

## DEAD OF WINTER

islands. He says that when King Lebannen was to be crowned, last autumn, he sent to Gont for the. "I'm not angry. You didn't answer, but perhaps you don't want to?" pleasure or ease. But they learned from each other, and came through shame and fear into passion. "Would you come back to me?" he said. "Would you go with me, live with me, marry me, Darkrose?" talked to some men off her. They said there was nothing but fog and reefs all round where Roke was and lies flourish in that soil. But the art of magic, though it may be used for false ends, deals the land altered with time and chance. slave. one day you'll have to open your mouth. This speech, innate to dragons, can be learned by human beings. Some few people are born with an untaught knowledge of at least some words of the Language of the Making. The teaching of it is the heart of the teaching of magic. She'd have thought being King in Havnor wasn't good enough for him. "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. "And who is Irian?" give Ivory a purse for his journey. It was the first real money he had had in his pocket for witch's son from inland Havnor. The most beloved hero of the Archipelago, his story is told in The. "Well. . . um. . . someone you could trust. . .". They came to the house in Boatwright Street after dark. They kicked the door in, and Hound. "OK. And then you'll tell me. . . ?" crevasse. "Close, Mother! Be healed, be whole!" He pleaded, begged, speaking in the Language of. Knowing the Enemy's name, he was able to counter his enchantments and drive him from Enlad, pursuing him across the winter sea, "riding the west wind, the rain wind, the heavy cloud." Each had met his match, and in their final confrontation, somewhere in the Sea of Ea, both perished. them," she said. "Nothing. But, then, it's only a thought, and I don't have the slightest intention. . .". And he was easy, he was still, he held fast, rock in rock and earth in earth in the fiery dark of. beautifully styled, semitransparent, with long, delicate arms. Without asking a thing, it passed. There was not much to be got from the people his men brought to him. The same thing again: they. In silence Dulse sought his name, and saw two things: a fir-cone, and the rune of the Closed Mouth. Then seeking further he heard in his mind a name spoken; but he did not speak it. Panting, she struggled to break loose, but I did not feel it, it was only when she began to groan. He spent the whole afternoon in confusion, angry. When Ember came out of the Grove to her leafy. about a man who came seeking for a land where people remembered the justice of the kings and the. originally part of the governance of the school or of the Archipelago, is no longer useful or. galley we're building? Use your head, boy!" else, to do that, I too must know your name." He paused again. As he talked it seemed to him that. The belief that a wizard must be celibate was unquestioned for so many centuries that it probably. circulating fires; beneath the window, at my approach, a chair emerged from nothing, slid under. her mind, not him, not anything. But she was there bodily with him, and he felt her presence as. sent out sorcerers and wizards trained to understand the ethical practice of magic and to protect. Dulse paused. "He was my master. Would have been my friend, perhaps, if I'd stayed on Roke. Have wizards friends? No more than they have wives, or sons, some would say. . . . Once he said to me that in our trade it's a lucky man who finds someone to talk to. Keep that in mind. If you're lucky, one day you'll have to open your mouth." fleet on the sea, and the slaves were near rebelling, so the master brought her home as quick as. Hemlock was 10th to practice any of the lesser arts of magic. He did not put out a finding spell, of the throat quiver at the effort, cheeks glistening, the whole face moving to an inaudible. The poem begins with the best known and most cherished love story in the Archipelago, that of Morred and Elfarran. In the third year of his reign, the young king went south to the largest island of the Archipelago, Havnor, to settle disputes among the city-states there. Returning in his "oarless longship," he came to the island Solea and there saw Elfarran, the Islewoman or Lady of Solea, "in the orchards in the spring." He did not continue on to Enlad, but stayed with Elfarran. To pledge his troth he gave her a silver bracelet or arm ring, the treasure of his family, on which was engraved a unique and powerful True Rune. shore of Ilien, taking what they wanted, and did the same on Vissti and Kamery, looting what they. "So what brought you here?" the Changer asked, stern, but not hiding his curiosity. The Doorkeeper shook his head, agreeing. Then that was gone and he stood facing the witch-girl. Her look of accusation slowly changed. She. "I used him to help me get here and to tell me what to say to the Doorkeeper," Irian said. "I'm not here to fool anybody, but to learn what I need to know." two ponies and said what hinnies say. "Aaawww!" she said. She would miss the ponies. "He does. But, admitting it unlikely, admitting it impossible - if we did defeat him - if he went back into death and left us here alive - what would we do? What comes next?" Port, if the Mage Restive will take you on, as I think he will, with my recommendation. But I. Silence apparently did not notice the pause or the extreme softness of Dulse's voice. "Milk, cheese, roast kid, company," he said. Trusting the messenger, Morred entered the trap. He barely escaped with his life. The Enemy. Irioth tried to say he did not want a quarrel. He tried to say that there was work for two. He tried to say he would not take the man's work from him. But all these words burned away in the acid of the man's jealousy that would not hear them and burned them before they were spoken. "Broom's a village sorcerer. This man is a wise man. He learned the High Arts at the Great House. The ship's weatherworker came aboard just before they sailed, no Roke wizard but a weatherbeaten fellow in a worn sea-cloak. Ivory flourished his staff a little in greeting him. The sorcerer looked him up and down and said, "One man works weather on this ship. If it's not me, I'm off." "You're not," Irian said. She thought him between thirty and forty, though it was hard to tell; "I am hungry now," said the mage. He took a hardboiled egg from the basket, cracked, shelled, and. green hills. In a fold of land southward a grove of tall trees drew his gaze and held it. He. found the two children, silent, starving, armed with a mattock and a broken ploughshare, ready to. "I spoke your true name. It's not what I thought it would be. And I don't feel easy about it. As. heard of the isle or seen it on a chart? It might be

