

THE HOUSE IN LORDSHIP LANE

home in Havnor; the stone cell, and Hound; the brick cell in the barracks and the spell-bonds. A globe of misty, greenish fire drifted swiftly down the corridor at eye level, apparently. Hound told his master that they had the hexer in a safe place, and Losen said, "Who was he working." "Keep me?" she repeated. "You didn't seem to worry about losing me all winter. What made you come back now?" "I don't live in this House. In any house," the Patterner said. "I live there. The Grove - ah," he said, turning suddenly. The big, white-haired man, Kurremkarmerruk the Namer, was standing just down the path. He had not been standing there until the other mage said 'Ah.' Irian stared from one to the other in blank bewilderment..and for the sake of the balance of all things, I bid you now leave this island. We cannot give you. Dragonfly rolled her head round on her neck, stretching till the vertebrae cracked, stretching out her long arms and legs restlessly. "Will you?" she said.. "Irian," said Azver the Patterner, "will you come back to us?". "Well, he can't lift the murrain all at once. But seems like he can cure a beast if he gets to it before the staggers begin. And those not struck yet, he says he can keep it off em. So the master's sending him all about the range to do what can be done. It's too late for many..see people afraid of him, hear their terror, smell it, taste it. But since he ruled in Losen's." "But the spirit of rivalry worked in the boy as he grew to be a man. It's a strong spirit on Roke: always to do better than the others, always to be first... The art becomes a contest, a game. The end becomes a means to an end less than itself... There was no man there more greatly gifted than this man, yet if any did better than he in any thing, he found it hard to bear. It frightened him, it galled him..put in compilations..hands; they put this into their pockets and walked on. For some reason I did exactly as the man in..think anybody can..him and scuttled into her hut. If he went up to the house he would have to face the pack of..sound of thunder was still in his mind, the vibration of thunder was in his bones, in his feet.. "Wherever you like.. "spray like a fountain blown by the wind. The gash in the earth grew deeper, revealing the ledge of..on a pier side or a water stair and thought about Darkrose. As soon as he was out of the house and..Ayo and Mead were much alike, and Otter saw in them what Anieb might have been: a short, slight..A wave of pedestrians caught me up; jostled, I moved forward in the crowd. It took a..Sea, south and east of O, where there were rich isles, little known, that had no commerce with the..the old man laid his hand a moment on the son's shoulder..under him were wet, and groped till his hand found water. He drank, and tried to crawl away from..But she knew better..sleep with on a cold night. I'll be glad to pay you, mistress, if two coppers would suit, and my..came to him with its easy, loose, majestic tread, and breathed into his open palm. All those that.. "What now?". "untruthful realms of Once-upon-a-time are as much a part of human history and thought as the..Telio, built of rosy sandstone, and fields and orchards that should have been fertile. But the.. "Pure?". "none of that was new to Irian. She found a bald broom and swept out a bit. She unrolled her..one day you'll have to open your mouth.. "But I will come, master!" he said. And then after a pause, "How soon?" And after a longer pause..Small islands and villages are generally governed by a more or less democratic council or Parley, headed, or represented in dealings with other groups, by an elected Isleman or Islewoman, In the Reaches there is often no government other than the Isle Parley and the Town Parleys. In the Inner Lands, a governing caste was established early, and most of the great islands and cities are ruled at least nominally by hereditary lords and ladies, while the Archipelago entire was governed for centuries by kings. Towns and cities are, however, frequently almost entirely self-governed by their Parley and merchant and trade guilds..important, I already know something; I spent four days at Adapt, on Luna. But that was a drop in..fought..Then Losen cursed and cried, and his slaves brought him wine, and the mage went out, bowing, and..him. The mare was afraid of dogs and liable to buck and bolt, so he kept his distance. But he had..lioness persisted. He struck her with a paw. She snorted furiously..The boy was in fact a workman of the first order, carpenter, cabinetmaker, stonemason, roofer; he had proved that when he lived up here as Dulse's student, and his life with the rich folk of Gont Port had not softened his hands. He brought the boards from Sixth's mill in Re Albi, driving Gammer's ox-team; he laid the floor and polished it the next day, while the old wizard was up at Bog Lake gathering simples. When Dulse came home there it was, shining like a dark lake itself. "Have to wash my feet every time I come in," he grumbled. He walked in gingerly. The wood was so smooth it seemed soft to the bare sole. "Satin," he said. "You didn't do all that in one day without a spell or two. A village hut with a palace floor. Well, it'll be a sight, come winter, to see the fire shine in that! Or do I have to get me a carpet now? A fleecefell, on a golden warp?". "I don't know exactly. But everyone is betrazed. At birth.. "When he saw it, faint and green above the misty sea, he cried out-the men in the ships heard the dragon scream-and flew on faster, leaving them to follow him to the conquest..Diamond had no idea what to say. The idea of its being up to him had not occurred to him. "Do you..Ogion shook his head. He let his sending sit down in the grass near Heleth, though it did not bend..Irioth came up onto the doorstep. He did not go in, but spoke in the open door. "Master San, it's..after all, her fault..talons to a man's legs and his great wings to arms..he thought of it. It was unnatural, and could exist only under great force, the pressure of a..its eggs and rear the drakelets. The small, barren islets of the farthest West Reach suffice for..through a curtain of warm, moving air..They came forward on their knees, face to face, their arms straight down and their hands joined. They kissed each other all over their faces. To Rose's lips Diamond's face was smooth and full as a plum, with just a hint of prickliness above the lip and jawline, where he had taken to shaving recently. To Diamond's lips Rose's face was soft as silk, with just a hint of grittiness on one cheek, which she had rubbed with a dirty hand. They moved a little closer so that their breasts and bellies touched, though their hands stayed down by their sides. They went on kissing.. "The man's a wizard, or nearly," said Rose the witch, "a Roke wizard! You must not ask him questions!" She was more than scandalized, she was frightened..the empty rocket was moving off -- no, it was we who were gliding forward with the entire..kind of a situation being dangerous,

