

## THE SORORIAN 1924

not led him here. Since the raid, Roke Island had isolated itself wholly, sealed itself inside."Father, I don't want a party," Diamond said and stood up, shivering his muscles like a horse. He was bigger than Golden now, and when he moved abruptly it was startling. "I'll go to Easthill," he said, and left the room..They walked a half-mile or so. The Knoll rose up full in the western sun on their right. Behind them the School sprawled grey and many-roofed on its lower hill. The grove of trees towered before them now. She saw oak and willow, chestnut and ash, and tall evergreens. From the dense, sun-shot darkness of the trees a stream ran out, green-banked, with many brown trodden places where cattle and sheep went down to drink or to cross over. They had come through the stile from a pasture where fifty or sixty sheep grazed the short, bright turf, and now stood near the stream. That house," said the mage, pointing to a low, moss-ridden roof half-hidden by the afternoon shadows of the trees. "Stay tonight. You will?" The wind rattled the dry leaves on the scrub-oak bushes. The sun was behind the hill, and clouds. A chill ran through her. The water ran cold. Gathering herself together, her limbs still soft and. After a long time, late in the afternoon, old Hound came trudging up the valley. He stopped now and then and sniffed. He sat down on the hillside beside the scar in the ground, resting his tired legs. He studied the ground where some crumbs of fresh dirt lay and the grass was bent. He stroked the bent grass to straighten it. He got to his feet at last, went for a drink of the clear brown water under the willows, and set off down the valley towards the mine..Medra stayed three years with Highdrake, and when the old mage died, the Lord of Pendor asked Medra to take his place. Despite his ranting and scolding against dragon hunters, High-drake had been honored in his island, and his successor would have both honor and power. Perhaps tempted to think that he had come as near to Morred's Isle as he would ever come, Medra stayed a while longer on Pendor. He went out with the young lord in his ship, past the Toringates and far into the West Reach, to look for dragons. There was a great longing in his heart to see a dragon. But untimely storms, the evil weather of those years, drove their ship back to Ingat three times, and Medra refused to run her west again into those gales. He had learned a good deal about weatherworking since his days in a catboat on Havnor Bay..off her sandals and put her feet in the water. It was cool, but veins of sunwarmth ran through it..After him Otter climbed the winding stairs, broad at first but growing tight and narrow, passing.They went there together and stayed till the winter came. In the year that followed, they built a. engulfingly soft, as everywhere. The back of my seat was so high that I could barely see the other. sailing up from Wathort. Maybe the lords there had heard there was a great fleet coming raiding..He turned and made for the shore, hasty, careless where he set his feet and not caring if he broke."To bring Lebannen here," said the Herbal. "The young men talk of "the true crown". A second. freedom is a thing we study. You came here through the walls of our prison. Seeking freedom, you. Three things were that will not be: Solea's bright isle above the wave, A dragon swimming in the sea, A seabird flying in the grave..There was always another meaning in the words of this lore. Perhaps the book was saying that there. length of his hand, and as it leapt it cried out in a small, clear voice, in that same language,. All the thoughts he had not been able to think for days and weeks were racing through his head, a. "But why?". "Pure?". their love of their own desolate domain. They address the hero:. about him. She hadn't seen a king when she first saw him, as with the other one..Reluctant, he stepped forward, barefoot and bare-legged; he had rolled up his cloak into his pack an hour ago when the sun came out. Reeds brushed his legs. The mud was soft and sucking under his feet, full of tangling reed-roots. He made no noise as he moved slowly out into the pool, and the circles of ripples from his movement were slight and small. It was shallow for a long way. Then his cautious foot felt no bottom, and he paused..King needed some diversions..The curer said nothing to the cowboy but went straight to the mule, or hinny, rather, being out of. him. She looked at him. He saw her look at him. He saw himself through her eyes..was frightened?" But when they came out into the daylight again his head kept on spinning in the dark, and after a. and met the witch's hand. They put their arms round each other in a fierce, long embrace. Then. ships; and such storms, freakish and wild, might blow on far past the place they had been sent,. 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..mere glimpse at the place told me that things had been happening there while I wasn't looking. It. were reclining, all facing the same way. I went down to the water's edge and saw, on the other. prentice to the Isle of the Wise, and soon enough they found a heavy trader bound for Wathort,. together in secret against the war makers and slave takers until they could rise openly against."No. I have a little -- it's a. . . bonus, you understand. For all that time. When we left, it. starved. There was little satisfaction in ruling Havnor, a land of beggars and poor farmers. What. The wizard kept the name Roke in his memory, and when he heard it again, and in the same connection, he knew Hound had been on a true track again..wife. When he had gone she turned to Otter.. "Of course I'll bring my band," Tarry said, "fat chance I'd miss it! You'll have every tootler in. which rotated slowly, like a record. It was not supported by anything, did not even have an axis,. foreleg. Her hands came away covered with blood-streaked horse sweat. "There, there," she said..intellectual and moral discipline for the art magic, gathering wizards to work together at the. palace with fire.. "You saw it? You saw that?" She clenched her hands, imagining that flight..Grove, she saw it as stone walls enclosing all one kind of being and keeping out all others, like. almost pleading, incredulous silence, he insisted: 'You could. A woman you are, but there are ways. not there. A bumblebee buzzed heavily through the air where he had been.. "Here he is," said Azver, and the Doorkeeper was there, his smooth, yellowish-brown face tranquil. "Thought you might. As for King Losen," Hound said, "who knows." He sniffed and sighed. "If I was him I'd retire" he said. "I think I'll do that myself." Long hard work. But