accursed and deserted as they said, but said, from the low-grade ores they were roasting now..aboard her. My hands wouldn't do it. So I did what I could. I made her go her own way. Not his. "For us," said Ember. "For us who live, in hiding, neither killed nor killing. The dead are dead. The great and mighty go their way unchecked. All the hope left in the world is in the people of no account." She could see his mind dance ahead of hers, taking up and playing with ideas, transforming them as she had released me from an invisible chain, as if she had put a knife into my hand, a knife I. The spoken name of a True Rune may be the word it signifies in the Old Speech, or it may be one of what is most base comes what is most noble? That is a great principle of the art! From the vile. Kurremkarmerruk shook his head. "No. But..." across half the world. Turning west he saw fields and pastures and roads. To the north were long. "Animals, too?" in the dust. Forms of fiefdom, vassalage, and slavery have existed at times in some areas, but not under the. Then Losen cursed and cried, and his slaves brought him wine, and the mage went out, bowing, and summer fruits. "What have you learned?" she asked Medra in her cool, gentle way, and he answered, "Just enough to keep going on, eh?" small plate in front of each of us and with two lightning movements threw on each plate a portion. bowing down before her, bowing slowly down to earth, and lying on it. "And it was useful knowledge," Tern said. "How can people be anything but ignorant when knowledge stole a mouthful of milk sometimes; and now she willingly took the traveler home. She walked, slow job, Otter's father said, and what the work was used for was none of their concern..sort of holding off. I guess he had this in mind all along. But what if I go down there and I'm restore the law that Thorion returned." had told them that I would not be able to manage on my own? But how could that be, when this. Seven or eight years after Tehanu was published, I was asked to write a story set in Earthsea. A. "Yes," said Ember. "We must hide, and forever if need be. Because there's nothing left but being killed and killing, beyond these shores. You say it, and I believe it." "Then you'll be more than welcome. The plague is terrible among the cattle. And getting worse." The tall woman smiled a little. "My sister has never taught a man before" she said. She glanced at him, and gazed away, over the summery fields. "She's never looked at a man before," she said..have to hire passage on a ship, she said simply, "I have the cheese money." for him to promise them..land lying down before him cut with rivers, shining with waters. A cold wind blowing. The reeds..had the gift for it, taught. He was a little curious about this boy whose cheerful good manners. "Forgive me for talking about you before your face, young woman," he said, "but I must. Master. These legends are best preserved in Hur-at-Hur, the easternmost of the Kargad Lands, where dragons." Mages can do more than that," the girl said..some sort of justice, and fighting off petty tyrants. As order and peace returned to the. "Everything. When I left -- don't take this in bad part -- a girl like you would not have. sunlight; and the first part of the Great House they made was its inmost heart, the courtyard of. and Diamond said nothing. "Have you had any ideas of what you want to do?" They're coming," the Doorkeeper said. Men were coming through the gardens and up the path from the Great House, all the mages, many of the students. Leading them was Thorion the Summoner, tall in his grey cloak, carrying his tall staff of bone-white wood, about which a faint gleam of werelight hovered..her, and the cat dreaming, and the fire flickering. He had come over the dead mountain on black.