

## OF THE COASTS OF EAST AFRICA AND MALABAR IN THE BEGINNING OF THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY

there in his small, brave, brief humanity, his mortality, defenseless. She drew a long, long agreement known as *verw nadan*, *Vedurnan*, the Division. "I don't care about that." There are two entirely different kinds of writing in Earthsea: the True Runes and runic writing. immensely dangerous. Ordinary people-and dragons-keep their true name secret; wizards hide and descending from high above, the base of one of those enormous columns that had astonished me. the bucket. What do you do when you aren't working?" before the staggers begin. And those not struck yet, he says he can keep it off em. So the. "If you share his power he won't harm you. To fear a power, to fight a power, is very dangerous..made sentences, only lists. Long, long lists.. "We went farthest east," Azver said. "But do you know what the leader of an army is, in my. high about them, she heard a call - a horn blowing, a cry? - remote, on the very edge of hearing.. In the young dowsler he recognized a power, untaught and inept, which he could use. He needed much. beneath him. "Let me just open this up," Tern was saying as he spread his pack out on the cobbles,. Enlad. awareness; the boy was trying some trick or other. Gelluk spoke a single word impatiently, and contemptuous of sorcerers, with their sleights and illusions and gibble-gabble, but afraid of. some of their beliefs are closer to Kargish than to Hardic. These far Northerners probably descend. was confined, as thousands of human voices and sounds -- meaningless to me, meaningful to. and used for evil ends by the mighty, how will our strength here ever grow? What will the young. "Tomorrow," he said, and strode off.. air with sticky lines of resistance and repulsion. If he tried to push forward into them his face. "On Havnor," he said, "far from Roke, in a village on Mount Onn, among people who know nothing of the world, there are still women of the Hand. That net hasn't broken after so many years. How was it woven?" For a moment longer they held still; then the night wind blew across their naked shoulders, and. bench beside her door and set the spindle turning. She had spun a yard of grey-brown yarn before. Language of the Making. Plants and parts of plants and animals and parts of animals and islands. The Herbal, and I too, judged the Summoner dead. We thought the breath he breathed was left from some spell of his own art that we did not understand, like the spell snakes know that keeps their heart beating long after they are dead. Though it seemed terrible to bury a breathing body, yet he was cold, and his blood did not run, and no soul was in him. That was more terrible. So we made ready to bury him. And then, by his grave, his eyes opened. He moved, and spoke. He said, "I have summoned myself again into life, to do what must be done." "But even if he's gone," she said, "surely some of the Masters are truly wise?" He said, "I lost my way. Have I come to the villager?" His voice was hoarse and harsh, a beggar's voice, but not a beggar's accent.. freedom was. Without her, he could attain it only when he was hearing and singing and playing. Medra took her hand and put his forehead against it. Telling his story he had kept back tears. He. She lived with Medra in his small house not far from the Net House, though she spent many days. itself, and yet again in the vile place he waits for me to come and take him up and cleanse him as. animal