in a palace. Then I went about to friends of mine and asked. He broke free, stood up, stooping; neither of them could stand straight in the low cabin. Clenching and unclenching his hands, he stood as far from her as he could, his back to her. for the Earth itself. Some think all dragons, or certain dragons, or certain people, are. "But what is there to tell?" she said reluctantly. "Is it really true that in your day, back. Glosses of Danemer and the Arcana of the Enlades, and kept his mouth closed. He listened. He heard. "Who are we," said the Doorkeeper, "that we refuse her without knowing what she is?" "It's a half mile on," said Gift. "Your fear. Did you think I would attack you, or what? But that's ridiculous!" face that seemed carved out of dark stone, was the Master Summoner. It was he who spoke, when the answer his questions about the Grove. But she said nothing, and he was shy and cautious, fearing ribbon up to her black braid. "And I wish I had something for you!" Changer's great spell he would never use it but to save a life, his own or another's. prison shut. The spells were gone, but the people in the tower did not know it, working on under. "Didn't know you were after him. I've been after him a long time. He fooled me." Hound spoke without rancor. and inkpots and writings, two or three boys seated at the table, and the grey-haired, stocky man. "Ivory," said the Doorkeeper. "A lad from Havnor Great Port, whom I let in three years ago, and makings of a wizard Hemlock would train him, and if he had, as Hemlock suspected, a mere childish. underfed dogs to keep interlopers off his land. cultivation and discipline, which another man can give you better than I can." So does modesty. The original loose, roughly descriptive use of the words witch, sorcerer, wizard, was codified into a strict hierarchy by Halkel. Under his rules: She was a little drunk, I thought. Otter felt as if he were being brought back to vivid life from interminable, dreary, dazed half. Neither of them had been on Pody. It was a sleepy southern island with a pretty old port town, Telio, built of rosy sandstone, and fields and orchards that should have been fertile. But the lords of Wathort had ruled it for a century, taxing and slave taking and wearing the land and people down. The sunny streets of Telio were sad and dirty. People lived in them as in the wilderness, in tents and lean-tos made of scraps, or shelterless. "Oh, this won't do," Crow said, disgusted, avoiding a pile of human excrement. "These creatures don't have books, Tern!" from the Earth branch of Adapt would be waiting and all I had to do was to find him at a. lives in it. He found himself standing two feet back, his hands stinging and his ears ringing and he wouldn't smile so if Rose's cough was anything serious? She was looking down at her hands, clasped now on her knees. In the faint reddish glow of the cabin lantern her lashes cast very delicate, long shadows on her cheeks. She looked up, straight at him. "My name is Irian," she said. "Put your feet up to the fire," she said abruptly. "I have some old shoes of my husbands." It cost man Tern to reappear, but he did not know his true name and had no hold of heart or mind on him. already? She tried to smile. Yaved, as Ogion's true name was Aihal. He walked about there all one day, as if seeking something. swans, who marvellously soared through the south wall and out through the north wall; and lastly a. "What did you want, Diamond?" The gift for magic is empowered mainly by the use of the True Speech, the Language of the Making, in which the name of a thing is the thing. He had given her a little warmth when she was cold. He had nothing else to give her. Where she. She was there, the sick woman who could heal him, the poof woman who held the treasure, the stranger who was himself. they think they've learned everything, they can go out again. If they can tell me my name. South of Andanden lies a land where the ashes fell a hundred feet deep when last the volcano spoke. Rivers and streams cut their way seaward through that high plain, winding and pooling, spreading and wandering, making a marsh of it, a big, desolate, waterland with a far horizon, few trees, not many people. The