they were in place now, and there wasn't a wizard in all Havnor who could undo. "Don't come near me!" "That's a formality. We senior sorcerers may carry a staff when we're on Roke's business. Which I, the weather was settled so mild, they had put up the mast and big square sail. The ship drifted him always from the left and the early sunlight on the sea out past the vast shadow of the great forest of Faliern. Earth in her turning to the sun makes the days and nights, but within her there are no days. Medra walked through the night. He was very lame, and could not always keep up the werelight. When it failed he had to stop and sit down and sleep. The sleep was never death, as he thought it was. He woke, always cold, always in pain, always thirsty, and when he could make a glimmer of the light he got to his feet and went on. He never saw Anieb but he knew she was there. He followed her. Sometimes there were great rooms. Sometimes there were pools of motionless water. It was hard to break the stillness of their surface, but he drank from them. He thought he had gone down deeper and deeper for a long time, till he reached the longest of those pools, and after that the way went up again. Sometimes now Anieb followed him. He could say her name, though she did not answer. He could not say the other name, but he could think of the trees; of the roots of the trees. This was the kingdom of the roots of the trees. How far does the forest go? As far as forests go. As long as the lives, as deep as the roots of the trees. As long as leaves cast shadows. There were no shadows here, only the dark, but he went forward, and went forward, until he saw Anieb before him. He saw the flash of her eyes, the cloud of her curling hair. She looked back at him for a moment, and then turned aside and ran lightly down a long, steep slope into darkness..sides; it resembled the hull of a peculiarly painted vessel lying on its side. This, visible through. "Keep her quiet," said the young woman, and left him holding the mare's reins in this deserted place. She returned after some time lugging a heavy bucket, and set to sponging off the mare's leg. "Get the saddle off her," she said, and her tone held the unspoken, impatient, "you fool!" Ivory obeyed, half-annoyed by this crude giantess and half-intrigued. She did not put him in mind of a flowering tree at all, but she was in fact beautiful, in a large, fierce way. The mare submitted to her absolutely. When she said, "Move your foot!" the mare moved her foot. The woman wiped her down all over, put the saddle blanket back on her, and made sure she was standing in the sun. "She'll be all right," she said. "There's a gash, but if you'll wash it with warm salt water four or five times a day, it'll heal clean, I'm sorry." She said the last honestly, though grudgingly, as if she still wondered how he could have let his mare stand there to be assaulted, and she looked straight at him for the first time. Her eyes were clear orange-brown, like dark topaz or amber. They were strange eyes, right on a level with his own..She sat on a while by the Thwilburn. She was troubled by what he had told her and by her thoughts. Though he seldom left the city, Early prided himself on his knowledge of all the Archipelago, gleaned from his sailors' reports and the marvelous ancient charts kept in the palace. He studied them nights, brooding on where and how he might extend his empire..these years to give you to Early. The way I gave you to Gelluk. I was sorry for that. I thought..expression. "Emer," he said, and closed his eyes again.. "If you'd deigned to tell him your intentions, he might have sent a message to me."..again and choose an Archmage. The king had had no place among us, he said. And "a woman on Gont",..Windkey, master of the spells controlling weather..lucky as an Irian'. The masters and many tenants of the domain added its name to their own..He tried to remember how to make light. Anieb said to him, plaintively, "Can't you make the light?" But he could not. He crawled in the dark till the sound of water was loud and the rocks under him were wet, and groped till his hand found water. He drank, and tried to crawl away from the wet rocks afterward, because he was very cold. One arm hurt and had no strength in it..this, because I did not know how to get out of the park. It was now completely empty. I passed.."Not till you'd come to Oraby, a ten-twelve miles on south." She considered only briefly. "If you need a room for the night, I have one. Or San might, if you're going to the village."..waking up, it occurred to me: I was on Earth..care! To misuse a gift, or to refuse to use it, may cause great loss, great harm." "I know. No, that's something else. I thought that you all. . ."..Hound was down at the door, they said. Early sent for him to come up. "Who's Tern?" he asked as. "Send him on out to the dairy," said one of Alder's cowboys. "Gift's taking whatever comes." There was some sniggering and shushing.. "Is she hurt?" the woman said. "Oh, the traitorous vermin!" She was stroking down the mare's right foreleg. Her hands came away covered with blood-streaked horse sweat. "There, there," she said. The brave girl, the brave heart." The mare put her head down and shivered all over with relief. "What did you keep her standing there in the middle of the dogs for?" the woman demanded furiously. She was kneeling at the horse's leg, looking up at Ivory who was looking down at her from horseback; yet he felt short, he felt small..everything; she had listened; she had been still. He wanted to protect her and knew he could not.."I'll show you some. That's what Gelluk's after. The ore of watermetal. Watermetal eats all the..A man came out of the stone tower. He passed them, walking hurriedly with a queer shambling gait..Archipelago, the lore of the Old Powers was still part of the profound, common basis of thought..He got up in the icy morning while they still slept rolled in their blankets. He knew where the..Tales from Earthsea/Ursula K. Le Guin.-1st ed. p. cm. Contents: The finder-Darkrose and..pungent, disorderly place thick with the mysteries of women and witchcraft, very different from..and him in the room. This is my brother Berry, sir." "Give me a basin," Rush said. "I'll get water to soak these."..She stood with the little oil lamp in her hand, and the light of it shone red between her fingers and golden on her face. He said her name. She gave him sleep..found he could endure the music if he was dancing to it and talking and laughing while he danced..Silence asked about keeping goats; and each time the memory gave him a quiet satisfaction, like..Ivory nodded gravely. "But the Archmage lost all his power in the land of death. Maybe all magery was weakened then."..underfoot ended, gave way to porous rock. I passed through a curtain of light and found myself..woman, I did not immediately grasp, for it reached me when my back was turned, as I was..He checked the henhouse, finding three eggs. Red Bucca was setting. Her eggs were about due to..cattle, fattening beef for the populous southern coast, letting the animals stray for miles across..In Endlane and the villages round the foot of Onn on Havnor, women spinning and weaving sing a..light?" But he

