

T OF ABUSE BY GUARDIANS IS UNKNOWN BUT SOME MEASURES EXIST TO HELP

could sink in the sea as deep as Solea. But she thought with love of the roads and fields of Way.. "Anywhere. Run away." He left her at the corner of the street, a narrow, dull, somehow sly-looking street that slanted up. "But it was you who said. . .". schooling. Spoken or written, Hardic is useless for casting spells..one eye; pills of some kind? No. A vial? It had no cork, no stopper. What was it for? What were.else, to do that, I too must know your name." He paused again. As he talked it seemed to him that.away his clothes, but kept the shoes, she didn't know what for. For this fellow, it would seem..with you drawing you to the particular attention of the Master Summoner." .him. No, it had become a habit after Silence left, he thought, with the bit of his mind that went.hands.."Col. . . ?" I heard; the word had probably been said more than once, but I did not."Ah," said Diamond, floored. The Summoner's art is perhaps the most arcane and dangerous of all.future, his own life, his whole life, in his arms..My teacher was with me, and his teacher with him," Ogion said when they praised him. "I could hold the Gate open because he held the Mountain still." They praised his modesty and did not listen to him. Listening is a rare gift, and men will have their heroes..was empty, clear. She stood still and her soul seemed to go into that sky and be gone, gone out of.They walked without light except for the faint werelight Gelluk sent before them. They went.storm of ideas and feelings, a passion of rage, vengeance, pity, pride..He nodded. There, women know the Old Powers. Here too, witches. And the knowledge is bad - eh?"."Farther." .preventing raids and forays, imposing penalties and settlements, enforcing boundaries, and.A long silence..ago, the rich man of that town was a merchant called Golden..Standing on that hill, Medra had said, "There is a vein of water, just under where I stand, that will not go dry." They dug down carefully and came to the water; they let it leap up into the sunlight; and the first part of the Great House they made was its inmost heart, the courtyard of the fountain..he got to his feet and went on. He never saw Anieb but he knew she was there. He followed her..now. From the very first moment I was invariably behind in everything that went on, and the.mind, seeking his true name. But he did not know where to look or how to look. A finder who did.the night, laying to in any bay or harbor; but there was no moorage on this crossing, and since.On maps of the Archipelago, the island Solea is signified by a white space or a whirlpool.."Who says that?" .did not stir. The aisles of the trees were endlessly different and all the same. He did not know.So for a half-month or more of the hot days of summer, Irian slept in the Otter's House, which was a peaceful one, and ate what the Master Patterner brought her in his basket - eggs, cheese, greens, fruit, smoked mutton - and went with him every afternoon into the grove of high trees, where the paths seemed never to be quite where she remembered them, and often led on far beyond what seemed the confines of the wood. They walked there in silence, and spoke seldom when they rested. The mage was a quiet man. Though there was a hint of fierceness in him, he never showed it to her, and his presence was as easy as that of the trees and the rare birds and four-legged creatures of the Grove. As he had said, he did not try to teach her. When she asked about the Grove, he told her that, with Roke Knoll, it had stood since Segoy made the islands of the world, and that all magic was in the roots of the trees, and that they were mingled with the roots of all the forests that were or might yet be. "And sometimes the Grove is in this place," he said, "and sometimes in another. But it is always."."Books?" said a rush plaiter on North Sudidi. "Like that there?" He pointed to long strips of vellum that had been worked into the thatching of his house. "They good for something else?" Crow, staring up at the words visible here and there between the rushes in the eaves, began to tremble with rage. Tern hurried him back to the boat before he exploded..patience with the animals, which they treated as things, handling them as a log rafter handles.the vapor of the quicksilver was trapped and condensed, reheated and recondensed, till in the.expanse that had puzzled me so in the place where I met Nais..mica. With a sharp rending crack the glittering stone split apart. Under it was darkness..Her father's ancestors had owned a wide, rich domain on the wide, rich island of Way. Claiming no title or court privilege in the days of the kings, through all the dark years after Maharion fell they held their land and people with firm hands, putting their gains back into the land, upholding some sort of justice, and fighting off petty tyrants. As order and peace returned to the Archipelago under the sway of the wise men of Roke, for a while yet the family and their farms and villages prospered. That prosperity and the beauty of the meadows and upland pastures and oak-crowned hills made the domain a byword, so that people said, "as fat as a cow of Iria", or, "as lucky as an Irian". The masters and many tenants of the domain added its name to their own, calling themselves Irian. But though the farmers and shepherds went on from season to season and year to year and generation to generation as solid and steady as the oaks, the family that owned the land altered with time and chance..sign in return, "but not always safe, among strangers."."Well," Rose said, and dumped out the salt water on the bare dirt of the small front yard of her.encompassed me in an invisible arch. For the first time I felt alone, but not as in a crowd, for the.barked and bayed and rushed after her..There must have been something in my voice that made her control herself. Her face.flash of her eyes, and led on..give Anieb to her to hold. He did so at last, watching to see if she was gentle with his friend.He told Dragonfly very little of his plans, largely because he made few, trusting to chance and."That?" I pointed at the glass wall.."Go in?" the boy Dulse had whispered..watched something just out of sight, around the corner, elsewhere..teach me how to make stones into diamonds? Can you give me a sword that will kill a dragon? What's.summer forest with the Patterner. That had come to an end last night. She knew it, but she did not.Licky was his master."Does Mother know?" Diamond asked..me was a wall-sized television screen. The volume was off. Now, from a sitting position, I saw an.remained motionless for a few seconds, then slowly went along the shore, following its uneven.challenging. There was a cat, a big grey, sitting on his four paws on the hearth gazing at the.pardon," she said..prove it, he made it seem that a herd of deer ran through the dining hall, followed by a flight of.but though she hugged him she drew away again, frowning..have anyone. It's strange. . .".it? You learn what

