

## THREE NOVELLAS

doubt in the back room; he paid them no attention. "Hound," he thought. He spoke the summoning..Akambar moved the court from Berila in Enlad to the City of Havnor, whence he sent out his fleet.The desire for power feeds off itself, growing as it devours. Early suffered from hunger. He starved. There was little satisfaction in ruling Havnor, a land of beggars and poor farmers. What was the good of possessing the Throne of Maharion if nobody sat in it but a drunken cripple? What glory was there in the palaces of the city when nobody lived in them but crawling slaves? He could have any woman he wanted, but women would drain his power, suck away his strength. He wanted no woman near him. He craved an enemy: an opponent worth destroying.."If I stayed a month, if I stayed the winter, would that use it up? I should have a place to stay,."Father does. He saw some of the stuff we were practicing. But he says Hemlock says I should come study with him because it might be dangerous not to. Oh," and Diamond beat his head with his hands..Gelluk had never met a man he feared. A few wizards had crossed his path strong enough to make him.from horseback; yet he felt short, he felt small..The head of the giant rolled its eyes, reeled, looked at me as if it were having great fun,."he'll be all squared away. Living with the wizards, you know, the way they are, it set him back a.with a gold pulse in the walls, as though underneath the mercury mask of the walls the noble.Changer's great spell he would never use it but to save a life, his own or another's..By the beginning of autumn, Losen was hanging by a rope round his feet from a window of the New.woke, always cold, always in pain, always thirsty, and when he could make a glimmer of the light.guess, foretell, fear, hope, but I didn't know..It was Havnor, his land, where his people were, whether alive or dead he did not know; where Anieb.When it came to teaching what he knew, he was tireless, generous, and exacting. For the first time, Medra was given a vision of magic not as a set of strange gifts and reasonless acts, but as an art and a craft, which could be known truly with long study and used rightly after long practice, though even then it would never lose its strangeness. Highdrake's mastery of spells and sorcery was not much greater than his pupil's, but he had clear in his mind the idea of something very much greater, the wholeness of knowledge. And that made him a mage.."Where will you go?" he said..spared him he would tell them all about the Hand, and Roke, and the great mages of Roke.."Well, I'll try," she said..Another pause. Golden glanced over at his wife, who stood by the window listening in silence. Then he looked at his son. Slowly the mixture of anger, disappointment, confusion, and respect on his face gave way to something simpler, a look of complicity, very nearly a wink. "I see," he said. "And what did you decide you want?""We couldn't hide the wrestle we'd had with him, though we said as little about it as we could. And many there said good riddance, for he'd always been half mad, and now was mad entirely..ones.."Forgive me for talking about you before your face, young woman," he said, "but I must. Master Doorkeeper, you know I'd never question your judgment, but the Rule is clear. I have to ask what moved you to break it and let her come in."."Whatever for?""He stared at her, seeing a round-faced woman, middle-aged, short and strong, with grey in her hair."What does Thorion intend?" asked the Namer..He asked her, rather timidly, to tell him what the Immanent Grove was, for when he had asked others they said, "Ember can tell you." She refused his question, not arrogantly but definitely, saying, "You can learn about the Grove only in it and from it." A few days later she came down to the sands of Thwil Bay, where he was repairing a fishing boat. She helped him as she could, and asked about boat-building, and he told her and showed her what he could. It was a peaceful afternoon, but after it she went off in her abrupt way. He felt some awe of her; she was incalculable. He was amazed when, not long after, she said to him, "I'll be going to the Grove after the Long Dance. Come if you like."..will not go dry." They dug down carefully and came to the water; they let it leap up into the."Maybe he drinks to try to be another man," he said. "To alter, to change..."..about Roke and did not answer when he spoke. When he very tentatively approached her, taking her.of rock and earth. It was as if he walked in a great building, seeing its passages and rooms, the.The slave, short and thin, hairless, with running sores on his hands and arms, uncapped a stone.about Silence. I should send for him ... send to him ... No. What did Ard say? Find the center,..mere glimpse at the place told me that things had been happening there while I wasn't looking. It.That night, over supper at the waterfront inn, she asked with unusual timidity in her voice, "Do I have great gifts?""A wizard, as Halkel defined the term, was a man who received his staff from a teacher, himself a.Later he knew he should never have let the boy leave the house. He had underestimated Diamond's willpower, or the strength of the spell the girl had laid on him. Their conversation was in the morning; Hemlock went back to the ancient cantrip he was annotating; it was not till supper time that he thought about his pupil, and not until he had eaten supper alone that he admitted that Diamond had run away..Archipelago, the lore of the Old Powers was still part of the profound, common basis of thought.Among the Kargs the power of magic appears to be very rare as a native gift, perhaps because it was neglected or actively suppressed by their society and government. Except as an evil to be dreaded and shunned, magic plays no recognized part in their society. This inability or refusal to practice magic puts the Kargs at a disadvantage with the Archipelagans in almost every respect, which may explain why they have generally held themselves aloof from trade or any kind of interchange, other than piratical raids and invasions of the nearer islands of the South Reach and around the Gontish Sea..smile to cover an upsetting incident. She was not pretending to be calm, she truly was calm..White faces, yellow, a few tall blacks, but I was still the tallest. People made way for me. High.all the Archipelago and Reaches," never letting him come to land, but driving him always over the.of wizardry must do lest the spell operate. Dulse knew the trick of hearing them aright and..She stepped across the threshold of the Great House..Glade. The Lord and his Lady praised the boy's singing and gave him a tiny gold box with a diamond."Tell me your name," she said, and he said, "Teriel,."neighbor had made herself useful and was gathering up blood-soaked cloths scattered by the bed..Anieb kept a better pace than seemed possible in a woman so

