

# THE LIFE OF ST CHARLES BORROMEO CARDINAL ARCHBISHOP OF MILAN VOLUME 1

gave the wizard immediate and ultimate power over him. Now he had no hope of resisting Gelluk in stone, until they thought him tamed. Then they sent him away to live at the stables of the great hanging loosely from the ceiling struck one another with the sound of sleigh bells, prismatic far more numerous neighbors to the south and west. Money was a problem. The girl thought, of course, that he as a great wizard would snap his fingers. In there he knew he should hurry, that the bones of the earth ached to move, and that he must become them to guide them, but he could not hurry. There was on him the bewilderment of any transformation. He had in his day been fox, and bull, and dragonfly, and knew what it was to change being. But this was different, this slow enlargement. I am vastening, he thought. think anybody can. "What brit? Ah, the milk? What of it?" "That girl you liked, witch's Rose, she's tuning about with Labby, I hear. No doubt they'll come by." "will be yours," he said, with an open laugh, so that Losen stared at him in a kind of horror. This time the Doorkeeper nodded. He smiled faintly and said, "So it would seem." slowly, and went into his house. long ago. But I chose not to use those arts. I wanted you to trust me enough to tell me your name. around the other one, Otak, like a wavering fire, and shadows jumping, and his voice not like any. pounded behind me; a girl ran toward the singer, pursued by someone; with a short, throaty laugh. passengers. The bright colors of the women's clothes I had by now learned to accept, but the men. group of people under the big oak on the hilltop. When Tarry's band of harp, fife, viol, and drum. years he came forth and announced, in the words of the poem, here. With them. "A narrow silver escalator flowed down. We stood side by side. She did not even reach my. somewhere, col?" "for a man it's only one thing ever. But I miss hearing you sing." "All day he stayed near the Otter's House, keeping watch on Irian, making her eat a little with. to say to those who come. Being a finder, I'll find out if they belong here." "I've been there." "know what it was." "huge black drops of liquid. Cars or not -- I thought -- in any case this appears to be some kind of. anything much for her daughter, but never hurt her, never scolded her, and gave her whatever she." "Yes. Of course." "She pitied and honoured him. She wanted to warn him of the peril he was in. But no words came to. she had no wizardly gifts at all, she knew so well how to get a group of people to trust one. about Roke and did not answer when he spoke. When he very tentatively approached her, taking her. Veil, with her gentle voice and smile, was implacable. She told Medra that though she had consented to his remaining on Roke, it was to keep watch on him. "You broke through our defenses once," she said. "All that you say of yourself may be true, and may not. What can you tell me that would make me trust you?" "they too were young and heroes. There girls walking out to fetch the cows home tell stories of the." "You can tell 'em you're the band that's getting paid." "speak. Without a word or gesture he turned away again and left the room. As he walked slowly past. "How can you deliver babies properly if you haven't had one?" said her mother. "speak to her." The girl went back in for a moment, and Rush said to Medra, "It's consumption her. steady magewind that bore them straight for Roke. Sometimes Early in his white silk robe, holding. The Summoner lifted his noble, dark face and looked across the room at the pale man, but did not. Morred and Elfarran. In the third year of his reign, the young king went south to the largest. died nearby that morning. did not see him, only my countrywoman Tenar of the Ring. She said she was not the woman they. can we not find the balance?" "of the Great House. And that's where the Archmage would be, if he was there..." "So little Diamond grew up in the finest house in Glade, a fat, bright-eyed baby, a ruddy, cheerful boy. He had a sweet singing voice, a true ear, and a love of music, so that his mother, Tuly, called him Songsparrow and Skylark, among other loving names, for she never really did like "Diamond." He trilled and caroled about the house; he knew any tune as soon as he heard it, and invented tunes when he heard none. His mother had the wisewoman Tangle teach him The Creation of Ea and The Deed of the Young King, and at Sunreturn when he was eleven years old he sang the Winter Carol for the Lord of the Western Land, who was visiting his domain in the hills above Glade. The Lord and his Lady praised the boy's singing and gave him a tiny gold box with a diamond set in the lid, which seemed a kind and pretty gift to Diamond and his mother. But Golden was a bit impatient with the singing and the trinkets. "There are more important things for you to do, son," he said. "And greater prizes to be earned." "summoning. No bringing back across the wall. No wall." "digging for the Red Mother, have you? Did you know the Red Mother before you came here? Are you a. These kings and queens had some knowledge of the Old Speech and of magery. Some of them were. at the girl, Dory. She did not return his gaze, watching her mother with stolid, sullen grief. Ogon shook his head. He let his sending sit down in the grass near Heleth, though it did not bend the stems of the grass where it stepped or sat. "I've done nothing but set the city in a panic," he said. "And send the ships out of the bay. What is it you feel? How do you feel it?" "boy Otter, except Otter's mother and father and sister, if they were still alive. And surely there. students to learn with her the ways through the forest and the patterns of the leaves; for she was. The evil reputation magic had gained during the Dark Time, however, continued to cling to many of the practices of sorcerers and witches. Women's powers were particularly distrusted and maligned, the more so as they were conflated with the Old Powers. the boys his age in town and all the girls too. The young people danced, and some of them had a. me now?" "originally part of the governance of the school or of the Archipelago, is no longer useful or. with you drawing you to the particular attention of the Master Summoner." "wondered." "But what is there to tell?" she said reluctantly. "Is it really true that in your day, back. Magic. was getting hot. Again he paused. All at once he looked straight at Otter, who froze in terror thinking the wizard had caught him watching his mind. Gelluk stared at him a while with that curious half-keen, half-unseeing gaze, smiling. "Little Medra!" he said, as if just discovering he was there. He patted Otter's shoulder. "I know you have the gift of finding what's hidden. Quite a great gift, were it suitably trained. Have no fear, my son. I know why you led my servants only to the little lode, playing and delaying. But now that I've come, you serve me, and have nothing to be afraid of. And

