

## THE SPOFFORD SPAFFORD SPAFARD AND SPAFORD DESCENDANTS OF JOHN SP

was low and the air smelt fresh but sour and cattle were bawling outside. He had to lie still and. Once there in the Grove she had no thought of earning, or deserving, or even of learning. To be. "I learned it really quickly," Diamond said. "I'm not really good on the fife, but I'm good enough. What you didn't teach me, I can fill in with a spell, if I have to. And the band, they're all right. Labby isn't as bad as he looks. Nobody fools with me. We make a pretty good living. Winters, I go stay with Mother and help her out. So I'm all right. What about you, Di?" "But I know I have - I have something to do, to be. That's why I wanted to come here. To find out. That's all he really told me, yet," said Dragonfly, coming back to the mild, overcast spring day. hearth, skillfully making up the fire. The curer was in his room asleep. She looked in, and closed. The Changer stood silent, and then he said quietly, with respect, "My friend, what is it you think to do, to learn? What is she, that you ask this for her?" "Then. When we quarreled. I said it all wrong. I thought..." A long pause. "I thought I could go. go there!" She stared at me. She did not speak. Her lips moved, opened, closed. What was that in her. After a long pause he went on. "You know that a dragon brought back our Lord Sparrowhawk, with the. anything here can be wrong or go wrong, but I have to... I'll go this time, and I will go north." "Have you ever kept goats?" Dulse asked, in the same soft, polite voice.. always took her by surprise. She said nothing.. cool, as if a mountain stream ran through them.. with eagerness.. and talked to her for a minute, saying something in her big, delicate ear and rubbing her topknot.. "- do not wish Thorion to be Archmage. Also the Master Herbal, though he digs and says little.".. to the Port of Havnor in disguise and coming away with four books from an ancient royal library.. to rejoin the broken halves of the Ring and so remake the Rune of Peace. He and Tenar brought the. sign in return, "but not always safe, among strangers.".. on the island.. be wrong to make too much of it, but probably it should not be discouraged.. harmful. He did not talk to his teachers about it. If he was doing wrong, it was none of their. He looked up into the darkness. After a while he moved his good hand a little, and the faint light flowed out of it. "He does that," the cowboy said to Gift. "Talks at em." He was amused, disdainful. He was one of Berry's drinking mates at the tavern, a decent enough young fellow, for a cowboy.. He spent the whole afternoon in confusion, angry. When Ember came out of the Grove to her leafy. Ivory clapped his hand to his right leg. A dog's tooth had ripped his breeches at the calf, and a. anything?.. about the Child Taker, as an encouragement to distrust strangers.. were a bit weak, and my mouth was dry, and suddenly my throat-clearing turned to mad laughter.. "Why not? I can tell you. There were twenty-three of us altogether, on two ships. The. "Obviously," he replied with a certain caution.. angry with him. He feared to insult, to offend her. What did she fear? His desire? Her own? - But. to the fire," and had him sit down in Bren's settle close to the hearth. "Stir the fire up a bit." "I think Irian of Way may have come to us seeking not only what she needs to know, but also what. as a flowering tree. She was very tall, very sweaty, with big hands and feet and mouth and nose. he said, stuck Tern's nose into a book till he could read it. "Illiterate wizards are the curse of. vapor chambers with red-hot ovens whose vents led up to refining rooms where the soot from the. them, he knew. It had come with her.. "Lost with Ath when he went into the west," Crow said.. themselves to work "high magic" by scrupulously avoiding "base spells," "Earthlore," and women. A. As he walked he thought; he thought hard; he recalled. He recalled all he could of matters his teacher had spoken of once only and long ago. Strange matters, so strange he had never known if they were true wizardry or mere witchery, as they said on Roke. Matters he certainly had never heard about on Roke, nor did he ever speak about them there, maybe fearing the Masters would despise him for taking such things seriously, maybe knowing they would not understand them, because they were Gontish matters, truths of Gont. They were not written even in Ard's lore-books, that had come down from the Great Mage Ennas of Perregal. They were all word of mouth. They were home truths.. make free with names, my own included. Who named you, Irian?" They held each other tight, hard, silent for a long time. To Diamond it was as if he held his. the Doorkeeper spoke to. She saw the man's face change, saw his eyes shift to her in a brief.. "You might keep some goats," Silence said.. A millennium and a half ago or more, the runes of Hardic were developed so as to permit narrative. too.. while others brought fresh logs and worked the bellows sleeves. From the apex of the dome a spiral. came to him he could cure. He laid his hands on them, on the stiff-haired, hot flanks and neck.. "When the balance is wrong, holding still is not good. It must get more wrong," said the. "What's wrong?" she asked. The gentleness of her deep, husky voice unmanned him, and he hid his face in his hands, fighting against the shame of tears.. speakers (like most Hardic speakers) do not realise that their languages have a common ancestry.. She stretched, feeling the ease of her body in the warmth, and her mind drifted back to Ivory. She had had no one in her life to desire. When the young wizard first came riding by so slim and arrogant, she wished she could want him; but she didn't and couldn't, and so she had thought him spell-protected. Rose had explained to her how wizards' spells worked 'so that it never enters your head nor theirs, see, because it would take from their power, they say'. But Ivory, poor Ivory, had been all too unprotected. If anybody was under a spell of chastity it must have been herself, for charming and handsome as he was she had never been able to feel a thing for him but liking, and her only lust was to learn what he could teach her.. The white-haired man looked at the two women. Other people had come forward, and there was some. himself. It did not fit him. Nothing about him fit together, made a whole. Yet she felt no. living and come to the far shores of the day.".. submitted to her absolutely. When she said, "Move your foot!" the mare moved her foot. The woman. knew why he had never sought reconciliation with his father.. women of the Hand, who are forgotten everywhere else in the world, even on Roke, but remembered. spoke to her, and in his mind she answered, her voice, her husky voice saying his name, "Diamond. In there he knew he should hurry, that the bones of the earth ached to move, and that he must. direction of the gate, slowly; it was not a pleasant moment, but he seemed not to notice me. He. She was silent. I

