

THE RULING CLASS

out of horn, with a tree carved on it, and the frame is made out of a tooth, one tooth of a dragon. He named the Masters, Hand and Herbal, Summoner and Patterner, Windkey and Chanter, and the Namer, and the Changer. "The Changers and the Summoner's are very perilous arts," he said. "Changing, or transformation, you maybe know of, mistress. Even a common sorcerer may know how to work illusion changes, turning one thing into another thing for a little while, or taking on a semblance not his own. Have you seen that?" people cheered and clapped them when they finished the dance, sweating and panting. "Beer!" Windkey, master of the spells controlling weather. "They put something into the blood, I think." "Nais. . . managed to bring a bit of magewind into the sail of a boat, though he had no idea how to combat or this little scene? The other passengers paid no attention to her. For the hundredth time I was. She nodded, with an anxious face. Among all beings ever returning, "And how do you know it didn't?" Quite early on, impatient with wooing her massive physical indifference, he had worked up a charm. We will laugh together, the high green hill. There, striking down dragons claws and beating rust-red wings, he lighted. pushed and shoved in the swarming crowds, I attempted to work my way to some clear space, but. Gift hurried to the village. She went straight up to the doorstep, bent over the heap, and laid. for though the raiders had run through it seeking slaves and plunder and setting fires, the fires. I did exactly as she. The buns tasted like nothing I had ever eaten. It crackled between the shifting depths of the forest. all his life in the shipyards of Havnor, and knew he was fortunate. At least in daylight, when. "Your turn to talk," she said, looking at me over her cup. bewilder and entangle a slave trying to escape. Now he felt those spells like strands of cobweb, possibility. . . the fact that there is one who. . . "If he wants a party, he'll have it," she said. Their voices were alike, being in the higher register but dark-toned, and held to an even quietness, contained, restrained. She perched on a stool beside his at the high desk. Ember and to whom the memory was much clearer, told it to him fully. Ember sat with them, Irian drew a deep breath and looked at him eye to eye as they sat there. "Only in dark the light," she said. beginning of time, is presumably an infinite language, as it names all things. Maybe it was to escape the hunt that Medra came to Pendor, a long way west of the Inmost Sea, or maybe some rumor among the women of the Hand on Hosk sent him there. Pendor was a rich island, then, before the dragon Yevaud despoiled it. Wherever Medra had gone until then, he had found the lands like Havnor or worse, sunk in warfare, raids, and piracy, the fields full of weeds, the towns full of thieves. Maybe he thought, at first, that on Pendor he had found Morred's Isle, for the city was beautiful and peaceful and the people prosperous. figures of the shuffling, impotent village sorcerer with his trickeries, the hag-witch with her. Master of Old Iria. He spent his youth and what remained of his inheritance in law courts and the. The cowboys were discussing whether or not it was safe to eat the meat of a steer dead of the murrain. The supply of food they had brought, meager to start with, was about to run out. Instead of riding twenty or thirty miles to restock, they wanted to cut the tongue out of a steer that had died nearby that morning. speaking lands. spells made and annotated by a wizard, or by a lineage of wizards) there is usually one copy only. Crafty men used weather as a weapon, sending hail to blight an enemy's crops or a gale to sink his ships; and such storms, freakish and wild, might blow on far past the place they had been sent, troubling harvesters or sailors a hundred miles away. The voices of the mages talking were like the voices of the stream running. The stream said its words and they said theirs, but none of them were the right words. dead. And in that vision, Anieb had walked on this side of it, not on the side that went down into nudists. . . deal between the beginning and the end. "No," his wife said in her soft, level voice, "we aren't." learn to let go. And Diamond nodded sturdily enough to satisfy his father, though he had a. IV. Irian. "Where?" he whispered, and then said the word aloud in the language all things understand that have no other language. "He has the advantage," Azver said, very dry. without rancor. to occur in. A few miners were working at the end of a long level. "Then to me you are Silence," the wizard said. "You can sleep in the nook under the west window. There's an old pallet in the woodhouse. Air it. Don't bring mice in with it." And he stalked off towards the Overfell, angry with the boy for coming and with himself for giving in; but it was not anger that made his heart pound. Striding along- he could stride, then- with the seawind pushing at him always from the left and the early sunlight on the sea out past the vast shadow of the mountain, he thought of the Mages of Roke, the masters of the art magic, the professors of mystery and power. "He was too much for 'em, was he? And he'll be too much for me," he thought, and smiled. He was a peaceful man, but he did not mind a bit of danger. You don't care, eh? Stay a while. You can see," And he set off down the path between the parsley. "Come up to the house," the Patterner said, and he set out water and food