

PORTRAIT VOLUMES 5 7

to name yourself." librarian. The Book of Names, which is kept now in the Isolate Tower, was the foundation of the still the station but preferred not to ask. She led me to a small cabin inside a wall, not very. The witch shook her iron-grey head once. "I can't tell you." Her 'can't' did not mean 'won't'. Dragonfly waited. "It's the power, like I said. It comes just so." Rose stopped her spinning and looked up with one eye at a cloud in the west; the other looked a little northward of the sky. "You're there in the water, together, you and the child. You take away the child-name. People may go on using that name for a use-name, but it's not her name, nor ever was. So now she's not a child, and she has no name. So then you wait. You open your mind up, like. Like opening the doors of a house to the wind. So it comes. Your tongue speaks it, the name. Your breath makes it. You give it to that child, the breath, the name. You can't think of it. You let it come to you. It must come through you to her it belongs to. That's the power, the way it works. It's all like that. It's not a thing you do. You have to know how to let it do. That's all the mastery." saw the red ridge of the mountain in the dawn. Anieb died while he held her, her ruined face. But Otter was intensely aware of Gelluk, both physically and as a presence of immense controlling. certainly gone and then made her way through high grass and weeds to the little house. She stood still, listening towards the west. The mage walked on, turning only when he realized she. "Indeed, for the sailors feared him too, and kept him bound that way all the voyage. When the. Weary, evil dreams of suffocation came to him, but took no hold on him. He breathed deep. He slept. They walked past the roaster tower, past the old shaft and the new one, on into the long valley. She got him onto his bed, pulled the shoes off his feet, and left him sleeping. Berry came in late and drunker than usual, so that he fell and gashed his forehead on the andiron. Bleeding and raging, he ordered Gift to kick the shorsher out the housh, right away, kick 'im out. Then he vomited into the ashes and fell asleep on the hearth. She hauled him onto his pallet, pulled his shoes off his feet, and left him sleeping. She went to look at the other one. He looked feverish, and she put her hand on his forehead. He opened his eyes, looking straight into hers without expression. "Emer," he said, and closed his eyes again. Highdrake took Medra as his student, gratefully. "I was taught my art by a mage who gave me freely. Long Dance, the celebration of the solstice of summer. of the throat quiver at the effort, cheeks glistening, the whole face moving to an inaudible. old weavers' quarter. They grew flax on Pody, and there were stone retting houses, now mostly. "He was here!" she cried. "That foul heart, that Thorion!" She strode to meet the Patterner as he came into the starlight by the house. "I was bathing in the stream, and he stood there watching me!" up the magewind when he was twelve; and sailing on he would see the towers rise up from the water. word, the men told them they would be tortured and burned, at which the boy cried that if they. "He tricked and killed a great mage, my master. He's dangerous. I want vengeance. Who did he talk to here? I want them. Then I'll see to him." my honor and thanks to you. May your heart and hearth know peace," and he made a gesture that left. Though like any power they could be perverted to evil use in the service of ambition (as was the Terrenon Stone in Osskil), the Old Powers were inherently sacral and pre-ethical. During and after the Dark Time, however, they were feminised and demonised in the Hardic lands by wizards, as they were in the Kargad Lands by the cults of the Priestkings and the Godkings. So by the eighth century, in the Inner Lands of the Archipelago, only village women kept up rituals and offerings at the old sites. They were despised or abused for doing so. Wizards kept clear of such places. On Roke, itself the center of the Old Powers in all Earthsea, the profoundest manifestations of those powers-Roke Knoll and the Immanent Grove-were never spoken of as such. Only the Patterners, who lived all their lives in the Grove, served to link human arts and acts to the older sacredness of the earth, reminding the wizards and mages that their power was not theirs, but lent to them. "I could fly there as a tern and be back on the ship before daylight," he said to himself, but. and for the sake of the balance of all things, I bid you now leave this island. We cannot give you. "If you're a dowser, better dowse," said Licky, coming up alongside him and looking sidelong into. collided with another, then thinned out; everyone was getting into an open carriage; no, it was. was cold, and his blood did not run, and no soul was in him. That was more terrible. So we made. cruel, and he hugged her again and said she was the kindest mother in the world, and so she went. "To a man?". "I was born in Havnor and trained as a shipwright and a sorcerer. I was on a ship bound from Geath. nudists. . . . incantation, and beat the air in fury. Then he looked eastward, straining his eyes for the. all, a love story can happen at any time, anywhere. "On the High Marsh" is a story from the brief. Roke Knoll off to the right. But standing on the path just outside the door as if waiting for them. Roke Knoll, was founded deeper than all the islands. The trees he had seen, which seemed sometimes. As for Crow, unable to part with the Book of Names even for a month, he sent for his own books from Orrimy and settled down with them in Thwil. He allowed people of the school to study them, so long as they showed them, and him, due respect. shoulders hunched, joined the stream of pedestrians. The corridor widened, became a hall. Fiery. "Thorion says Lebannen is not truly king, since no Archmage crowned him," entertainers and musicians it was their living, and though uninvited they were welcomed. A tale- whose master would carry the wizard for goodwill and the prentice for half-price. Even half-price. THE KARGAD LANDS. teachers on Roke had said. But this was his island, his rock, dust, dirt. His wizardry grew out of. "The money and the music." of Ard's was no son of his, had nursed his rage and died unforgiving. As he came down the last slope of the mountain, he had seen houses here and there out in the. too much. The counterarguments that I heard from him and from Abs were unconvincing -- I. "Captain," he said, "I'm sorry, I must wait to spell your sails. An earthquake is near. I must. On the first of his voyages of finding, Medra, or Tern as he was called, sailed northward up the Inmost Sea to Orrimy, where he had been some years before. There were people of the Hand there whom he trusted. One of them was a man called Crow, a wealthy recluse, who had no gift of magic but a great passion for what was written, for books of lore and history. It was Crow who had, as he said,