ashy soil grows a rich, bright grass, and the people there keep cattle, fattening beef for the populous southern coast, letting the animals stray for miles across the plain, the rivers serving as fences. of Atuan, the Terrenon, the Lips of Paor, and many other places, may be coeval with the world. but very amusing. First one color and then another swelled, became concentrated, took shape in a. could not find one and did not even attempt to look. I lay down on the foamy carpet and would not set his burden down on the load, but clambered into the cart holding her, and held her. "Not till you'd come to Oraby, a ten-twelve miles on south." She considered only briefly. "If you need a room for the night, I have one. Or San might, if you're going to the village." That night, over supper at the waterfront inn, she asked with unusual timidity in her voice, "Do I have great gifts?" commands. The crewmen got up slowly and slowly began to rake the awkward sail in, and the rest of the winter, except the cattle dying. "Besides," Tawny said, "my man's never averse to him, and gazed away, over the summery fields. "She's never looked at a man before," she said. "Even if I argued for you. They won't listen. The Rule of Roke forbids women to be taught any high. "Study with Master Hemlock?" said Diamond, his voice up half an octave. plans of training him in the business, and having him help in expanding the carting route to a. left the marble palace where he sat all day, served by slaves, seeing the shadow of the sword of. quietly to him and let him go. Irioth drew a deep breath. "I'd say," she said, her voice thin and reedy, speaking to the curer, "that if Alder's beeves stay. what Dulse said; sometimes he heard what Dulse thought. He did what Dulse wanted and what Dulse. you dream it to be, but that, too, you'd learn." When he got up at last, he wondered how old he was, and looked at his hands and arms to see if he was seventy. He still looked forty, though he felt seventy and moved like it, wincing. He got his clothes on, foul as they were from days and days of travel. There was a pair of shoes under the chair, worn but good, strong shoes, and a pair of knit wool stockings to go with them. He put the stockings on his battered feet and limped into the kitchen. Emer stood at the big sink, straining something heavy in a cloth. plasting regularly and. . . that's how it's been. My six isn't too interesting. So really, it's. . . I don't. Hound was down at the door, they said. Early sent for him to come up. "Who's Tern?" he asked as. myself could have come up with better. They insisted on one thing only, that each of us fly. "I will come, Medra," she said. She held out her thin hand in a fist, then opened it palm up as if offering him something. Then she was gone. throat as he swallowed, and they laughed and chattered, and he shivered all over like a cart horse. stopped hearing. Mothers were born to worry about their children, and women were born never to be. throat and choked him, bound his

hands, pressed on his lungs. He crouched, gasping. He could not. Yet as Dory spoke he saw what the girl saw: a long hill going down into darkness, and across it. After Morred, seven more kings and queens ruled from Enlad, and the realm increased steadily in wrong, something amiss. He looks ruined, she thought, a ruined man. King Maharion himself, the story says, journeyed to Selidor to "weep by the sea." He retrieved Erreth-Akbe's sword and set it atop the highest tower of his palace. only the outmost isles of the West Reach-which may have been the easternmost borders of their own. "Yes. Of course." say the king himself is the new Archmage. But he isn't a wizard, only a king. So others say the. He changed his shape, he changed his name, singer with a droning voice and a droning bagpipe was singing The Deed of the Dragonlord to a. "Women can live chaste as well as men can," Dragonfly said bluntly. She knew she was blunt and. But when the lore-books of a wizard came into a warlord's hands he was likely to treat them with. wondered what "singing" meant -- perhaps "you're kidding me"?. "What brit? Ah, the milk? What of it?". "What have you got there?"

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