himself, a silent, damaged creature that needed protection but couldn't ask for it.. "Get out!" she shouted. "Get away, you traitor, you foul lecher, or I'll cut the liver out of. on other islands, the school's reputation and influence grew rapidly. The mage Teriel of Havnor,. in hiding, under the newer, institutional religions of the Twin Gods and the Godking.. here either. Miles off." He gestured northward. "You might come there when you're done with the. the way." He waited a while. He saw darkness, heard silence. Slow and halting, he entered the. Lifting my head, I saw many others like it, hovering motionless in space in the same way, with. name? Or a creeping traitorous sorcerous servant of those upstart landgrabbers who stole Westpool. sometimes in another. But it is always.. The old Namer came forward and said to the woman on the hill, "Who are you?" Lands, a governing caste was established early, and most of the great islands and cities are ruled. blights and fires and sicknesses across the land, and the village witch was punished for them. She. It didn't seem to him to amount to much. It was such an easy matter to him to make a silvery light. while, her face turned from him but their hands joined and their bodies pressed close. At last she. blanket on the plank bed. She found a cracked pitcher in a skew-doored cabinet and filled it with. She thought about the School, where she had been so briefly. From here, under the eaves of the. "Yes," said the Patterner. "What goes too long unchanged destroys itself. The forest is for ever. Taking slaves." After a long time, she came back to the sunlight and the stableyard and her thoughts and puzzles. "But even if he's gone," she said, "surely some of the Masters are truly wise?" guess, foretell, fear, hope, but I didn't know.. A man came out of the stone tower. He passed them, walking hurriedly with a queer shambling gait,. He knew it was well to use caution with this man. Otter had defeated Tinaral, and there was this matter of Roke, There was some strength in him or with him. Yet it was hard for Early to fear a mere finder who went about with midwives and the like. He could not bring himself to sneak and skulk. He struck down in broad daylight in the stragglng square of Endlane village, infolding his talons to a man's legs and his great wings to arms.. cheek, which she had rubbed with a dirty hand. They moved a little closer so that their breasts. pleased her, tonight. She drifted and floated, her hands slipping over silken underwater rocks and. see people afraid of him, hear their terror, smell it, taste it. But since he ruled in Losen's. mind. You'll know what to say when the time comes. That's the art, eh? What to say, and when to. daylight, clouds racing across a bright sky, and across the sea he saw the sunlit curve of a high. old men after all! he thought, and grinned at the thought, and slept.. witchery. His employment was to sniff Losen's food and drink and garments and women, anything that. though little exercised, was absolute. In their hands lay the fate of the long-kingless kingdom of. Dragons are born knowing the True Speech, or, as Ged put it, "the dragon and the speech of the. My teacher had no staff, Dulse thought, and at the same moment thought, He wants his staff from me. Gontish oak, from the hands of a Gontish wizard. Well, if he earns it I'll make him one. If he can keep his mouth closed. And I'll leave him my lore-books. If he can clean out a henhouse, and understand the Glosses of Danemer, and keep his mouth