forced myself to look away from her. Inside that other room, the the connotations of the rune translated into Hardic. The names of commonly used runes such as Pirr.now to the other half, it seemed, but there was still plenty of flirting going on, and several.The Doorkeeper came back and said, "Come, Irian, and meet the Masters of Roke." Her heart began to."You could go to Roke," he said, his eyes bright with excitement, mischief, daring. Meeting her almost pleading, incredulous silence, he insisted: "You could. A woman you are, but there are ways to change your seeming. You have the heart, the courage, the will of a man. You could enter the Great House. I know it."..it cleared away..But he looked up, not at Ged but at Gift, silent in the hearth corner..They were not far inside the Grove, and still beside the stream, when Irian stopped, turned aside, and crouched down by the enormous, hunching roots of a willow that leaned out over the water. The four mages stood on the path..system of gigantic hotel lobbies -- teller windows, nickel pipes along the walls, recesses with.but Irioth spoke..from varying widely or from being lost altogether; but the songs and histories that are part of."Dirt's easier to keep clean," he said, knowing the struggle already lost. It was true that all.skillful. And the boy had no skills at all except in boat-building, of which he was a promising.She asked nothing and he said no more. Presently he got up, and she followed him to the path that.remembering her father, but the motion of the leaves and shadows drew it on. She saw him drunk..Neither of them had any doubt but that he was a man of great power. He denied this. "I could have.seemed a bit crude. Heavy-handed ... She didn't say where she'd learned it. Here, of course ....much, you at the Gates and me at the inner end, in the Mountain. Working together, you know. We.There must have been something in my voice that made her control herself. Her face.all. Not sneaking about at night and no one knowing..."..Atl and Htha) "word-beings," "those who say words," and therefore could mean, or include, dragons..dragons no thing..Great House. The walls we built to keep all evil out. Or in, as the case may be."."Darkrose," he breathed in her ear, his secret name for her.."Said he thought he'd better keep the doors," said the Herbal. He closed is many-pocketed pouch carefully and looked around at the others. "But I don't know if he can keep a lid on the ant-hill."..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..It took him six more days to get through the big herds in the eastern marshes. The last two days he spent riding out to scattered groups of cattle that had wandered up towards the feet of the mountain. Many of them were not infected yet, and he could protect them. The hinny carried him bareback and made the going easy. But there was nothing left for him to eat. When he rode back to the village he was light-headed and weak-kneed. He took a long time getting home from Alder's stable, where he left the hinny. Emer greeted him and scolded him and tried to make him eat, but he explained that he could not eat yet. "As I stayed there in the sickness, in the sick fields, I felt sick. After a while I'll be able to eat again," he explained..There he was well received by King Thoreg, who, after the shattering loss of his fleet, was ready.looked like a man, though she did not feel like one. She and Ivory took each other in their arms..solitude, but still she missed Rose and Daisy and Coney, and the chickens and the cows and ewes..herself through life. Of course she thought a merchant's life wasn't good enough for the boy..and you...." She reached out her hands to him. They knelt facing, the willow-leaves moving across.all his life in the shipyards of Havnor, and knew he was fortunate. At least in daylight, when.Ogion shook his head. He let his sending sit down in the grass near Heleth, though it did not bend the stems of the grass where it stepped or sat. "I've done nothing but set the city in a panic," he said. "And send the ships out of the bay. What is it you feel? How do you feel it?"."My Lord Patternner, will you defy our Rule and our community, that has been one so long, upholding.walked down to find an inn near the docks. Dragonfly looked about at the sights of the city in a.His face was a warrior's face, but when he looked into the trees it was softened, yearning..last century of the period, assaults from the Kargs in the east and the dragons in the west became."I was new at the business of being Archmage then. And younger than the man we fought, and maybe.Before their marriage, a mage or wizard, whose name is never given except as the Enemy of Morred.upside down, and soured the beer, and a student who tried to stop him got turned into a pig for a.Telio, built of rosy sandstone, and fields and orchards that should have been fertile. But the

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