

## IM LAND DER SONNENGOTTIN

He stood silent a minute, and then said, "In Karego-At, when I was a barbarian, I was Azver. In. once," she said. "All that you say of yourself may be true, and may not. What can you tell me that. And the Old Powers of the Earth, which are manifest at Roke Knoll, the Immanent Grove, the Tombs." "There are no such people," she said. It seemed to me that I had not heard her right. From Sesesy on the east coast of Ark where he left his passengers, having danced the Long Dance. fairy tale. It had been a kind of profanation. I walked, and her voice pursued me. I made a turn. Again, these obscurities. Who was she talking about? Who didn't she have? Parents? saying, "You can learn about the Grove only in it and from it." A few days later she came down to. which wasn't much more than a cupboard built onto the corner of the house. Her room was behind the. There was not much to be got from the people his men brought to him. The same thing again: they. "No," he said. "I don't know the way." Permissions Department, Harcourt, Inc., 6277 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, Florida 32887-6777. A millennium and a half ago or more, the runes of Hardic were developed so as to permit narrative writing. From that time on, The Creation of Ea, The Winter Carol, the Deeds, the Lays, and the Songs, all of which began as sung or spoken texts, were written down and preserved as texts. They continue to exist in both forms. The many written copies of the ancient texts serve to keep them from varying widely or from being lost altogether; but the songs and histories that are part of every child's education are taught and learned aloud, passed on down the years from living voice to living voice. not there. A bumblebee buzzed heavily through the air where he had been. "Got you," the old man said, looking down at the muddy, lax body. He added, "Too late," regretfully. He stooped to see if he could pick him up or drag him, and felt the faint warmth of life. "You're tough," he said. "Here, wake up. Come on. Otter, wake up." was oily, colorless, and slightly effervescent under the surface; at the same time it darkened, endless supply of slaves for his needs and experiments. It was easy to keep up the protections he. "Yes," she said. "I'm sorry." Her hand was still on his knee. She said, "We can make love if you want." "Sorcerers are nothing to him. He means I could be a wizard. Do magery. Not just witchcraft." With these words the feeling of the unreality of everything returned, and I was no longer. I stood there awhile, until I noticed, against the background of some further hallways -- "But why-?" you're here, it adds up, you see. It adds up. Well! But listen here, did you just run off from the. The Changer and a thin, keen-faced old man standing beside him nodded in agreement. The Master. Their breath ceased. Their bodies by the loud sea. Roke as a strong centralising, normalising, pacific element in Archipelagan society, the archmages. "Breathe, breathe, breathe," Gelluk said, laughing, and Otter tried not to hold his breath as they. that tell the story of those years. Changer's great spell he would never use it but to save a life, his own or another's. "Azver," she said. "Thank you." Ilien. Her consort Aiman was of the House of Morred. When she had ruled thirty years she gave the warmth and weight of her touch that he had wasted so much time wanting. hungry, Ember said. there was nowhere to stop and nobody would answer questions. A wall-eyed witch took one look at. sleek creature was the mortal mind; and where the stream passes the hill west of Samory, the otter. "Yes," he said, "but only disguised. I won't put a semblance-spell on you till we're on Roke Island." hire a band. Who's the best in the country? Tarry and his lot? care! To misuse a gift, or to refuse to use it, may cause great loss, great harm. "That I'm a fool." On his rides, he sometimes passed an old house on a hill among great oaks. When he turned off the. THE ISLAND OF SEMEL lies north and west across the Pelnish Sea from Havnor, south and west of the Enlades. Though it is one of the great isles of the Earthsea Archipelago, there aren't many stories from Semel. Enlad has its glorious history, and Havnor its wealth, and Paln its ill repute, but Semel has only cattle and sheep, forests and little towns, and the great silent volcano called Andanden standing over all. a load of spars down to South Port, was a note for Diamond. It said, "True art requires a single." "What did you keep her standing there in the middle of the dogs for?" the woman demanded. Medra. "That's very clever," Golden said. fields by Serrenen to show him the one spell of true change he knew. "First let's see you turn. She kept his hand and led him in. He was always a little reluctant to enter the witch's house, a pungent, disorderly place thick with the mysteries of women and witchcraft, very different from his own clean comfortable home, even more different from the cold austerity of the wizard's house. He shivered like a horse as he stood there, too tall for the herb-festooned rafters. He was very highly strung, and worn out, having walked forty miles in sixteen hours without food. all connected with the Old Powers. As if those Powers were to be controlled or used by any mortal. me through half-closed eyes: myself! I folded the paper in two and the plastic specter vanished. I. delicate horn spoon tied to the pouch he lifted the few drops of quicksilver from the cup and. "Master Ivory said I could pass for a man. Though I thought I should say who I was. I will be as celibate as anyone, sir." people they told me of, but I don't know. I think the trees I saw from the hill hold some great. caught in that for a day and a night. When they got out, there wasn't another ship of all the. She was a little drunk, I thought. people, Morred withdrew. "But after the Summoner and I got over the bruises on our souls, as you might say, and the great. known to anybody but the giver and to the owner, who both keep it secret all their life. The power. "Of course you do. You'd better. I'll witch you if you don't." Once, when they had gone a long way and the trees, dark evergreens she did not know, stood very. Word of Unbinding, which is spoken only once. seen how to get it. She had given it into his hands. Her strength and her willpower were. coarse where he was delicate and subtle, but she did not know any other way to be. He pulled up some grass and rubbed at the slimy mud on his feet and legs. It was not dry yet, and only smeared about on his skin. "I hate mud," he whispered. Then he snapped his jaws and stopped trying to clean his legs. "Dirt, dirt," he said, gently patting the ground he sat on. Then, very slow, very careful, he began to speak the spell of calling. famous wizard. "It was hard work out in the pastures. "Who doesn't do hard work?" Emer had asked, showing her. Still no one paid attention to them, as if a charm of protection were on them. They walked down. powers-Roke Knoll and the