famished and destroyed, walking almost naked in the chill of the rain. All her will was aimed on walking forward; she had nothing else in her mind, not him, not anything. But she was there bodily with him, and he felt her presence as keenly and strangely as when she had come to his summoning. The rain ran down her naked head and body. He made her stop to put on his shirt. He was ashamed of it, for it was filthy, he having worn it all these weeks. She let him pull it over her head and then walked right on. She could not go quickly, but she went steadily, her eyes fixed on the faint cart track they followed, till the night came early under the rain clouds, and they could not see where to set their feet..he went into the west, sent by the king to defeat or drive back a brood of dragons who had been..She'd have thought being King in Havnor wasn't good enough for him..At that the wizard whose true name was Heleth stood as still as he did, looking back at him, till..He stood silent a minute, and then said, "In Karego-At, when I was a barbarian, I was Azver. In."The wizards off on the wrong track, as usual," he said at last. "Said you'd gone to Roke Island..hidden by the thicket. With my hands I pushed aside the twigs; brambles pulled at my sweater,..elsewhere than Roke-notably on Paln-but the Masters of Roke came to regard with suspicion a..but purposeful, down one of the tracks, and he went with her, a hand on her hip when the way was."I'll ask them their name," Medra said. He smiled. "If they'll tell me, they can come in. And when they think they've learned everything, they can go out again. If they can tell me my name."I followed her.."In the Inmost Sea, on the Isle of the Wise, on Roke Island, where all magery is taught, there are nine Masters," he began..water, illuminated from inside by colored floodlights? No -- vertical tunnels of glass through..so. Now that's the bargain, right? And if you play fair I will."Losen, a sea-pirate who called himself King of the Inmost Sea, was then the chief warlord in the..Songs, all of which began as sung or spoken texts, were written down and preserved as texts. They..intermarrying with various noble houses of the Archipelago, the royal house embraced five..at him. "My name is Irian," she said.."I don't know. They gave me all kinds of shots. Is it so important?".direct, all escals from the third up. . ." a singsong female voice recited..Sail home to the houses of the sunrise, Hasa..One day in autumn he came back to the school. He went in by the garden door, which gives on the path through the fields to Roke Knoll. It is a curious thing about the Great House of Roke, that it has no portal or grand entryway at all. You can enter by what they call the back door, which, though it is made of horn and framed in dragons tooth and carved with the Thousand-Leaved Tree, looks like nothing at all from outside, as you come to it in a dingy street; or you can go in the garden door, plain oak with an iron bolt. But there is no front door..followed the goat-tracks, growling when his foot slipped in the mud and he wrenched his ankle to..It was milk after all. At this time of day, in such circumstances! My surprise was such that..foot of the hill he came into a lane. It led him through farmlands that looked well kept, though..Before their marriage, a mage or wizard, whose name is never given except as the Enemy of Morred or the Wandlord, had paid court to Elfarran. Unforgiving and determined to possess her, in the few years of peace that followed the marriage this man developed immense power of magery. After five years he came forth and announced, in the words of the poem,..because this was a man of power telling him what power was..The Patterner pushed four pebbles into a little curve on the sand and said, "I wish the Sparrowhawk had not gone. I wish I could read what the shadows write. But all I can hear the leaves say is change, change... Everything will change but them." He looked up into the trees again with that yearning look. The sun was setting; he stood up, bade her goodnight gently, and walked away, entering under the trees..sat down on the pallet, and went on thinking. The imprisoning spell was still there, yet it had no..Power."..He was half asleep, sitting on the ground in the shade by the barracks, the smell of the logs stacked by the roaster tower bringing him a memory of the work yards at home, the fragrance of new wood as the plane ran down the silky oak board. Some noise or movement roused him. He looked up and saw the wizard standing before him, looming above him..Irioth's head drooped as if in utter weariness. All tension and passion had gone out of his body..now what it once was- if we had more people of the true art gathered here, teaching and learning..had held him. "Tell Thorion we will meet him on Roke Knoll," he said. "When he comes, we will be..Her thin voice was hidden by the many-voiced rain sweeping over the hills and through the trees..say there's been snow.".."Set a price?" he flashed out. Then he remembered who he was not, and spoke humbly. "No. I..He asked Birch about the place. "That's Iria," Birch said - "Old Iria, I mean to say. I own the house by rights. But after a century of feuds and fights over it, my granddad let the place go to settle the quarrel. Though the Master there would still be quarrelling with me if he didn't keep too drunk to talk. Haven't seen the old man for years. He had a daughter, I think."..need to be free of. Now, and henceforth."..mainland. Using an invocation of the Old Powers called the Waterlore (perhaps the same that..that darkened the air about him for an instant..once," she said. "All that you say of yourself may be true, and may not. What can you tell me that..He did not go into the village, but past it to the little house that stood alone to the north at..from even farther. Irian stood up slowly. She did not speak, but looked down the path, and then.."But he told me about some of the students.".."If I do, it will be thanks to you," she said. In that moment he loved her for her true heart, and..body. He made her stop to put on his shirt. He was ashamed of it, for it was filthy, he having..either; he always called her mistress. But maybe that was his courtesy. She called him sir, in..that art for a long time..To it he flew, and on it landed, and as he touched the earth he was a man again..They walked a half-mile or so. The Knoll rose up full in the western sun on their right. Behind..he got to his feet and went on. He never saw Anieb but he knew she was there. He followed her..Later he knew he should never have let the boy leave the house. He had underestimated Diamond's..The fashion of the time among the nobility was to have a wizard in their service, a genuine wizard with a staff and a grey cloak, trained on the Isle of the Wise, and so the Master of Iria of Westpool got himself a wizard from Roke. He was surprised how easy it was to get one, if you paid the price.."Tomorrow," he said, and strode off..Listen, what is this Cavut?"..his hand on it. "This is clever," he said. "But who is it? A newcomer, I think." He sniffed..stumbled across the dark houseyard to the door..A man with a deep, clear voice spoke: 'It's not our judgment that prevails, but the Rule of Roke, which we are sworn to

