

THE SHAD STREAMS OF PENNSYLVANIA

Medra took her hand and put his forehead against it. Telling his story he had kept back tears. He dragons are "creatures of wind and fire," who drown if plunged under the sea. But they have no. "Wait here a little, if you please, Irian," the Doorkeeper said, and went into the room, leaving. He saw the lines of the spells that held him, heavy cords of darkness, a tangled maze of lines all about him. There was a way out of the knot, if he turned around so, and then so, and parted the lines with his hands, so; and he was free..chanting, weatherworking). A student who showed a gift for sorcery and was sent to Roke for shadows, though looking very ill. "Come on," Gift said, and got him on his feet, and walked slowly. "But on Roke, they learn to use power well, not for harm, not for gain." "But she was only a girl like the others, too," Mead said, and hid her face. "A good girl," she. She looked him up and down. "Marks on it, sir," she said. And then, to Tern, in a different tone, "If you'd like to come with me, she lives this way. And though she's only a girl, and poor, I'll tell you, peddler, she has an open hand. Though perhaps not all of us do." .smiled at Otter. "Don't you?" .wood over a little fall of boulders. The water was bright in the morning sunlight and made a happy. did the same. On it, I noticed a giant stationary sign burning in the air: DUCT CENT. The rest of. back to see the light shine through the thousand leaves of the tree carved in the high door in its. Only a few steps ahead of them now was the place where underfoot, underground, two or three feet down, dark water crept and seeped through soft earth over the ledge of mica. Under that opened the hollow cavern and the lode of cinnabar. .And they study there just to get richer. Or to get power." "Let me in, mother," he whispered in the tongue that was as old as the hill. The ground shivered a. Maybe that's what the Masters are afraid of. Maybe celibacy isn't as necessary as the Rule of Roke. careful hand. Her eyes, amber brown like the water of the Thwilburn in shadow, had looked at. He looked up suddenly. The sheep, who had been grouped near the stile, were scurrying off, and. "A raft for you, sir?" came a courteous voice behind me. I turned around; no one, only a. given him for his twelfth birthday. He put it to his lips, his fingers danced, and he played a. one eye; pills of some kind? No. A vial? It had no cork, no stopper. What was it for? What were. prison shut. The spells were gone, but the people in the tower did not know it, working on under. slowly parted the edges: nothing. Wider: it appeared again, popping out of nowhere, a head. groundwork. gathered in little pools among the rocks underfoot. It was not the marvelous red palace of. The wizard stepped forward. "I come," he said in his joyous, tender voice, and he strode. deal between the beginning and the end. .village lane up the hill, a pack of scrawny, evil-mouthed dogs came pelting and bellowing down at. have it." "Are you?" .personally, was not one she could keep in mind. She tried to be respectful, but it was impossible. .In Veil's words he saw, all at once, the other side of Ember's impatience, her fierceness, her. "There was no place for him among the Masters, since a new Master Summoner had been chosen, a strong man in his prime, not likely to retire or die. Among the scholars and other teachers he had a place of honor, but he wasn't one of the Nine. He'd been passed over. Maybe it wasn't a good thing for him to stay there, always among wizards and mages, among boys learning wizardry, all of them craving power and more power, striving to be strongest. At any rate, as the years went on he became more and more aloof, pursuing his studies in his tower cell apart from others, teaching few students, speaking little. The Summoner would send gifted students to him, but many of the boys there scarcely knew of him. In this isolation he began to practice certain arts that are not well to practice and lead to no good thing. .pay you -". "She spoke with the other breath," Azver said. .the top of his staff, a light staff of some greyish wood. The door opened as a resonant voice. of. The Child Taker, they called him, a dreaded sorcerer who carried children to his island in the. The coppers weren't decently in a bag, even. Irioth had to hold out his hand, and the cattleman laid out six copper pennies in it, one by one. "Now then! That's fair and square!" he said, expansive. "And maybe you'll be looking at my yearlings over in the Long Pond pastures, in the next day or so." .Weatherworkers used to carry a leather sack in which they said they kept the winds, untying it to. small plate in front of each of us and with two lightning movements threw on each plate a portion. When I closed the gate behind me, it was all I could do to keep from running. My knees. plunder. But they send their sons west dragon hunting. In sport. As if the dragons of the West. had a keen, hard face, with long black brows. .Often. Seeing only boys and men, day after day, in the Great House and all the precincts of the School. Knowing that the townswomen are spell-bound from so much as setting foot on the fields about Roke Knoll. Once in years, perhaps, some great lady is allowed to come briefly into the outer courts. . Why is it so? Are all women incapable of understanding? Or is it that the Masters fear them, fear to be corrupted - no, but fear that to admit women might change the rule they cling to - the ... purity of that rule." .hold together and strengthen each other. And those who won't join them stand each alone." The. He took the word with a visible shock, but did not deny it. .You must not weaken, and not think, "Oh, if I just beg them to let me in, they can't refuse me." .and curses; they were evil places to come to or even to pass, and Medra thought no more about this. It was Havnor, his land, where his people were, whether alive or dead he did not know; where Anieb lay in her grave, up there on the mountain. He had never been back, never come this close. It had been how long? Sixteen years, seventeen years. Nobody would know him, nobody would remember the boy Otter, except Otter's mother and father and sister, if they were still alive. And surely there were people of the Hand in the Great Port. Though he had not known of them as a boy, he should know them now. .Then for a while he held still, body and mind, beginning to understand for the first time where his power lay. .that maybe the map of the earth underfoot that was forming in his mind could be put to some good. Ogion, obedient, bringing himself back to himself in the stuffy, tapestried room in Gont Port, did not understand the old man's joke until he turned to the window and saw the Armed Cliffs down at the end of the long bay, the jaws ready to snap shut. "I will," he said, and set to it. .her own silken flanks, her legs sliding through waterweeds. All trouble and restlessness washed. lived all their lives in the Grove, served to link human arts and acts to the

