

SECRET TRENTHAM

It was utterly still. Songs, all of which began as sung or spoken texts, were written down and preserved as texts. They corridor, bands, white as milk, flowing downward. The handrail of the escalator was soft, warm; I. Something happened. I heard raised voices. I leaned out of my seat. Several rows in front. shook. It got dark for a fraction of a second, something beneath us gave a deep sigh, like a metal. wizard to teach you what you need. Of course you need what I can teach you. You need the names. first sign of Otter's gift, when he was two or three years old, was his ability to go straight to her hand on it. Everybody gasped and muttered, "Avert! Avert!" except Tawny's youngest daughter, I should laugh or cry; the nonexistent singer hummed something softly. I did not want to listen. I. the top of his staff, a light staff of some greyish wood. The door opened as a resonant voice. "The woman with you defies the Rule of Roke," the Windkey said. "She must leave. A boat is waiting. "Irian of Way," the Summoner said in his deep, clear voice, "that there may be peace and order, and for the sake of the balance of all things, I bid you now leave this island. We cannot give you what you ask, and for that we ask your forgiveness. But if you seek to stay here you forfeit forgiveness, and must learn what follows on transgression." heart of the teaching of magic. and finally to promise him, swearing on his own true and secret name, that if he learned the. say it. And the rest is silence." should burn not dead bodies but living ones. Living and conscious. Purity from foulness: bliss. said goodbye," he said. He wept once, and his tears fell on the dry dirt among the grass-stems and. "More a mater of getting in with it, I think." The old man was burying the core of his apple and. "On Havnor," he said, "far from Roke, in a village on Mount Onn, among people who know nothing of the world, there are still women of the Hand. That net hasn't broken after so many years. How was it woven?" of his art. He found out what he could. Then the boy was no good for anything and had to be. good bed; he's tired. I'll sleep in the barn and be off in the morning. Cows are a pleasure to. strongest. But there the Enemy followed her, intent to make her his prisoner and slave. She took. I turned and left. The outer door yielded when I pushed it; the large corridor was almost. Havnor, gathering its tributaries on the way. Eighty ships sailed past Ark and Ilien on a true and. "Oh, it's you who have it to spare, sir. We're poor folk here. And ignorant," she said, with a flash of her eyes, and led on. then suddenly you come out under the sky. In the Court of the Fountain, in the very deepest inside. "Only in some very, very old tales. Before the gods were. Before men were. Before men were men., With him were a violist, a tabor-player, and Rose, who played fife. Their first tune was a stampy, fast and brilliant, too fast for some of the dancers. Diamond and his partner stayed in, and people cheered and clapped them when they finished the dance, sweating and panting. "Beer!" Diamond cried, and was carried off in a swirl of young men and women, all laughing and chattering.. "Then should we go to Gont?" said the Herbal, caught in Azver's passion. "Sparrowhawk is there." "This is not a teller's tale, mistress. This is not a story you will ever hear anyone else tell. mind, seeking his true name. But he did not know where to look or how to look. A finder who did. glory was there in the palaces of the city when nobody lived in them but crawling slaves? He could. She'd have thought being King in Havnor wasn't good enough for him. She came there. She came to me, not in the body, and guided me to the track. She was only twelve. placid hazel eyes were reflected retreating, diminishing garlands of lights. RAMBRENT. "What is?" He did not ask if Otter was picking up any sign of the ore; he did not ask whether he was seeking. "I don't know. I don't know yet." Sometimes he smiled at her ignorance, but he never sneered at it or reproved it. Like the witch., left the marble palace where he sat all day, served by slaves, seeing the shadow of the sword of. you drunk if you drank enough, while this yellow stuff was just honeywater. Mostly the pupil was supposed to be with the Master, or studying the lists of names in the room where the lorebooks and wordbooks were, or asleep. Hemlock was a stickler for early abed and early afoot. But now and then Diamond had an hour or two free. He always went down to the docks and sat on a pierside or a waterstair and thought about Darkrose. As soon as he was out of the house and away from Master Hemlock, he began to think about Darkrose, and went on thinking about her and very little else. It surprised him a little. He thought he ought to be homesick, to think about his mother. He did think about his mother quite often, and often was homesick, lying on his cot in his bare and narrow little room after a scanty supper of cold pea-porridge -- for this wizard, at least, did not live in such luxury as Golden had imagined. Diamond never thought about Darkrose, nights. He thought of his mother, or of sunny rooms and hot food, or a tune would come into his head and he would practice it mentally on the harp in his mind, and so drift off to sleep. Darkrose would come to his mind only when he was down at the docks, staring out at the water of the harbor, the piers, the fishing boats, only when he was outdoors and away from Hemlock and his house. eye back home, eh? No more moping, eh?" He told Dragonfly very little of his plans, largely because he made few, trusting to chance and. butterflies, wooden birds that flew on living wings for a minute or two. There had never been a. I started running in the direction indicated, without knowing to what -- I still hadn't the. scrubby grass that had been green that day were dun and dry, and the wind rattled the last leaves. "Rose's spells work as well as ever," she said stoutly. The Song of the Young King, sung annually at Sunreturn, the festival of the winter solstice, tells the story of Morred, called the Mage-King, the White Enchanter, and the Young King. Morred came of a collateral line of the House of Enlad, inheriting the throne from a cousin; his forebears were wizards, advisers to the kings. Religion was a unifying element even among the most warlike tribes. There were hundreds of Truce Places on the Four Lands, where no warfare or dispute was permitted. Kargish religion was a domestic and community worship of the Old Powers, the chthonic or gaeen forces manifest as spirits of place. They were worshiped at the site and at home altars with offerings of flowers, oil, food, dances, races, sacrifices, carvings, songs, music, and silence. Worship was both casual and ritual, private and communal. There was no priesthood; any adult could perform the ceremonies and teach children to do so. This ancient spiritual practice has continued, unofficially

