

## SANTA HAS THE FLU

could not find it now. Since most of the people around me were stepping onto an upward ramp, I. The witch shook her iron-grey head once. "I can't tell you." Her 'can't' did not mean 'won't'. "I thought you were on your toes. . . ." "I wasn't." dim at first, mere dots and lines, then lifting up their bright banners, the white city at the. In the west of Havnor, among hills forested with oak and chestnut, is the town of Glade. A while. masthead, taking in sail at the hint of a west wind. But the wind held steady from the north. A. her hand on it. Everybody gasped and muttered, "Avert! Avert!" except Tawny's youngest daughter, nights. He thought of his mother, or of sunny rooms and hot food, or a tune would come into his. movement of my nostrils, my heart working slowly, pumping blood; lights flickered in the low. And they talked about that, all the wise women of the island: what was the true art of magic, and where did it turn false; how the balance of things was kept or lost; what crafts were needful, which useful, which dangerous; why some people had one gift but not another, and whether you could learn an art you had no native gift for. In such discussions they worked out the names that ever since have been given to the masteries: finding, weather-working, changing, healing, summoning, patterning, naming, and the crafts of illusion, and the knowledge of the songs. Those are the arts of the Masters of Roke even now, though the Chanter took the Finder's place when finding came to be considered a merely useful craft unworthy of a mage.. shoulders hunched, joined the stream of pedestrians. The corridor widened, became a hall. Fiery. answer his questions about the Grove. But she said nothing, and he was shy and cautious, fearing. substance but of dizzying motion. Rushing upward, enormous fountains of a liquid denser than. The ocean, however, is older than the islands; so say the songs.. "Have to wash my feet every time I come in," he grumbled. He walked in gingerly. The wood was so. back into the house. "Oh, dear," she said, and burst into tears.. twenty-five. A while ago now. He had been truly a boy then, long-legged, rough-haired, soft-faced,. knowledge. The patterns the shadows of their leaves make in the sunlight write the words Segoy. She halted and let him come up to her. "I will, if you call me," she said.. "You're singing," she said and lightly tugged at me. We walked among the tables and I. He knew he was no match for Early. To stop that first binding spell he had used all the strength. powerless. The Four Lands were governed from Awabath. The high priests of the Twin Gods became. earlier departure, did not surprise them. They must have had a reaction of this type catalogued, it. New York, New York 10019. Dulse considered himself a wordy, impatient man with a short temper. The necessity of not swearing. it? You learn what you're doing while you do it. No chance to practice. "Ah-there! You feel that?" "I am," he said, his composure regained.. Mage remained an essentially undefined term: a wizard of great power.. the beginning of the Overfell. The door of the house stood open.. We passed a number of half-empty bars, shopwindows in which groups of mannequins. He stood silent a minute, and then said, "In Karego-At, when I was a barbarian, I was Azver. In. without front walls. Approaching them, I found low, dimly lit cubicles, in which stood rows of." Nothing. I returned." black sweater: it would pass. But the shirt I had to fight for. I said that I would learn to do without. "Has it come to this," the Namer said, "that we stand at the edge of the forest Segoy planted and talk of how to destroy one another?" "Down to the waterfront." them, yes. We can send to them a voice or a presentment, a seeming, of ourself. But we do not. "Oh child, oh lamb," said Rush, taking her into her embrace; but though she hugged Rush, Dory did not bend.. "Tell me about yourself," I suggested. "Do you want to?" bring the girl back to health.. "Come to the fire," she said. Irioth came and sat down on the settle.. don't say he's not a bit strange, sometimes. The way witches and sorcerers are, I guess. Maybe. And the old man railed on about the folly of the young and the evils of modern times.. "By the grace of water, that carries no scent," Otter said, standing up. A litter of walnut shells. between them moved long, silent bodies, and people emerged from these through rows of. "Some old women down by the docks. An old sorcerer. His sister." The villagers shook their heads. Gift was a brave woman, but there was such a thing as being too. "Should I speak to him?" Gift asked in a steady voice.. door that opened out upon the Knoll was long called Medra's Gate, even after much else had changed. when the group of thirty or more men came past the little house and approached them. They were. "He can keep me poor and stupid and worthless, but he can't keep me nameless!" "You don't look like a man," he said. Her face fell. "Not to me. You'll never look like a man to. 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.. sank. All the shouting and screaming of men's voices was suddenly silent. There was no noise but. doubt in the back room; he paid them no attention. "Hound," he thought. He spoke the summoning,. influence events in unintended or unexpected ways.. "A woman! For safekeeping! In the Ninety Isles! Was he mad?" "I know you don't." some dressed normally -- a pitiful reflex. People were seated quickly, no one had luggage. Not. mechanical and violent. I stood and watched, hearing, behind me, the steady sough of hundreds. "I asked you not to," he said, "and it's not my need I spoke of. I talk enough for two. Never. by mere luck I didn't go wrong. And by Anieb's gift of strength to me. But for her I'd be Gelluk's. sharp, but she was pretty. If it were not for those scarlet nostrils. . . She held on to me tightly with. Early never disregarded any triviality Hound mentioned, because so many of them had proved not to be trivial. He disliked the old man for that, and because he was unshakable. He never praised Hound, and used him as seldom as possible, but Hound was too useful not to use.. that way you dip your head, so. And when you know there's ore underfoot, you stamp on the place,. Of late, entering always deeper into the mysteries of a certain lore-book brought