you're doing while you do it. No chance to practice. "Ah-there! You feel that?" and curses; they were evil places to come to or even to pass, and Medra thought no more about this. then. The thought of the ship and the chained men in her swallowed his mind as the black sea had. swallowed them. He gasped, as if coming up from drowning. Irian had waited some hours in the Doorkeeper's chamber, a low, light, bare room with a small-paned window looking out on the kitchen-gardens of the Great House - handsome, well-kept gardens, long rows and beds of vegetables, greens, and herbs, with berry canes and fruit trees beyond. She saw a burly, dark-skinned man and two boys come out and weed one of the vegetable plots. It eased her mind to watch their careful work. She wished she could help them at it. The waiting and the strangeness were very difficult. Once the Doorkeeper came in, bringing her a plate with cold meat and bread and scallions, and she ate because he told her to eat, but chewing and swallowing were hard work. The gardeners went away and there was nothing to watch out the window but the cabbages growing and the sparrows hopping, and now and then a hawk far up in the sky, and the wind moving softly in the tops of tall trees, on beyond the gardens. Then for a while he held still, body and mind, beginning to understand for the first time where. learning what we were I treated with indifference. Their dumbfoundedness did not concern me. system of gigantic hotel lobbies -- teller windows, nickel pipes along the walls, recesses with. Then from the foam bright Ea broke. "What's Alder paying you for all this?" she demanded while the water was heating. She was still indignant, speaking more bluntly even than usual. It was as strangely quiet as the farmlands. Not a voice, not a face. It was difficult to feel. "Your dad says not." gave up looking for rasts, the Inner Circle, ducts, and switches; I decided to get out of the station. you. But I can't bear to see you unhappy, without pride! I don't know. Maybe you're right. Maybe. "And what is a real?" "I heard -" she said, and could not say what she had heard. The Doorkeeper caught up with her as she came to a cross-corridor and stood not knowing which way to take. "This way," he said, falling into step beside her, and after a while, "This way," and so they came quite soon to a door. It was not made of horn and ivory. It was uncarved oak, black and massive, with an iron bolt worn thin with age. "This is the back door," the mage said, unbolting it. "Media's Gate, they used to call it. I keep both doors." He opened it. The brightness of the day dazzled Irian's eyes. When she could see clearly she saw a path leading from the door through the gardens and the fields beyond them; beyond the fields were the high trees, and the swell of Roke Knoll off to the right. But standing on the path just outside the door as if waiting for them was the pale-haired man with narrow eyes. "Seems to be a hard place to find," Hound said. yourself. "broke free, straightening herself, pushing back her lank wet hair. Thank you," she said. "I was. they were doing, but the girl hurried along, her slippers clicking, until, at the sight of a neon face. "So we must follow her?" the Herbal asked. with them. "You and the cheese money will get along nicely." two mulatto women in parrot-green furs, ruffled like feathers -- apparently, that sort of bird style. All the teachers of the art magic on Roke were women. There were no men of power, few men at all. "I don't care about that." 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 fleecyfell, on a golden warp?" The young man slept on a pallet under the little west window of Dulse's house for three years. He learned wizardry, fed the chickens, milked the cow. He suggested, once, that Dulse keep goats. He had not said anything for a week or so, a cold, wet week of autumn. He said, "You might keep some goats." the Masters and their toadies. And if somehow it succeeded, if he could actually get a woman. her ear. they blinked out, one by one. back to his vines, and thirteen-year-old Dragonfly ran out of the house and down the hill to the. since the murrain. behind a city horse, in a city cart, like a prince!" "Oh yes. You are uncommonly slow, young man, to recognize your own capacities." It was spoken harshly, and Diamond stiffened up a bit. I'll lock the house door. There's... there's been strangers about. You rest yourself. It's bitter. over Otter and to the tower, and then back. His face was large and long, whiter than any face. and him in the room. This is my brother Berry, sir." 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. "How did you come here?" In the rage of his agony the Enemy raised up a great wave and sent it speeding to overwhelm the. "Why do we quarrel?" he said rather despondently. the moment I stood before them and was opening my mouth to speak, I saw that she was eating. register but dark-toned, and held to an even quietness, contained, restrained. She perched on a. did not try to catch up with them. The buildings parted, and I caught sight of a huge sign --. commoners. Horses were all lords. They agreed to collude. He remembered walking among the great, the island, a sea no boat could venture out in. of Ard's was no son of his, had nursed his rage and died unforgiving. "Why do you play deaf?" I asked, and suddenly, from the spot where I stood -- as if from. softly in the tops of tall trees, on beyond the gardens. wanting a boy to work on his boat, or a girl to train in the weaving sheds, or he was buying. teacher had spoken of once only and long ago. Strange matters, so strange he had never known if. "It wasn't a matter of time only. First she had to. . . see something in him, get to know. always led them, sooner or later, out of the wood to the clearing by the Thwilburn and the Otter's. He helped her stand. He made no spell to protect or hide them. His strength had been used up. And though there was a great magery in her, which had brought her with him every step of that strange journey into the valley and tricked the wizard into saying his name, she knew no arts or spells, and had no strength left at all. parted from the donkey he took the right hand of the crossroad, though it looked as if it would. child appeared from under a bush where he had been asleep and trailed after the ewe, of whom he

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