for the Namer. "Did you talk at all to Master Hemlock?" left the Book of Names with a woman in the Ninety Isles for safekeeping. her over, the deck vertical to the sea, till a huge storm wave struck and swamped her and she. better, perhaps, had people ceased to do it. . . without artificial means. But he looked up, not at Ged but at Gift, silent in the hearth corner. "Ran away! Why?" Spring came late again that year, cold and stormy. Medra set to boat-building. By the time the. When he was done Veil was silent a long time and then said, "That was what you meant, when you. She gazed at him from her unreadable eyes, and finally said, "What must I do?" disposed of. It was humiliating, again, to be outwitted by the very stupidity of these people; and. ethical use and teaching of magic, was established by men and women on Roke Island about a hundred. A long shudder went through her as she stood facing him. She felt herself larger than he was, She could see his mind dance ahead of hers, taking up and playing with ideas, transforming them as he had transformed brick into butterfly. She could not dance with him, she could not play with him, but she watched him in wonder. untruthful realms of Once-upon-a-time are as much a part of human history and thought as the. hands, burned his tongue away when he tried to speak. shift, and he saw the infinitely delicate, tender rise of her breasts. He drew her to him again, 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.. "What's the matter, Emer?" said the curer, turning his thin face and strange eyes to her..glass there opened colored, lighted malls with transparent ceilings, ceilings trod upon. "Like the Library of the Kings," said Crow, dreaming of lost glories..His mother tried to explain. "It's as if you'd found some great jewel," she said, "and what's one.and dark eyes under dark brows, eyes that held his, held him, brought the truth out of his mouth..The wind had come up again. They were both shivering, their teeth chattering. They stood face to.no mark of distinction but only a barrier to communication, to the simplest exchange of words,..irritable and arrogant, the dragons may have felt threatened by the increasing population and.kill you for it. Keep it hid. And keep away from great people and their crafty men!". "I don't see why one couldn't be." She never saw why something could not be..In the rage of his agony the Enemy raised up a great wave and sent it speeding to overwhelm the. "Go on," the wizard said, and he went..triple beat on his tabor, and they were off into a sailor's jig..The Deed of Enlad, a good deal of which appears to be purely mythical, concerns the kings before.on, I'll show you. Dog can't track till he's had the scent.".will be yours," he said, with an open laugh, so that Losen stared at him in a kind of horror..heard, was a little animal with sharp teeth and no voice, but there were no such creatures on the."What, then? Movies? Theater?".Since the name of the person is the person, in the most literal and absolute sense, anyone who.dross to the fire and it will be transformed into the living silver, the light of the moon. Is it."So I could go to Roke! And see, and learn! Why, why is it only men can go there?". "And perhaps because such arts have not the power they once had," he said. He did not know himself why he tried to weaken her faith in wizardry; perhaps because any weakening of her strength, her wholeness, was a gain for him. He had begun merely by trying to get her into his bed, a game he loved to play. The game had turned to a kind of contest he had not expected but could not put an end to. He was determined now not to win her, but to defeat her. He could not let her defeat him. He must prove to her and himself that his dreams were meaningless..the Doorkeeper spoke to. She saw the man's face change, saw his eyes shift to her in a brief..San's wife screeched when she heard there was a stranger at the door, crying that if San let.probably puts some brake on linguistic drift in daily speech), while the Hardic runes, like.running his hands over the wood and talking to it, that he couldn't see why they made a fuss over.developed. In among the chestnuts there were a lot of pines, which could be felled and sold for.from my grandfather? If that polecat sets foot on my land I'll have the dogs tear out his liver,.falling. Then he walked forward, stiff and awkward, trying not to resist the coercive, passionate.The clouds darkened. Rain passed through the little valley, falling on the dirt and the grass..anything?".butterfly in midair. He flicked a butterfly back at her, and the two flitted and flickered a.School. Knowing that the townswomen are spell-bound from so much as setting foot on the fields.Gelluk's fall had not brought Losen down. The pirate king had other wizards in his pay, among them."Heard of it," she whispered..Erreth-Akbe's gifts in magic became apparent when he was still a boy. He was sent to the court to be trained by the wizards there, and the Queen chose him as a companion for her son..favorite, a big, ugly, heavy-headed hound, followed her. She stopped on the slope above the marshy."I was just talking, just to talk, it had no. . .".patient, but the patience of the horse kind was wonderful, being freely given. Dogs were loyal,.Irian, she shrank back from him. It was as if a grave had opened, a winter grave, cold, wet, dark..and Diamond said nothing. "Have you had any ideas of what you want to do?"

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