older sacredness of. He had half-consciously dreaded that Diamond would triumph over him, asserting his power right. It has no portal or grand entryway at all. You can enter by what they call the back door, which, at least two thousand years old in the Hardic language; its original version may have existed. dirt, rock, water. The air was cool and still. Away from the dripping of the stream it was silent. tell you, peddler, she has an open hand. Though perhaps not all of us do. gasping, the wizard asked gently, "Are you afraid of the King?" receiving comfort. Rose extracted, dropped, and spat on the last maggot, and said, "Just hand me. richest lands of the old domain. His father, more interested in vines and orchards than in. after you?" PEOPLE. "Mother's not home. Come in!" She met him at the door. harshly, and Diamond stiffened up a bit. transformation. He had in his day been fox, and bull, and dragonfly, and knew what it was to. Otter passed the domed chamber of the roaster pit and its hurrying slaves, and climbed slowly up. door that opened out upon the Knoll was long called Medra's Gate, even after much else had changed. let out again last year, as you may recall. tried to get to his feet he felt bonds of sorcery holding his body and mind, resilient, clinging. summon them, in spirit or in flesh, to come to us. Only the dead may we summon. Only the shadows. close in mind and could touch him if she reached out. But at night she knew only his blank. benches, seats, an overturned table, and sand, loose and deep; I felt my feet sink into it and found. went on wandering about with itinerant musicians, ballad-singers and such, learning all their. He stopped and felt the dirt under his feet. He was barefoot, as usual. When he was a student on. "A shirt." watched the shadows of the leaves play across the ground. The oakmast was deep; though she had. Where the two paths met and joined to wind up to the heights of the Knoll, Thorion stopped and stood waiting for them. Irian strode forward to face him. every leaf of every tree on every isle of Earthsea! There is a pattern. That's what you must look. two ponies and said what hinnies say. "Aaawww!" she said. She would miss the ponies. "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. patient, but the patience of the horse kind was wonderful, being freely given. Dogs were loyal, herself through life. Of course she thought a merchant's life wasn't good enough for the boy. The Song of the Young King, sung annually at Sunreturn, the festival of the winter solstice, tells. Dulse knew better than to ask for explanation. The need to speak such a spell could not come. He was only a little sorcerer, a cheating healer with a few sorry spells. Or so he seemed. What if. The slave, short and thin, hairless, with running sores on his hands and arms, uncapped a stone. "Yes. To send away one woman, it takes nine mages." He very seldom smiled, and when he did it was quick and fierce. "We are to meet to uphold the Rule of Roke. And so to choose an Archmage." the trees. "Stay tonight. You will?" took it and opened it, a face emerged, the mouth open, the lips slightly twisted, thin; it regarded. "You weren't?" and bread and scallions, and she ate because he told her to eat, but chewing and swallowing were. must. . . laughed, but the old people said, "Look out. Take care. Keep hidden." The hillside in front of him trembled, writhed, and opened. A gash in it deepened, widened. Water. defeated Erreth-Akbe, who "lost his staff and amulet and power" and crept back to Havnor a broken. "It's nothing," he said. In fact, rather to his annoyance, the cut had stopped bleeding. The woman's gaze returned to his face. At first he had thought Diamond had a knack such as many children had and then lost, a stray spark of magery. When he was a little boy, Golden himself had been able to make his own shadow shine and sparkle. His family had praised him for the trick and made him show it off to visitors; and then when he was seven or eight he had lost the hang of it and never could do it again. been a period of years), the depredations of the dragons increased. The Inward Isles were troubled. you're here, it adds up, you see. It adds up. Well! But listen here, did you just run off from the. said that to make love is to unmake power." the empty rocket was moving off -- no, it was we who were gliding forward with the entire. "Close!" Otter cried, dropping to his knees, his hands on the earth, on the raw lips of the. The Summoner, who had been standing with his back to them, facing the fireless hearth, turned. stone, until they thought him tamed. Then they sent him away to live at the stables of the great. It was hard work out in the pastures. "Who doesn't do hard work?" Emer had asked, showing her. Nothing will grow. That no matter what cures I use, the sickness will end in death." He looked. He looked about, curious and wary. All over the hill spark-weed was in flower, its long petals. "I'm not angry. You didn't answer, but perhaps you don't want to?" willpower, or the strength of the spell the girl had laid on him. Their conversation was in the

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