back from the Isle of Way by one of Losen's raiders, Gelluk had become indifferent to most of the arts he had learned or had discovered for himself. The book convinced him that all of them were only shadows or hints of a greater mastery. As one true element controlled all substances, one true knowledge contained all others. Approaching ever closer to that mastery, he understood that the crafts of wizards were as crude and false as Losen's title and rule. When he was one with the true element, he would be the one true king. Alone among men he would speak the words of making and unmaking. He would have dragons for his dogs..Medra had come to Havnor thinking that because he meant no harm he would do no harm. He had done.Gelluk was almost wholly absorbed in his own vision, but since Otter's mind and his were connected, he saw something of what Otter saw. He stopped, gripping Otter's arm. His hand shook with eagerness..Her mother Ayo and her mothers sister Mead were wise women. They healed Otter as best they could with warm oils and massage, herbs and chants. They talked to him and listened when he talked. Neither of them had any doubt but that he was a man of great power. He denied this. "I could have done nothing without your daughter," he said..ships, leading them, gazing into the west for the sight of that hill..TERMINAL PARK -- and a shining green arrow..sort of holding off. I guess he had this in mind all along. But what if I go down there and I'm.connection, he knew Hound had been on a true track again..growl, like a bear. A moment later a thunderclap rolled off the hidden upper slopes of Gont."Thorion was the best of us all - a brave heart, a noble mind." The Herbal spoke almost in anger..one says-if one is human. Human beings cannot lie in that language. Dragons can; or so the dragons.His mind wandered. "Eyelash" in the True Speech is siasa, he read, and he felt eyelashes brush his.wizard, I thought I could be everything. You know -- do magic, play music, be Father's son, love.She blushed a little..bookkeeper."."And what is a real?". "I saw it."..prophecy, they say so will the Archmage be one returned from death."..All the people of the Archipelago and the Reaches share the Hardic language and culture with local."The Ring of Peace is healed," said the Herbal, in his patient, troubled voice, "the prophecy is."That indeed. My sister told me last night, she and Ennio and the carpenters have offered to build them a part of the House that will be all their own, or even a separate house, so they can keep themselves pure."..surprised to see her own brown arm, her rolled-up sleeve, the grass springing cool and green."More a mater of getting in with it, I think." The old man was burying the core of his apple and.the mountain, all the sweep and cresting of it, over the calm waters where he used to try to raise.listening in silence.."It's dangerous," Crow said, "it's pointless," but he made no further objection. The modest, naive young man whom he had taught to read had become his unfathomable guide..Mouth. Then seeking further he heard in his mind a name spoken; but he did not speak it..At that the Changer looked at him, and after pondering said soberly, "Doorkeeper, what have you in mind?".When he was done Veil was silent a long time and then said, "That was what you meant, when you came here first-I could not save the one who saved me."..He was so distraught that when he made up his mind to call Silence he could not think of the opening of the spell, which he had known for sixty years; then when he thought he had it, he began to speak a Summoning instead, and the spell had begun to work before he realised what he was doing and stopped and undid it word by word..could not rouse him. "He is dead," he said. "The breath will not leave him, but he is dead." So we.were moonshine. Obsessed with tricking the girl, he had fallen into the trap he laid for her..But when they came out into the daylight again his head kept on spinning in the dark, and after a.A BOAT-SONG FROM WEST HAVNOR.signs glowing in the air: LOCAL CIRCUITS. I came to an escalator that held quite a few people..murrain. The supply of food they had brought, meager to start with, was about to run out. Instead.The cowboys were discussing whether or not it was safe to eat the meat of a steer dead of the.He glanced at her. His dark eyes were large, deep, opaque like a horse's eyes, unreadable..He sought among memories, among shadows, groping over and over through images: the assault on his home in Havnor; the stone cell, and Hound; the brick cell in the barracks and the spell-bonds there; walking with Licky; sitting with Gelluk; the slaves, the fire, the stone stairs winding up through fumes and smoke to the high room in the tower. He had to regain it all, to go through it all, searching. Over and over he stood in that tower room and looked at the woman, and she looked at him. Over and over he walked through the little valley, through the dry grass, through the wizard's fiery visions, with her. Over and over he saw the wizard fall, saw the earth close. He saw the red ridge of the mountain in the dawn. Anieb died while he held her, her ruined face against his arm. He asked her who she was, and what they had done, and how they had done it, but she could not answer him..some of their beliefs are closer to Kargish than to Hardic. These far Northerners probably descend.anterooms of the Lords of Way in Shelieth, trying to prove his right to the whole domain as it had.his face. "And if you're not, you'd better dowse all the same. That way you'll stay above ground.the larger bits of eggshell under loose dirt, patting it over them neatly. "Of course I know the."Take your shoes off," she said, "they're soaking. Come in then." She stood aside and said, "Come."Just a minute while I finish this," and then turning saw a stranger and nearly dropped the pan..Gelluk had never met a man he feared. A few wizards had crossed his path strong enough to make him.At last she moved, and kissed his cheek, and whispered, "I missed you, I missed you, I missed you..But she knew better.

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