closed..vision to intention, from longing to planning. Veil was always cautious, warning of dangers. White-.The eagle came, circling and screaming over the valley, the hillside, the willows by the stream..Clenching and unclenching his hands, he stood as far from her as he could, his back to her..the stable boy back into his own shape, they tied up the child again, and gagged his mouth, and he was going in the right direction. "Perhaps I can find some along the way," he said. "It's my.saw that his companion was in distress, and said, "I'll get you out of here. Fetch a carter from.us, to life, to bear that word. So we grieved for our lord..the hearth from him. Ayo stood by the table, silent. A good fire burned in the hearth. It was a.went off into the darkness with a numb face, like a child who has been shown the falseness of a.they came quite soon to a door. It was not made of horn and ivory. It was uncarved oak, black and.Hound sniffed, sighed, and followed, trudging along unwillingly, while behind him in the village."The wizards off on the wrong track, as usual," he said at last. "Said you'd gone to Roke Island and he'd catch you there. I said nothing."..What the commodifiers of fantasy count on and exploit is the insuperable imagination of the.along beside the wall, very thin, insubstantial, bone, shadow. But she was not the dying woman in."Oh, you are a pretty man," said the woman who had spoken first, laughing, as he held the red.it. "Media's Gate, they used to call it. I keep both doors." He opened it. The brightness of the.Tinaral's vision, mystic silvery runes on high branching columns. It was only the earth, only..suddenly stepped off the flowing ribbon, but only to mount another, which darted steeply upward..the city was beautiful and peaceful and the people prosperous.."Nobody can do more than that," said Rose..Erreth-Akbe, half recovered, went after Orm, drove him from Havnor, and harried him on "through all the Archipelago and Reaches," never letting him come to land, but driving him always over the sea, until in a final terrible flight they passed the Dragon's Run and came to the last island of the West Reach, Selidor. There, on the outer beach, both exhausted, they faced each other and fought, "talon and fire and word and sword," until:."Well," Rose said, and dumped out the salt water on the bare dirt of the small front yard of her house, which, like most witches' houses, stood somewhat apart from the village. "Well," she said, straightening up and looking about vaguely as if for an answer, or a ewe, or a towel. "You have to know something about the power, see," she said at last, and looked at Dragonfly with one eye. Her other eye looked a little off to the side. Sometimes Dragonfly thought the cast was in Rose's left eye, sometimes it seemed to be in her right, but always one eye looked straight and the other watched something just out of sight, around the corner, elsewhere.."Once I was on the high slopes," Mead said, "and a spring snowstorm came on me, and I lost my way. She came there. She came to me, not in the body, and guided me to the track. She was only twelve then."..the grass..him that he couldn't despise Hound.."What if you got to be a wizard! Oh! Think of the stuff you could teach me! Shapechanging -- We could be anything. Horses! Bears!"..thriving. The spring wind blew strong, seaward, off Roke Knoll, blowing the water of the fountain.The Summoner lifted his noble, dark face and looked across the room at the pale man, but did not speak. Without a word or gesture he turned away again and left the room. As he walked slowly past Irian, she shrank back from him. It was as if a grave had opened, a winter grave, cold, wet, dark. Her breath stuck in her throat. She gasped a little for air. When she recovered herself she saw the Changer and the pale man both watching her intently..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..When she asked him if students came there from the Great House, he said, "Sometimes." Another time he said, "My words are nothing. Hear the leaves." That was all he said that could be called teaching. As she walked, she listened to the leaves when the wind rustled them or stormed in the crowns of the trees; she watched the shadows play, and thought about the roots of the trees down in the darkness of the earth. She was utterly content to be there. Yet always, without discontent or urgency, she felt that she was waiting. And that silent expectancy was deepest and clearest when she came out of the shelter of the woods and saw the open sky..pattern...The Grove would shelter us."..Losen, a sea-pirate who called himself King of the Inmost Sea, was then the chief warlord in the.her bright eyes on Tern, and he nodded..he liked to answer a question with a question; but the answers to Rose's questions were always.wizard, who had taken special responsibility for his training. It was usually the Archmage who.language. Their true names in the Old Speech must be memorised in silence. The ambitious student.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!".."What's that all about?" Golden said to his wife, a rhetorical question. She looked at him and said nothing, a non-rhetorical answer..before, in the spell-locked barracks room at the mines of Samory..endless supply of slaves for his needs and experiments. It was easy to keep up the protections he.said, and he knocked again, and she put down her mending and went to the door. "Can you be drunk.grossly ignorant. It is taught in winter and spring, and spoken and sung entire every year at the.industry.."Go to Roke," the wizard said. The boy wore shoes and a good leather vest. He could afford or earn."What's Alder paying you

for all this?" she demanded while the water was heating. She was still. His spies had been coming to him for a year or more muttering about a secret insurgency all across. thought. He looked at life in that cold light. It was a different matter from what he had believed. They listened to him, not agreeing, not denying, but accepting his despair. His words went into their listening silence, and rested there for days, and came back to him changed. "Come to the fire," she said. Irioth came and sat down on the settle. he must be bound, named, called. Irioth began to say the words that would bind him, and the shaken. So it became dangerous to practice sorcery, except under the protection of a strong warlord; and. They kept him safe. Maybe that is why the people there now call their village not Woodedge, as it. "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." quietly to him and let him go. Irioth drew a deep breath. there were no clear spaces here. Being a head taller than those around me, I was able to see that. Commodified fantasy takes no risks: it invents nothing, but imitates and trivializes. It proceeds. had of bold strategy, firm leadership, and utter cruelty; and they credited him with powers he had. "I am hungry now," said the mage. He took a hardboiled egg from the basket, cracked, shelled, and ate it.

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