follow.".The boy was in fact a workman of the first order, carpenter, cabinetmaker, stonemason, roofer; he.They had to share a room at the crowded inn with two other travellers, but Ivory's thoughts were perfectly chaste, though he laughed at himself a little for it..have very dark brown skin. Most Archipelagan men have little or no facial hair..And the Lord of Gont Port had tried once again to get Dulce to come down to do what needed doing.roaster tower, a narrow passage in the three-foot-thick walls. He took Otter's arm, for the young."Come with me to the Grove," she said..through the darkness, the drifts and levels were so low and narrow the miners had to stoop and down; the leaves hung still. Am I ensorcelled? Am I a sterile thing, not whole, not a woman? she.GOLDEN WAS immensely happy and quite unconscious of it. "Old man's got his jewel back," said the carter to the forester. "Sweet as new butter, he is." Golden, unaware of being sweet, thought only how sweet life was. He had bought the Reche grove, at a very stiff price to be sure, but at least old Lowbough of Easthill hadn't got it, and now he and Diamond could develop it as it ought to be developed. In among the chestnuts there were a lot of pines, which could be felled and sold for masts and spars and small lumber, and replanted with chestnut seedlings. It would in time be a pure stand like the Big Grove, the heart of his chestnut kingdom. In time, of course. Oak and chestnut don't shoot up overnight like alder and willow. But there was time. There was time, now. The boy was barely seventeen, and he himself just forty-five. In his prime. He had been feeling old, but that was nonsense. He was in his prime. The oldest trees, past bearing, ought to come out with the pines. Some good wood for furniture could be salvaged from them..fields by Serrenen to show him the one spell of true change he knew. "First let's see you turn.Fanian vines on the south hill, Birch said, "A wizard of Roke doesn't lower himself to such stuff..".Thorion says Lebannen is not truly king, since no Archmage crowned him,"

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