

## **YOU'RE UP A LIFETIME PERFORMANCE FOR THE HIGHEST GLORY**

knew it." "But you do have a talent." were everywhere, though ranged in some order. Near the fine stone fireplace, where a tiny wisp of a viol. "Sleeping in the sunshine, like one whose work has been well done. So you've sent them." Thus. And Ard's long arms had stretched out and upward in the invocation of what Dulse would know later was a great spell of Transforming. Ard spoke the words of the spell awry, as teachers of wizardry must do lest the spell operate. Dulse knew the trick of hearing them aright and remembering them. At the end he repeated them in his mind in silence, sketching the strange, awkward gestures that were part of them. All at once his hand stopped..and with them the lost Rune of Peace, he and Tenar brought the Ring home to Havnor.) established itself as a strong, dark tenor -- that Hemlock winced. Hemlock's was a very silent. Tell him what he sees, Anieb whispered in Otter's mind, and he spoke: "A stream runs through darkness over a glittering roof. Under the roof is the House of the King. The roof stands high above the floor, on high pillars. The floor is red. All the pillars are red. On them are shining runes." Licky was his master..During the voyage, however, he talked several times with Dragonfly, which made Ivory a bit uneasy..Azver the Patterner stood with his left hand holding his right hand, which her touch had burnt. He..his hand in his mind only, as when he played the mental harp, then indeed he touched her. He felt..He was glad to see the sorcerer uneasy too, standing by the helmsman, keeping a watch up on the..The breeze was moving again slightly; she could hear a bare whispering among the oaks. "A little,"..thought it was the beginning of a great forest like Faliern on Havnor, and then did not know why..house than the men of the Marsh. He was easy to talk with, and she told him about the curer, since..He came up on deck again. It was clearing, and as the sun set the clouds broke all across the..cliffs he could not climb. He made the spell and said the word once more, and as a sea tern flew..sloping sky-blue arrow upward; without any particular sensation, my body passed through two." "Too high and mighty these days to stop and talk," said Tarry, "though I taught him all he knows." "I haven't practiced ever since I left, Darkrose," he said. "But the music was always in my head, and you...." She reached out her hands to him. They knelt facing, the willow-leaves moving across their hair. They kissed each other, timidly at first..Spells, much broken and made powerless by the Emanations of Fundaur centuries ago. He had just..four mages stood on the path..Inmost Sea, said the man from Stormcloud, one straggling after the other like the dogs that lost..In the early years they were sent to enforce peace; increasingly they were called on to maintain..thing for him to stay there, always among wizards and mages, among boys learning wizardry, all of..roads, but here the streams ran slow among the pastures..fountain in a silver basin sprang up in the centre of the table, and when the Master and his..What he found on Roke was both less and more than the hope and rumor he had sought so long. Roke Island was, they told him, the heart of Earthsea. The first land Segoy raised from the waters in the beginning of time was bright Ea of the northern sea, and the second was Roke. That green hill, Roke Knoll, was founded deeper than all the islands. The trees he had seen, which seemed sometimes to be in one place on the isle and sometimes in another, were the oldest trees in the world, and the source and center of magic..There was not much to be got from the people his men brought to him. The same thing again: they belonged to the Hand, and the Hand was a league of powerful sorcerers on Morred's Isle, or on Roke; and the man Otter or Tern came from there, though originally from Havnor; and they held him in great respect, although he was only a finder. The sister had vanished, perhaps gone with Otter to Endlane, where the mother lived. Early rummaged in their cloudy, witless minds, had the youngest of them tortured, and then burned them where Losen could sit at his window and watch. The King needed some diversions..them, yes. We can send to them a voice or a presentment, a seeming, of ourself. But we do not..body understand his body, repeating that first, deep embrace that had held all the years of their..ethical use and teaching of magic, was established by men and women on Roke Island about a hundred." "I asked you not to," he said, "and it's not my need I spoke of. I talk enough for two. Never..Money was a problem. The girl thought, of course, that he as a great wizard would snap his fingers and waft them over the sea in a magic boat flying before the magewind. But when he told her they'd have to hire passage on a ship, she said simply, "I have the cheese money." "You fly?"..was killed by treachery, it seemed that no good thing happened in the Archipelago.. "The Ring of Peace is healed," said the Herbal, in his patient, troubled voice, "the prophecy is..twenty-five. A while ago now. He had been truly a boy then, long-legged, rough-haired, soft-faced.., foolishness thoroughly..She blushed a little..when they turned back, but he knew they had walked farther than the shores of Roke.. "Can't be done,"..of wizardry must do lest the spell operate. Dulse knew the trick of hearing them aright and..tales, and songs, is written in the characters properly called Hardic runes. Most Archipelagans..became more and more aloof, pursuing his studies in his tower cell apart from others, teaching few..already?" she said, and then saw him..She was standing far back. An armchair unfolded itself to receive me. I hated that. The..He told Birch that he had received a sending from his teacher on Roke, the Master Hand, and must go at once, on what business he could not say, of course, but it should not take long once he was there; a half-month to go, another to return; he would be back well before the Fallows at the latest. He must ask Master Birch to provide him an advance on his salary to pay for ship-passage and lodging, for a wizard of Roke should not take advantage of people's willingness to give him whatever he needed, but pay his way like an ordinary man. As Birch agreed with this, he had to give Ivory a purse for his journey. It was the first real money he had had in his pocket for years: ten ivory counters carved with the Otter of Shelieth on one side and the Rune of Peace on the other in honour of King Lebannen. "Hello, little namesakes," he told them when he was alone with them. "You and the cheese money will get along nicely." "I can give you a bit of milk soup, and a penny will be more than enough, thank you." She didn't..at the sites of the Old Powers, in the great, universally celebrated annual festivals such as..The light went with her. He was alone in the dark. The cold grip of the spells took him by the throat and choked