stuck Tern's nose into a book till he could read it. "Illiterate wizards are the curse of Earthsea!" he cried. "Ignorant power is a bane!" Crow was a strange man, willful, arrogant, obstinate, and, in defense of his passion, brave. He had defied Losen's power, years before, going to the Port of Havnor in disguise and coming away with four books from an ancient royal library. He had just obtained, and was vastly proud of, an arcane treatise from Way concerning quicksilver. "Got that from under Losen's nose too," he said to Tern. "Come have a look at it! It belonged to a famous wizard." and dark eyes under dark brows, eyes that held his, held him, brought the truth out of his mouth..it was warm, despite the coolness of the night..He knew what he smelled like, and thanked her..flash of her eyes, and led on..Elfarran. To pledge his troth he gave her a silver bracelet or arm ring, the treasure of his..came here first-I could not save the one who saved me."..and jealousy he knew and shrank from, and contempt he remembered. He was glad he was not one of..make a public spectacle of fools who had tricked him into fearing them. He would rather have dealt..There were no wizards serving Losen now except Early and a couple of humble sorcerers. Early had driven off or killed, one after another, his rivals for Losen's favor, and had enjoyed sole rule over all Havnor now for years..Irioth came up onto the doorstep. He did not go in, but spoke in the open door. "Master San, it's about the cattle you have there between the rivers. I can go to them today." He did not know why he said this. It was not what he had meant to say..fifty or sixty years earlier.."She took bird form. Osprey, they said. Didn't expect that from a girl so young. Gone before they..forests. Dulse was not a tireless walker like Silence, who would have spent his life wandering in.."Best come away," said the Master Windkey, his face set and sombre, his keen eyes troubled. He set off back to the School, and they straggled after him, arguing and debating in frustration and anger..the Thwilburn and walked across the fields to Roke Knoll, which stood up before them in a high..mines at Samory, round the mountain. There you'd be out of his way. Work for him you must, if you..north of the Inmost Sea, growing with the years; and the Hound's nose was as keen as ever..Women who work magic may practice periods of celibacy as well as fasting and other disciplines..so much before. Could they be flying columns? People were hurrying toward it from all..all's square between us for now, right?"..Now, as otter, he was thinking only that he would like to stay otter, be otter, in the sweet brown..chest -- and his coat filled out and lit up again. . . .But as he went back up the streets of South Port he lost her. He swore to keep her with him, to..this, because I did not know how to get out of the park. It was now completely empty. I passed..advertised products. They told me nothing..her mind to watch their careful work. She wished she could help them at it. The waiting and the..founded a school on Roke as a center where they might gather and share knowledge, clarify the.."He only taught me names.".."I couldn't. They'd know. I couldn't even get in. There's the Doorkeeper, you said. I don't know..well-known, often used names with caution, since they are in fact words in the Old Speech, and may..They could hear men's voices in the fields east of the Grove..wilderness, in tents and lean-tos made of scraps, or shelterless. "Oh, this won't do," Crow said..They went on through darkness, seeing only the track before them in the dim silvery glow of.."Even if I argued for you. They won't listen. The Rule of Roke forbids women to be taught any high..There will I go.."I wasn't."..writing from the publisher.."Once in his lifetime, if he's lucky, a wizard finds somebody he can talk to." Nemmerle had said..And these may be true temptations to the wizard! It's a wonderful thing to fly on the wings of a..been more than two hundred.."Are you there, my dear?" said the traveler. He spoke in the Old Speech, the Language of the Making. "Come along, then, Ulla," he said, and the heifer came a step or two towards him, towards her name, while he walked to meet her. He made out the big head more by touch than sight, stroking the silken dip between her eyes, scratching her forehead at the roots of the nubbin horns. "Beautiful, you are beautiful," he told her, breathing her grassy breath, leaning against her large warmth. "Will you lead me, dear Ulla? Will you lead me where I need to go?"..milk. Her eyes grew wide in surprise. Something like a mocking smile touched her lips. She..as one could imagine. I stood in the heavy fetor of their bodies. The lioness kept snorting..then slept suddenly and deeply. She woke as suddenly when the east was just getting light. She.."I cannot read them." Otter's voice was toneless. "I cannot go there. No one can enter there in..After Golden had gone out, she found her son in the counting-room going through ledgers. She looked at the pages. Long, long lists of names and numbers, debts and credits, profits and losses.."Now, what is forbidden to the summoner, or any wizard, is to call a living spirit. We can call to them, yes. We can send to them a voice or a presentment, a seeming, of ourself. But we do not summon them, in spirit or in flesh, to come to us. Only the dead may we summon. Only the shadows. You can see why this must be. To summon a living man is to have entire power over him, body and mind. No one, no matter how strong or wise or great, can rightly own and use another..In the confusion of Otter's mind, he was only dimly aware that they were going now towards the entrance of the mine. They went underground. The passages of the mine were a dark maze like the wizard's words. Otter stumbled on, trying to understand. He saw the slave in the tower, the woman who had looked at him. He saw her eyes..the Hand, say he is right. And as King Lebannen is one returned from death, fulfilling that..might be used by enemy wizards against him; and also to inspect his warships. A ship is a fragile.."There is a wall," the Herbal said.."Irian, here's what you must do to enter the Great House..."..about a hotel. Suddenly I crashed, with my whole body, into an invisible barrier. It was a sheet of..My expression amused her. I looked at her; she stopped smiling..sir, but I have to ask, can you pay a little?"..teacher had spoken of once only and long ago. Strange matters, so strange he had never known if..which it's not only difficult but actually wrong, harmful, to suppress."..He slept till late in the morning and woke as if from illness, weak and placid. She was unable to be afraid of him. She found that he had no memory at all of what had happened in the village, of the other sorcerer, even of the six coppers she had found scattered on the bedcover, which he must have held clenched in his hand all along..She kept his hand and led him in. He was always a little reluctant to enter the witch's house, a.."What do you think?"..and sensed danger.."Probably not," the wizard said, and then, appearing to notice Diamond, put down his pen and said..When she said nothing, and some time had passed, he said, "In the shadow of these trees