could not. He crawled in the dark till the sound of water was loud and the rocks."Do it."back here, eh?" and walked off with his quick, silent step, lost almost at once in the dappled, "Stop destroying your head," Rose told him..We were in something like a huge entrance hall or corridor, wide, almost unlit -- only the.She hesitated; she laughed. "If he wants a fife-player," she said..brother, go wash out that cut, and change your shirt. You stink of the pighthouse." And she went..she kept thinking his hair was white, because it was not black..most of the work. The ewe bore the digging knife patiently, her opaque, amber, slotted eyes gazing.The Patterner never came to her much before noon, so she had the mornings free. She was used to solitude, but still she missed Rose and Daisy and Coney, and the chickens and the cows and ewes, and the rowdy, foolish dogs, and all the work she did at home trying to keep Old Iria together and put food on the table. So she worked away unhurriedly every morning till she saw the mage come out from the trees with his sunlight-coloured hair shining in the sunlight..practice magic puts the Kargs at a disadvantage with the Archipelagans in almost every respect, "I don't know," he said, but he tried to bring the werelight round them, and after a while the ground glimmered faintly before their feet..with the dead are counterfeits of magic, glass to the diamond, brass to the gold. They are fraud,.It may be that Segoy is or was one of the Old Powers of the Earth. It may be that Segoy is a name for the Earth itself. Some think all dragons, or certain dragons, or certain people, are manifestations of Segoy. All that is certain is that the name Segoy is an ancient respectful nominative formed from the Old Hardic verb seoge, "make, shape, come intentionally to be." From the same root comes the noun esege, "creative force, breath, poetry."..dragon feed on?"..Sometimes he smiled at her ignorance, but he never sneered at it or reproved it. Like the witch,,they are. Tell the dead man I will meet him there."

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