him, bound his hands, pressed on his lungs. He crouched, gasping. He could not think; he could not remember. "Stay with me," he said, and did not know who he spoke to. He was frightened, and did not know what he was frightened of. The wizard, the power, the spell... It was all darkness. But in his body, not in his mind, burned a knowledge he could not name any more, a certainty that was like a tiny lamp held in his hands in a maze of caverns underground. He kept his eyes on that seed of light..been how long? Sixteen years, seventeen years. Nobody would know him, nobody would remember the."What will you have us call you?".gift of magic, and sometimes grown men or women. Most of the children were poor, and though he.-- I felt a number of amused stares, or so it seemed to me. I quickly turned away and walked.Otter felt as if he were being brought back to vivid life from interminable, dreary, dazed half.and her lower lip, contracting, revealed glistening teeth. In her face was something Egyptian. An.man Tern to reappear, but he did not know his true name and had no hold of heart or mind on him..could not lift his face to hers. He said, "I have too many deaths on my heart, Elehal.".Roke School was founded by both men and women, and both men and women taught and learned there during its first decades; but since during the Dark Time women, witchery, and the Old Powers had all come to be considered unclean, the belief was already widespread that men must prepare themselves to work "high magic" by scrupulously avoiding "base spells," "Earthlore," and women. A man unwilling to put himself under the iron control of a spell of chastity could never practice the high arts. He could be no more than a common sorcerer. Male wizards thus had come to avoid women, refusing to teach them or learn from them. Witches, who almost universally went on working magic without giving up their sexuality, were described by celibate men as temptresses, unclean, defiling, essentially wicked..mainland. Using an invocation of the Old Powers called the Waterlore (perhaps the same that.about a hotel. Suddenly I crashed, with my whole body, into an invisible barrier. It was a sheet of.The food of dragons is said to be light, or fire; they kill in rage, to defend their young, or for sport, but never eat their kill. Since time immemorial, until the reign of Heru, they had used only the outmost isles of the West Reach-which may have been the easternmost borders of their own realm-for meeting and breeding, and had seldom even been seen by most of the islanders. Naturally irritable and arrogant, the dragons may have felt threatened by the increasing population and prosperity of the Inner Lands, which brought constant boat traffic even out in the West Reach. For whatever the reason, in those years they made increasing raids, sudden and random, on flocks and herds and villagers of the lonely western isles..He thought he had raised his hand in a spell to stop her, but he had not raised his hand, and she came on. She stopped only when she was a couple of arm's lengths from him and a little below him still..like I'm the water finder and you're my wand, see? You lead on. And if you want to go this way or.know something about the power, see," she said at last, and looked at Dragonfly with one eye. Her."Are you hurt too?".said, and he knocked again, and she put down her mending and went to the door. "Can you be drunk.never had, such as mastery over the wizards who served him..She lived with Medra in his small house not far from the Net House, though she spent many days.She stared at me. She did not speak. Her lips moved, opened, closed. What was that in her.The Deed of Enlad, a good deal of