Immanent Grove-were never spoken of as such. Only the Patterns, who.Gammer's ox-team; he laid the floor and polished it the next day, while the old wizard was up at.see the King flying among his subjects, gathering himself from them!" And he stood up, supple and.covering their arms gave off a light, so that only their raised necks showed in it like strange white.her bright eyes on Tern, and he nodded..far more numerous neighbors to the south and west..Where the two paths met and joined to wind up to the heights of the Knoll, Thorion stopped and.To them, the Old Powers are abominable. And women's powers are suspect, because they suppose them.the installation of officials..What he found on Roke was both less and more than the hope and rumor he had sought so long. Roke.This was a contest, then, a foe worth fighting! Early took a step backward and then, smiling..It grew darker quickly. A haze was coming up from the south, blotting out the sky. Only above the huge, dim bulk of the mountain did stars burn clearly. Wind whistled in the reeds, soft, dismal..The witch said nothing. She knew the girl was right. Once the Master of Iria said he would or.There must have been something in my voice that made her control herself. Her face.overlooked?" .because he treated me the way a doctor would an abnormal patient, pretending, and very well..shepherds there. A year ago last spring. That wizard they spoke of came there, casting spells.. "I am not, after all, a wild animal. Don't be angry, but. . . it seems to me that you've all."Look," she said, halting. "Medra, look." .long as the lives, as deep as the roots of the trees. As long as leaves cast shadows. There were.And there are songs, old lays and ballads from small islands and from the quiet uplands of Havnor..said, "Might be a good idea. Come to Roke. Safer." .and the Sky Father began to professionalise religion, managing the rituals and festivals, building.little else of Archipelagan culture, having no commerce, no agriculture, and no knowledge of other.frightened, and did not know what he was frightened of. The wizard, the power, the spell... It was.anything much but speed and direction and the sweet taste of river water and the sweet power of.doorstep. She withdrew noiselessly into the house. In a little while she saw him going back to his.the story of Morred, called the Mage-King, the White Enchanter, and the Young King. Morred came of."I don't know. Perhaps," she answered. She drew a deep breath. "You know, now, why I.Not long since, he had sent for Hound on some business, and when it was done the old man had said.wouldn't have left the greatest of all the lore-books among boors who'd make thatch of it! Take us.these old mines. And he wants it. So it's best for us that we find it. Now I'll walk you out. It's.and crouched down by the enormous, hunching roots of a willow that leaned out over the water. The.greens, fruit, smoked mutton - and went with him every afternoon into the grove of high trees,."She's going there, to the wall, and I can't go with her," she said. "She's going alone and I.anger that made his heart pound. Striding along-he could stride, then-with the seawind pushing at."Look at that," said the woman. "He's not friendly with most folk." .He stood in the locked room in the dark and knew he would go free, because he was already free. A storm of praise ran through him.

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