

THE TALE OF HENRIETTA HEN

only imagination can restore the least glimmer of it. If we lie about the past, forcing it to tell. "My people, the Kargs, they worship gods. Twin gods, brothers. And the king there is also a god. But before that and after are the streams. Caves, stones, hills. Trees. The earth. The darkness of the earth." Oh, it's time, and past time. We must deliver the King. We must find the great lode. It is here; there is no doubt of that: "The womb of the Mother lies under Samory." "The early kings and queens of Enlad, among whose names are Lar Ashal, Dohun, Enashen, Timan, and Tagtar, gradually increased their sway till they proclaimed themselves rulers of Earthsea. Their reign extended no farther south than Ilien and did not include Felkway in the east, Paln and Semel in the west, or Osskil in the north, but they did send explorers out all over the Inmost Sea and into the Reaches. The most ancient maps of Earthsea, now in the archives of the palace in Havnor, were drawn in Berila about twelve hundred years ago." "Maybe you can find that island," said Ayo. muddy bank and flicked her tail loose, but she waited for him to scramble even more awkwardly. startled gaze, saw him question the Doorkeeper, low-voiced, intense. his love, and Veil, Crow, Dory, all of them, the fountain in the white courtyard, the tree by the. to the boy that the old man took alarm. Otter had to beg and wheedle him for any further teaching. He watched the staff that stood on the shining floor. In a little while he saw it quiver very slightly, a shiver, a tremble. "Very nice," said the father. "But anybody can play the fife, you know." if only they could come to Roke. some kind. This happened so suddenly that I froze. Ever since he had walked on the green hill above the town and had seen the bright shadows in the. drew back a little. She drew back. They sat back on their ankles. thundered; she fell flat on the ground. increasingly costly temples, and controlling public ceremonies such as marriages, funerals, and. "Your father told me. A witch's daughter, a childhood playmate. He believed that you had taught her spells." were reclining, all facing the same way. I went down to the water's edge and saw, on the other. "She's very sick, Rush," the girl said. She looked again at Tern. "You're not a healer?" It was an. "I think Irian of Way may have come to us seeking not only what she needs to know, but also what. it was warm, despite the coolness of the night. writing from the publisher. incredible happened to him: his fur coat wilted before my eyes, collapsed like a punctured. "They're men of the Hand, Dory, one short and pretty and one tall and proud, and they say they're. "Oh, you startled me!" she said. "What can I do for you, then?" laid out six copper pennies in it, one by one. "Now then! That's fair and square!" he said. This is only a seeming of me, a presentment, a sending," the old man said to her. "I don't live here either. Miles off." He gestured northward. "You might come there when you're done with the Patterner here. I'd like to learn more about your name." He nodded to the other two mages and was not there. A bumblebee buzzed heavily through the air where he had been. water under the willows, and set off down the valley towards the mine. "Well, to my story. Forty years and more ago, there was a child born on the Isle of Ark, a rich isle of the Inmost Sea, away south and east from Semel. This child was the son of an under-steward in the household of the Lord of Ark. Not a poor man's son, but not a child of much account. And the parents died young. So not much heed was paid to him, until they had to take notice of him because of what he did and could do. He was an uncanny brat, as they say. He had powers. He could light a fire or douse it with a word. He could make pots and pans fly through the air. He could turn a mouse into a pigeon and set it flying round the great kitchens of the Lord of Ark. And if he was crossed, or frightened, then he did harm. He turned a kettle of boiling water over a cook who had mistreated him." with them when I left. I think -. swallowed them. He gasped, as if coming up from drowning. and incredulous at his obstinacy- "Master, I would stay, but my work is on Gont- I wish it was here. "Thank you," he said, opening the gate for the heifer, who went to greet her mother, while he stumbled across the dark houseyard to the door. Hand said, "Irian, I am sorry. Ivory was my pupil. If I taught him badly, I did worse in sending. "Simply as I protect myself," the wizard said; and after a moment, testily, "The bargain, boy. The. the weakness of the old darkness came into Erreth-Akbe's limbs. "You have told me," Veil said. After the death of Orm the dragons remained a threat in the West, especially when provoked by dragon hunters, but they withdrew from their encroachments on peopled islands and peaceful shipping. Yevaud of Pendor was the only dragon to raid the Inward Lands after the time of the Kings. No dragon had been seen over the Inmost Sea for many centuries when Kalessin, called the Eldest, brought Ged and Lebannen to Roke Island. in space, because it was certainty, not a guess. bulging pearly square when something was pressed. In the bathroom there was no tub or sink, histories, partial biographies, and garbled legends. But it's the best of the records that. there in his small, brave, brief humanity, his mortality, defenseless. She drew a long, long. He said nothing. In fact he was at a loss. If he had known it would be this easy, he could have had her name and with it the power to make her do whatever he wanted, days ago, weeks ago, with a mere pretence at this crazy scheme - without giving up his salary and his precarious respectability, without this sea voyage, without having to go all the way to Roke for it! For he saw the whole plan now was folly. There was no way he could disguise her that would fool the Doorkeeper for a moment. All his notions of humiliating the Masters as they had humiliated him were moonshine. Obsessed with tricking the girl, he had fallen into the trap he laid for her. Bitterly he recognized that he was always believing his own lies, caught in nets he had elaborately woven. Having made a fool of himself on Roke, he had come back to do it all over again. A great, desolate anger swelled up in him. There was no good, no good in anything. those with business ran from one booth to another; farther back, green letters jumped, columns of. "Everything's for gain some way, I'd say. People have to live. But what do I know? I make my living doing what I know how to do. But I don't meddle with the great arts, the perilous crafts, like summoning the dead," and Rose made the hand-sign to avert the danger spoken of. or the Wandlord, had paid court to Elfarran. Unforgiving and determined to possess her, in the few. "I don't see why," she said. "My mother can cure a fever and ease a childbirth and find a lost. restore the law that Thorion returned." might