there's no use trying to conceal anything from me, is there? The wise child loves his father and obeys him, and the father rewards him as he deserves." He leaned very close, as he liked to do, and said gently, confidentially, "I'm sure you can find the great lode." .mind, seeking his true name. But he did not know where to look or how to look. A finder who did."You changed yourself?" . "Your father told me. A witch's daughter, a childhood playmate. He believed that you had taught. Once instead of smiling and agreeing, she said, "It's lovely to have him back, but" and Golden. and he'd catch you there. I said nothing." . developed. In among the chestnuts there were a lot of pines, which could be felled and sold for. Losen, a sea-pirate who called himself King of the Inmost Sea, was then the chief warlord in the. Great House, all the mages, many of the students. Leading them was Thorion the Summoner, tall in. "Thank you," he said, opening the gate for the heifer, who went to greet her mother, while he stumbled across the dark houseyard to the door. . eastward. Not a soul was in the fields, some of which were newly ploughed. No dog barked as he. The witch listened, unable to resist the lure of secrets revealed and the contagion of passionate. TARRY'S MALICE had left his nerves raw, and the thought of the party weighed on him till he lost his appetite. He thought hopefully for a while that he was sick and could miss the party. But the day came, and he was there. Not so evidently, so eminently, so flamboyantly there as his father, but present, smiling, dancing. All his childhood friends were there too, half of them married by now to the other half, it seemed, but there was still plenty of flirting going on, and several pretty girls were always near him. He drank a good deal of Gadge Brewer's excellent beer, and found he could endure the music if he was dancing to it and talking and laughing while he danced. So he danced with all the pretty girls in turn, and then again with whichever one turned up again, which all of them did. . quicksilver, and Otter knew he was wrong. . because it dies and dies and so lives. I will not let this dead hand touch me. Or touch the king. "Yes," Gelluk said, his deep voice soft and dreamy, "she must be burned alive. And then, only then, he will spring forth, shining! . them, a flare of red flame in the dusk air, a gleam of red-gold scales, of vast wings - then that. He said nothing. She squatted down to find out what was in the basket. "Peaches!" she said, and smiled. . "I'll show you. So help me!" . He did not act like the curers who came by with remedies and spells and salves for the animals. . and eyes, and a head of wild dusty hair. She was yelling, "Down! Back to the house, you carrion, . him. Their heads were on a level, she sitting crosslegged up on the dance platform, he kneeling on. . from some other island, it was said, somewhere in the west, and she never came to Iria, for she. that from there, from behind the glass plate, some giant face was grimacing at me, meditating. like I'm the water finder and you're my wand, see? You lead on. And if you want to go this way or. witches learn a few words of it; wizards learn many, and some come to speak it almost as fluently. I'll destroy him." . teaching him, petting him a bit as he had done yesterday. He sat down with him in the sun. Gelluk. from the concave ceiling seemed practically a glow. I did not know what to do with my hands, so. Ogion shook his head. He let his sending sit down in the grass near Heleth, though it did not bend. "You won't find out. It's all lies, shams. Old men playing games with words. I wouldn't play their. and houses, purifying wells, and sitting on the councils of the city, seldom speaking but always. said, and, "Knowledge, order, and control." Those words he said so often that they made a tune in. Crow was delighted to get a water-stained bestiary from the time of Akambar in return for five silver buttons, a pearl-hiked knife, and a square of Lorbanery silk. He sat in Hopeful and crooned over the antique descriptions of harikki and otak and icebear. But Tern went ashore on every isle, showing his wares in the kitchens of the housewives and the sleepy taverns where the old men sat. Sometimes he idly made a fist and then turned his hand over opening the palm, but nobody here returned the sign. . went off, still walking sore-footed, in Bren's old shoes. It made her heart turn in her, seeing. glory was there in the palaces of the city when nobody lived in them but crawling slaves? He could. which held the heat of the sun, and fell asleep. . It was true. He knew her name: Irian. It was like a coal of fire, a burning ember in his mind. His thought could not hold it. His knowledge could not use it. His tongue could not say it. . And the boy must have a staff. Why had Nemmerle let him leave Roke without one, empty-handed as a. pure, making his subjects pure!" He drew Otter to the edge of the roasting pit. His eyes shone in. I can call you. When I think of you." . No. There had been a thunderclap, a while ago. This was not thunder. He had had this queer feeling. The sorcerer came out from behind San. His name was Ayeth. The power in him was small, tainted, . thundered; she fell flat on the ground. . He was angry then, very angry, a hungry man whose food is snatched from his hand. He summoned the man Tern to reappear, but he did not know his true name and had no hold of heart or mind on him. The summons went unanswered. . rested. The mage was a quiet man. Though there was a hint of fierceness in him, he never showed it. "Oh, sir," she said, and he knew he had done wrong. "I am not ashamed," Irian said. She looked at them all. She felt that she should thank them for their courtesy but the words would not come. She nodded stiffly to them, turned round, and strode out of the room. . 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. . to bond the two kingdoms was broken. . He let that sink in for a while, and then continued softly, "And to work the spell of semblance on. Archipelago under the sway of the wise men of Roke, for a while yet the family and their farms and. "How strange you are! It's altogether as though you weren't. . ." She broke off. . one. Where'd he come from, anyhow? Answer me that. . "Come to the shallows," he said.

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