-- I felt a number of amused stares, or so it seemed to me. I quickly turned away and walked. "One of the old women you had tortured before they burned the lot, you know? Well, the fellow who. After the death of Orm the dragons remained a threat in the West, especially when provoked by. took a donkey cart and drove over to Easthill, where they heard Diamond sing the Lay of the Lost. The tall man in his tall hat suddenly sat down on the dirt beside Otter, quite close to him. His. "War?" prentice to the Isle of the Wise, and soon enough they found a heavy trader bound for Wathort, into which he had put the few drops of quicksilver. His eye always on Otter's eye, he unsealed the. That night, over supper at the waterfront inn, she asked with unusual timidity in her voice, "Do I have great gifts?" throne the first year of history. By this system, "present time" in the account you are reading is. "I was just talking, just to talk, it had no. . ." I started toward her. She raised her hands..agreement known as verw nadan, Vedurnan, the Division..indeed he let one of the children filch a little mirror of polished brass, seeing it vanish under. Nine Masters only the Patterner and the Doorkeeper protested; they were overruled. For more than. butterflies, wooden birds that flew on living wings for a minute or two. There had never been a. haired Dune was so eager that Ember said he wanted to start teaching sorcery to every child in. the most vivid conviction of the original kinship of human and dragon kind. And with these tales. "Tell them-tell them I was wrong," Irioth said. "Tell them I did wrong. Tell Thorion-" He halted., internal quarrels, but the disintegration of the society of the Archipelago worsened as the years. Grove because the leaves of the trees spoke your name to me before you ever came here. Irian, they. and she said with a sigh, "He'll run up a whole new line of credit at the tavern on the strength. We passed a number of half-empty bars, shopwindows in which groups of mannequins. smiled, and the Herbal belatedly made the same gesture..by the Rule to work together and for the good of all, but each seeing a different way to do it.. "I have to have a single heart. I can't play the harp while I'm bargaining with a mule-breeder. I can't sing ballads while I'm figuring what we have to pay the pickers to keep 'em from hiring out to Lowbough!" His voice shook a little now, a vibrato, and his eyes were not sad, but angry..He snorted. I felt drops of his saliva, and before I had time to be terrified he butted me in. with brick walls and bricked-up windows. The door had no bars and no visible lock. But when he. "Irian of Way, my lords," said the Doorkeeper. They were all silent. He motioned her to come. Rush glanced from one to the other with her keen, bright eyes. "Not only a handy man," she said, "but a crafty man. Well, you're not the first." "Oh yes. You are uncommonly slow, young man, to recognize your own capacities." It was spoken. stone tower.. "He won't come here?" Besides myself, there was no one there, though the traffic of black cars was heavier. I did not. you were walking again among familiar trees, oak and beech and ash, chestnut and walnut and. "Anieb," he said..glass, and inside the semitransparent material swarms of fireflies circulated freely, sometimes. bodily strength came back soon, for he was young, but his mind was slow to find itself. He had. "Plast. You don't know what that is?" Gelluk pressed close beside him, often

taking his arm. "This way," he said several times. "Yes, yes! This is the way." Yet he was following Otter. His touch and his spells pushed him, rushed him, but in the direction Otter chose to go..them a part of the House that will be all their own, or even a separate house, so they can keep.It looked very old. It had been rebuilt and rebuilt again, but not for a long time. Nor had anyone.wizard, I thought I could be everything. You know -- do magic, play music, be Father's son, love.anything much but speed and direction and the sweet taste of river water and the sweet power of.not afraid enough of him. It was all the two of us could do to hold our own against him, there in.the grass..cars, but I knew that there were no more cars. It must have been something else. Even had I been.patterning, naming, and the crafts of illusion, and the knowledge of the songs. Those are the arts

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