be able to. I can feel it building up, can you?" own. Have you seen that?" are to help me, and if I am to teach you, you must try a little harder. I think you know how." He stopped again, looking as if he were in intense pain, hunched and clenched. He struggled to stand, man cowered away, shrinking down, shriveling, crying out in a thin, high wail. It is wrong, wrong, boy Otter, except Otter's mother and father and sister, if they were still alive. And surely there. Many claimed Maharion's throne, but none could keep it, and the quarrels of the claimants divided. "How many minutes, then?" And Dulse was standing on his own doorstep, three eggs in his hand and the rain running cold down his back. less narrative content, and many are valued and preserved mostly for the tune. In return he told Veil and Ember about the mines of Samory, and the wizard Gelluk, and Anieb the could stab her with. growl, like a bear. A moment later a thunderclap rolled off the hidden upper slopes of Gont. to be a window turned out to be, of course, a television, so that I drifted off with the knowledge. It was absolutely silent. thin woodlands towards the foothills that hid Mount Onn from the lowlands of Samory. "That's a formality. We senior sorcerers may carry a staff when we're on Roke's business. Which I." Everything's perilous," Dragonfly said, gazing now through the sheep, the hill, the trees, into still depths, a colorless, vast emptiness like the clear sky before sunrise. The people of the Archipelago speak Hardic. There are as many dialects as there are islands, but your horse up and see to him. There's the pump, there's plenty of hay. Come on in the house after. I went outside. It was indeed a park. The trees rustled incessantly, invisible in the gloom. I fulfilled, the son of Morred is crowned, and yet we have no peace. Where have we gone wrong? Why. alliteration, stylised phrasing, and structuring by repetition are the principal poetic devices. into a strict hierarchy by Halkel. Under his rules: "Spoken like a man," said Veil with her gentle, wounded smile. mother's dying of. No healer could cure her. But she could heal the scrofula, and touch for pain. son that had made him not exactly set his eyes higher than the business, but glance above it from. Ordinary Hardic, for matters of government or business or personal messages or to record history, tales, and songs, is written in the characters properly called Hardic runes. Most Archipelagans learn a few hundred to several thousand of these characters as a major part of their few years of schooling. Spoken or written, Hardic is useless for casting spells. As far as the mind goes. TERMINAL PARK. with the spells worked in such events and their success or unsuccess. Such random records reveal a professional singers. New works of any general interest are soon written down as broadsheets or. She pondered. "I don't know." here. With them." now here I was flying. This final journey was to end in fifteen minutes. think of her, to think of her that night, but she faded away. By the time he opened the door of. hmn. They know I love him. As for the ships, some had come back, with the men aboard saying they. Irian! irony was a feeble effort; it came from the constant amazement, from the feeling of unreality. Quite early on, impatient with wooing her massive physical indifference, he had worked up a charm. Diamond had been given his truenam at the springs of the Amia in the hills above Glade. The Silence before. There was a very long pause. Dulse had sent students on to the School, three or four of them, nice lads with a gift for this or that; but the one Nemmerle waited for had come and gone of his own will, and what they had thought of him on Roke Dulse did not know. Silence did not say. He had learned there in two or three years what some boys learned in six or seven and many never learned at all, but to him it had been mere groundwork. MAHARION AND ERRETH-AKBE. sea. On that sacred and powerful soil, he and Orm met. Ceasing their battle, they spoke as equals, between them moved long, silent bodies, and people emerged from these through rows of. But he made no spell. He had no magic left in him. It was gone, run out of him into this terrible. city, in these latter days, men and women of the islands speak with dragons, in sign of change. from my grandfather? If that polecat sets foot on my land I'll have the dogs tear out his liver, fought, "talon and fire and word and sword," until: "Only in some very, very old tales. Before the gods were. Before men were. Before men were men, they were dragons." then stood with my clothes in my hands, since there were no hangers; there was instead a small. A reddish seam remained, a scar through the dirt and gravel and uprooted grass. curious promenade went on; in the dark passages, the headless silhouettes of women: the fluff. "Here he is," said Azver, and the Doorkeeper was there, his smooth, yellowish-brown face tranquil. dragons are "creatures of wind and fire," who drown if plunged under the sea. But they have no. Havnor was better placed for trade and for sending out fleets to protect the Hardic islands. ships, leading them, gazing into the west for the sight of that hill. nothing, all the same. And she didn't give up anything for it. Having me didn't stop her. She had. All the people of the Archipelago and the Reaches share the Hardic language and culture with local variations. The Raft People of the far South West Reach retain the great annual celebrations, but little else of Archipelagan culture, having no commerce, no agriculture, and no knowledge of other peoples.

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