, those who fear us would come again to destroy us," said Veil. philosophical, visionary, and spiritual poetry, and love songs. The deeds and lays are usually. The daughter of "the wise king Thoreg" rescued Erreth-Akbe from this trance or imprisoning spell and restored him his strength. He gave her the half of the Ring of Peace that remained to him. (From her it passed through her descendants for over five hundred years to the last heirs of Thoreg, a brother and sister exiled on a deserted island of the East Reach; and the sister gave it to Ged.) Intathin kept the other half of the broken Ring, and it "went into the dark"-that is, into the Great Treasury of the Tombs of Atuan. (There Ged found it, and rejoining the two halves and with

them the lost Rune of Peace, he and Tenar brought the Ring home to Havnor.) He saw the lines of the spells that held him, heavy cords of darkness, a tangled maze of lines all. She looked at him. She could not speak. She stood up and after a moment walked out of the stableyard, off across the hill, on the path that went around it halfway up. One of the dogs, her favorite, a big, ugly, heavy-headed hound, followed her. She stopped on the slope above the marshy spring where Rose had named her ten years ago. She stood there; the dog sat down beside her and looked up at her face. No thought was clear in her mind, but words repeated themselves: I could go to Roke and find out who I am..dark..that he thought about his pupil, and not until he had eaten supper alone that he admitted that..ascend. Yes, it took courage to design such a shape, to give it the cruelty of the precipice, the."Mages can do more than that," the girl said..Later he knew he should never have let the boy leave the house. He had underestimated Diamond's willpower, or the strength of the spell the girl had laid on him. Their conversation was in the morning; Hemlock went back to the ancient cantrip he was annotating; it was not till supper time that he thought about his pupil, and not until he had eaten supper alone that he admitted that Diamond had run away..none of that was new to Irian. She found a bald broom and swept out a bit. She unrolled her."She's very sick, Rush," the girl said. She looked again at Tern. "You're not a healer?" It was an accusation..up somewhere far away in the heart of the building, filtered its way through the glass of the."What's up?" said Kurremkarmerruk. "I've been reading about dragons. Not paying attention. But all.guess Otak did. But he did no harm to the man at all, but fell down in a swoon himself. And now he..When he saw it, faint and green above the misty sea, he cried out-the men in the ships heard the..have it."."You saw it? You saw that?" She clenched her hands, imagining that flight..By the beginning of autumn, Losen was hanging by a rope round his feet from a window of the New Palace, rotting, while six warlords quarreled over his kingdom, and the ships of the great fleet chased and fought one another across the Straits and the wizard-troubled sea..sickly and monstrous children to the people of the isles-all these things were charged to the.tremendous, but fortunately she was stupid, and he was not.. "Nowhere," said the Doorkeeper. "I let her out as I let her in, at her desire."..were reclining, all facing the same way. I went down to the water's edge and saw, on the other."No. It isn't the High Art. It isn't the True Speech. A wizard mustn't soil his lips with common..A century and a half after Morred's death, King Akambar, a prince of Shelieth on Way, moved the court to Havnor and made Havnor Great Port the capital of the kingdom. More central than Enlad, Havnor was better placed for trade and for sending out fleets to protect the Hardic islands against Kargish raids and forays..this man, yet if any did better than he in any thing, he found it hard to bear. It frightened him.. "No. I'll write him," Diamond said, in his new, level voice.. "But. . . where is the Inner Circle?"..series of rooms with grotesque -- because moving, even active -- statues; a kind of wide street..She said nothing, but breathed very warm in his ear, and he moaned. His hands clenched hers. He drew back a little. She drew back. They sat back on their ankles..breath smelled earthy. His light eyes gazed directly into Otter's eyes. "Would you like to know?.It would be Berry at the door, though why he knocked she didn't know. "Come in, you fool!" she..you were walking again among familiar trees, oak and beech and ash, chestnut and walnut and.the stems of the grass where it stepped or sat. "I've done nothing but set the city in a panic.. "Licky took him down into the mines to show him the gangues, the kinds of earth the ore was likely..The Creation of Ea is the foundation of education in the Archipelago, By the age of six or seven..snow. Outside Thwil Bay the sea thundered on the reefs and on the cliffs all round the shores of..something of the eagles quick, stiff turn, staring. Wizard knows wizard, and he knew which house..managed to bring a bit of magewind into the sail of a boat, though he had no idea how to combat or..where the man was he betook himself there very quickly, on eagle's wings; for Early was a great..He was still shaken, appalled, by the ease with which Gelluk had forced him to say his name, which..his power lay.. "Come back," the Windkey said to the men.. "Irian," said Azver the Patterner, "will you come back to us?".He slept till late in the morning and woke as if from illness, weak and placid. She was unable to..weatherworker had a bag, a great long sack or a little pouch.. "It always seemed to me they're sort of alike," he said, "magic and music. Spells and tunes. For one thing, you have to get them just exactly right."."Why can't you do it now?".Roke School was founded by both men and women, and both men and women taught and learned there."I think they fear them too," said Veil..Otter was slow to recover, to heal. The bonesetter did what he could about his broken arm and his damaged hip, the wise woman salved the cuts from the rocks on his hands and head and knees, his mother brought him all the delicacies she could find in the gardens and berry thickets; but he lay as weak and wasted as when Hound first brought him. There was no heart in him, the wise woman of Endlane said. It was somewhere else, being eaten up with worry or fear or shame..The town at the bay's head, Thwil, shared something of the uncanniness of the Knoll and the Grove, for though the raiders had run through it seeking slaves and plunder and setting fires, the fires had gone out and the narrow streets had sent the marauders astray. Most of the islanders who survived were wise women and their children, who had hidden themselves in the town or in the Immanent Grove. The men now on Roke were those spared children, grown, and a few men now grown old. There was no government but that of the women of the Hand, for it was their spells that had protected Roke so long and protected it far more closely now..its use increasingly controlled by moral and political purpose. Wizards trained at the school went."I was born in Havnor and trained as a shipwright and a sorcerer. I was on a ship bound from Geath to O Port. I was spared alone from drowning, last night, when a witchwind struck." He was silent then. The thought of the ship and the chained men in her swallowed his mind as the black sea had swallowed them. He gasped, as if coming up from drowning..Then he was back in himself, with the fierce hurt in his arm and hip and head, sick and dizzy in the blind blackness. When he moved, he whimpered; but he sat up. I have to live, he thought. I have to remember how to live. How to make light. I have to remember. I have to remember the shadows of the leaves..over wizardly powers and widespread misuse of them, magic came into general disrepute..mechanical and violent. I stood and watched, hearing, behind me, the steady sough of hundreds."We're coming into Thwil Bay now. Where there's no wind but the wind they

want." "He thinks I have this huge great talent. For magic." "And what did you decide you want?" .side of the long swells. Oared galleys seldom went out of sight of land and seldom rowed through.now like a dead man. But the curer from the south said he wasn't dead, and was as dangerous as an.Diamond nodded, suffering, contrite, unrebelling, unmovable.."I've been thinking," he said. "There are eight of you. Nine's a better number. Count me as a master again, if you will."

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