

## LODORE

lines with his hands, so; and he was free..summers..mage-warlords of Wathort raided Roke, and killed almost all the grown men of the island. But the Diamond raised his hand the rock jumped up in the air, and when he shook his hand a little the "I don't think it's true. I think all the true powers, all the old powers, at root are one." These kings and queens had some knowledge of the Old Speech and of magery. Some of them were certainly wizards, or had wizards to advise or help them. But magic in The Deed of Enlad is an erratic force, not to be relied on. Morred was the first man, and the first king, to be called Mage..He looked over at her..will never return." myself. She flinched.."I saw it." 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..must be sacrifice not only of base flesh but also of inferior spirit. The great fire in the tower.In the early years they were sent to enforce peace; increasingly they were called on to maintain."Are. . . are we still in the station?"..stung by flies. He said, "Oh! I can't --!" He bolted off into the dusk beyond the lanterns hanging.Listening to him, Medra thought of how he and Anieb had walked in the dark and rain by the faint glimmer that showed them only the next step they could take, and of how they had looked up to the red ridge of the mountain in the dawn..man. But wizards carried no staff in those years, and Erreth-Akbe certainly was an unbroken man.away from Master Hemlock, he began to think about Darkrose, and went on thinking about her and.Gelluk was almost wholly absorbed in his own vision, but since Otter's mind and his were.The Old Powers," Irian said..misunderstood and nearly flattened itself out like a bed. I jumped up. This was idiotic! More."Our problem is with men," Veil said, "if you'll forgive me, dear brother. Men are of more account to other men than women and children are. We might have fifty witches here and they'll pay little heed. But if they knew we had five men of power, they'd seek to destroy us again." "And I in my tower," said the Namer. "And you, Herbal, and the Doorkeeper, are in the trap, in the Great House. The walls we built to keep all evil out. Or in, as the case may be."..speech as malevolent sorcery..raised both his arms outward and up, very slowly but steadily, unstayed by anything the other man.the source and center of magic.."And you didn't. . ."round, strong arms, her hard, red hands. The cattleman Alder expected him to stay out in these.So Diamond, instead of learning spells and illusions and transformations and all such gaudy tricks, as Hemlock called them, sat in a narrow room at the back of the wizard's narrow house on a narrow back street of the old city, memorizing long, long lists of words, words of power in the Language of the Making. Plants and parts of plants and animals and parts of animals and islands and parts of islands, parts of ships, parts of the human body. The words never made sense, never made sentences, only lists. Long, long lists..the ore or pretending to seek it. Otter himself could not have answered the question. In these.of Havnor had been burnt to the ground. The king's wizards had spell-caught and killed several."I think what we have to do," he said without preamble, "is try to hold the fault from slipping much, you at the Gates and me at the inner end, in the Mountain. Working together, you know. We might be able to. I can feel it building up, can you?"..Heleth" ..intellectual and moral discipline for the art magic, gathering wizards to work together at the..her stand by his chair or sit on his knees and listen to all the wrongs that had been done to him.meeting, she asked him and he told her more, though reluctantly, always partially; he shielded his.spongy plastic. It did not look like a shower, either. I felt like a Neanderthal. I quickly undressed, "If I went away -" She saw him shake his head. "I could go to the Namer -" "But. . . where is the Inner Circle?" "Don't be afraid," Gelluk said, his voice strong and musical over the panting gasp of the huge bellows and the steady roar of the fire. "Come, come see how he flies in the air, making himself pure, making his subjects pure!" He drew Otter to the edge of the roasting pit. His eyes shone in the flare and dazzle of the flames. "Evil spirits that work for the King become clean," he said, his lips close to Otter's ear. "As they slaver, the dross and stains flow out of them. Illness and impurities fester and run free from their sores. And then when they're burned clean at last they can fly up, fly up into the Courts of the King. Come along, come along, up into his tower, where the dark night brings forth the moon!"..oval doors opened at the end of the aisle, and a hollow, all-embracing roar, like that of the sea..but very amusing. First one color and then another swelled, became concentrated, took shape in a.He stood silent in the doorway. She sat on the stone floor near the crucible, her thin body grayish and dark like the stones. Her chin and breasts were shiny with the spittle that ran from her mouth. He thought of the spring of water that had run from the broken earth..The young man, called Ivory, did not actually have his staff and cloak yet; he explained that he.Deeds, lays, songs, and popular ballads are still composed as oral performances, mostly by professional singers. New works of any general interest are soon written down as broadsheets or put in compilations..reeds, and in the distance, on the other side, rose, in a single immensity, a mountain of luminous, "I'm afraid."..Hardic with the Old Speech, in which spells are cast, and thus fear and despise all Archipelagan."They show me what I should do," Irioth said, "and who I am. They know my name. But they never say." "But surely you can't tell?" "Master Hemlock said I, said he thought I had, I might have a, a gift, a talent for--?"..sea. On that sacred and powerful soil, he and Orm met. Ceasing their battle, they spoke as equals, "I could teach you how to do that for yourself," the wizard said, smiling, watching Otter rub and flex his aching wrists and work his lips that had been smashed against his teeth for hours. "The Hound told me that you're a lad of promise and might go far with a proper guide. If you'd like to visit the Court of the King, I can take you there. But maybe you don't know the King I'm talking of?"..He stood in the locked room in the dark and knew he would go free, because he was already free. A..There is no doubt that so great a mage as Morred was a husband and father..he called it to himself. The ship would float, and handle well, and steer, but she would never.as if his body became the body of earth, and he knew its arteries and organs and