is no.untruthful realms of Once-upon-a-time are as much a part of human history and thought as the.along with us -- you can't take a step here, I thought, it's a wonder they still have legs -- but this.little house near the edge of the Thwilburn that runs out of the Grove, and lived there in the.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..ritual, private and communal. There was no priesthood; any adult could perform the ceremonies and."No doubt that's what Alder gave you," she said. "The flint!" In the rage of his agony the Enemy raised up a great wave and sent it speeding to overwhelm the.She lived with Medra in his small house not far from the Net House, though she spent many days with her sister Veil. Ember and Veil had been little children on a farm near Thwil when the raiders came from Wathort. Their mother hid them in a root cellar of the farm and then used her spells to try to defend her husband and brothers, who would not hide but fought the raiders. They were butchered with their cattle. The house and barns were burnt. The little girls stayed in the root cellar that night and the nights after. Neighbors who came at last to bury the rotting bodies found the two children, silent, starving, armed with a mattock and a broken ploughshare, ready to defend the heaps of stones and earth they had piled over their dead..dreaded and shunned, magic plays no recognized part in their society. This inability or refusal to.Maharion's mage-counselor and inseparable friend was a commoner and "fatherless man," a village witch's son from inland Havnor. The most beloved hero of the Archipelago, his story is told in The Deed of Erreth-Akbe, which bards sing at the Long Dance of midsummer.. "And it was useful knowledge," Tern said. "How can people be anything but ignorant when knowledge isn't saved, isn't taught? If books could be brought together in one place..." .birth-easing, and selling spells of finding, love-potions, and sleeping-drafts. She could afford.The winter passed by, and the cold early spring, and with the warm late spring came a letter from.mechanical and violent. I stood and watched, hearing, behind me, the steady sough of hundreds.When she woke, the Master Patterner was sitting nearby, and a basket was on the grass between.would hear that cough, this time? He smiled at young Rose, and the mother's heart lifted. Surely.at least nominally by hereditary lords and ladies, while the Archipelago entire was governed for.cattle, fattening beef for the populous southern coast, letting the animals stray for miles across.agreeing to end the enmity of their races..there?".Losen shouted, beating his paralyzed legs with his weak hands..Ellua." They stood, big, indifferent; sometimes one looked at him for a long time. Sometimes one.till Diamond was sixteen. A big, well-grown youth, good at games and lessons, he was 'still ruddy-.her and bring them back to Roke when he returned. So they set off northeast across the Inmost Sea.answer his questions about the Grove. But she said nothing, and he was shy and cautious, fearing

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