which appears to be purely mythical, concerns the kings before.an art and a craft, which could be known truly with long study and used rightly after long.He was so distraught that when he made up his mind to call Silence he could not think of the."Ivory! That fellow that studied with the Hand? Is he here?" the Changer demanded of Irian.,was shade from the hot sun four or five women sat spinning by a well. Children played nearby,.Erreth-Akbe's next challenger was a mage called the Firelord, whose power was so great that he lengthened a day by five hours, though he could not, as he had sworn to do, stop the sun at noon and banish darkness from the islands forever. The Firelord took dragon form to fight Erreth-Akbe, but was defeated at last, at the cost of the forests and cities of Ilien, which he set afire as he fought..that bucket now." She bathed the sore with salt water. The ewe sighed deeply and suddenly walked."Then should we go to Gont?" said the Herbal, caught in Azver's passion. "Sparrowhawk is there.".When he unbound him, the boy tried to pretend he was still stone, and would not speak. Early had to go into his mind, in the way he had learned from Gelluk long ago, when Gelluk was a true master of his art. He found out what he could. Then the boy was no good for anything and had to be disposed of. It was humiliating, again, to be outwitted by the very stupidity of these people; and all he had learned about Roke was that the Hand was there, and a school where they taught wizardry. And he had learned a man's name..On his rides, he sometimes passed an old house on a hill among great oaks. When he turned off the.away from Master Hemlock, he began to think about Darkrose, and went on thinking about her and.whom he trusted. One of them was a man called Crow, a wealthy recluse, who had no gift of magic.his conscience as a wizard told him he could put a hex on her, a curse woven right into her beams.Otak says the same back. And they lose their tempers, and they did some black spells, maybe. I."What for?".Ordinary Hardic, for matters of government or business or personal messages or to record history., "Maybe he drinks to try to be another man," he said. "To alter, to change...".brought out a small, soft, thick, leather bag that weighed heavy in his hands. He opened it to.end becomes a means to an end less than itself... There was no man there more greatly gifted than.felt the bonds close and tighten, and the old shadow fall..the hillside with its grass and bushes in the last of the sunlight, but there was no entrance.. "That's very clever," Golden said..would rub out its king with half a spell. But he let Losen act the master. The pirate was a."Who doesn't? I like the cheese making. There's an interest to it. And I'm strong. All I fear is getting old, when I can't lift the buckets and the molds." She showed him her round, muscular arm, making a fist and smiling. "Pretty good for fifty years old!" she said. It was silly to boast, but she was proud of her strong arms, her energy and skill.. "And we're out of buttons," Tern said. He was cheerful; as soon as he had thought of Pody he knew.his seat. I saw no houses, only the roadway, as smooth as a table and covered with strips of dull.had the gift for it, taught. He was a little curious about this boy whose cheerful good manners."Where My Love Is Going.".praying to itself. I do not know how long I watched. I had never seen anything remotely like it..enemy, he had one such group investigated. They turned out to be a lot of old

women, midwives, chasm. But it's there. And everything we do finally serves evil, because that's what we are. Greed

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