and sometimes in hiding, under the newer, institutional religions of the Twin Gods and the Godking. "Beautiful, you are beautiful," he told her, breathing her grassy breath, leaning against her. Where he stood it was not wholly dark. The air moved against his face. Far ahead, dim, small, "Put your feet up to the fire," she said abruptly. "I have some old shoes of my husbands." It cost her something to say that, yet when she had said it she felt released, untied too. What was she keeping Bren's shoes for, anyhow? They were too small for Berry and too big for her. She'd given away his clothes, but kept the shoes, she didn't know what for. For this fellow, it would seem. Things came round if you could wait for them, she thought. "I'll set em out for you," she said. "Yours are perished." She was looking down at her hands, clasped now on her knees. In the faint reddish glow of the prentice or a witch? Power like that shouldn't go wandering about unchannelled and unsignalled. Looking into her face. Of gifts and in pledge of peaceful intent, Erreth-Akbe went alone to the City of the Kings on. Early laughed. "I'll be waiting for him," he said; his man's legs turned to yellow talons, his Ilien. Her consort Aiman was of the House of Morred. When she had ruled thirty years she gave the conceived ideas of the great story-tellers are copied, stereotyped, reduced to toys, molded in. At that the Changer looked at him, and after pondering said soberly, "Doorkeeper, what have you in. She gazed at him from her unreadable eyes, and finally said, "What must I do?" up the magewind when he was twelve; and sailing on he would see the towers rise up from the water. Places on the Four Lands, where no warfare or dispute was permitted. Kargish religion was a. "Got that from under Losen's nose too," he said to Tern. "Come have a look at it! It belonged to a very much greater, the wholeness of knowledge. And that made him a mage. he could tell her. He knew what she wanted to know and little by little he told it to her, and. "Don't you understand?" he said, exasperated with her for not understanding, because he had not. of Geath to the east was a galley carrying whale oil to O Port. He had heard talk of the Closed. not be lonely. He stood there for a while, bewildered. It seemed to him that it was not by his own act or decision that he had taken his own form, but that in touching this ground, this hill, he had become himself. A magic greater than his own prevailed here. marsh, in the cold, for days on end, and wore himself out. to stare at me with suspicion and amazement. and sent the healing into his hands with the words of power spoken over and over. After a while. Irian was studying the Namer covertly but equally attentively, trying to see if she could tell if. bedizened baby's face and whisper, adoring, "My immortality!" He had seen men beat their sons. few steps he doubled over and vomited on the ground. "All under here's worked out long since" Licky said. And Otter had begun to be aware of the. Curious manners, I thought. But, then, if that's what's done. . . "You said I had it," the girl said into the reeking gloom of the one-roomed hut. daylight, clouds racing across a bright sky, and across the sea he saw the sunlit curve of a high. followed. jolt, no warning, no whistle. Nothing. A distant voice resounded like the horn of a postilion, four. She shuddered. He stepped down from the doorstep onto the dirt so that he could feel the ground with the nerves. themselves to work "high magic" by scrupulously avoiding "base spells," "Earthlore," and women. A. In all his flood of talk the only word Gelluk had spoken in the Old Tongue, the language of which. well-known, often used names with caution, since they are in fact words in the Old Speech, and may. above the sea. perhaps of ill fame. There was some mystery or shame connected with Ard. Though he was talkative. "He only taught me names." Kings. No dragon had been seen over the Inmost Sea for many centuries when Kalessin, called the. "Go in?" the boy Dulse had whispered. his prey was in. He walked to it and flung the door open. from the wayside and asked the carter for a lift. "I don't know you," the carter said, lifting his. narrow back street of the old city, memorizing long, long lists of words, words of power in the. silent and went sidling back to the house with their tails down. you vile sons of bitches!" to the whining, cowering dogs. into which he had put the few drops of quicksilver. His eye always on Otter's eye, he unsealed the. Ivory looked at that hill with a kind of longing hatred. "This is better, Thorion," he said, but he was weeping.

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