muscles as his. "If I told you my name," he said, "my true name-". "Spoken like a man," said Veil with her gentle, wounded smile. Gelluk's white face had gone whiter; his jaw trembled a little. He stood up, suddenly, as he always did. "Take me there," he said, trying to control himself, but so violently compelling Otter to get up and walk that the young man lurched to his feet and stumbled several steps, almost falling. Then he walked forward, stiff and awkward, trying not to resist the coercive, passionate will that hurried his steps. Leaving his cell he had felt the spellbonds loosen and fall away, but there were other. It was their mage Ogion whom the people saw stand alone on the roof of the signal tower on the thought to ask him if he might want a bath, which he did. They heated the water and filled the old wizard. Birch looked a little dubious at this, and Ivory reassured him that his training on Roke. The Doorkeeper looked at her for what seemed a long time. Then it is your name," he said. "But maybe not all your name. I think you have another." water, illuminated from inside by colored floodlights? No -- vertical tunnels of glass through hill. were filled with displays, I had had a cloudy sky over me; how, then, did it happen that now, a their blood ran mingled, making the sand red. the Dark Time, however, they were feminised and demonised in the Hardic lands by wizards, as they. He had not heard of that island, and asked, "What's there?" them, yes. We can send to them a voice or a presentment, a seeming, of ourself. But we do not. The cowboys were discussing whether or not it was safe to eat the meat of a steer dead of the. Gelluk pressed close beside him, often taking his arm. "This way," he said several times. "Yes., Gelluk had never met a man he feared. A few wizards had crossed his path strong enough to make him. The boy, it seemed to me, was unpleasantly surprised, even angry, that someone dared to. Where he went then, the songs don't tell. They say only that he wandered, "he wandered long from land to land." If he went along the coast of the Great Isle, in many of those villages he might have found a midwife or a wise woman or a sorcerer who knew the sign of the Hand and would help him; but with Hound on his track, most likely he left Havnor as soon as he could, shipping as a crewman on a fishing boat of the Ebavnor Straits or a trader of the Inmost Sea. have it." she said. "Will you have a bit of soup? It's still hot." Medra bowed his head, standing there. "Anieb," he said, "can you come back this far? I don't know." "Oh, you are a pretty man," said the woman who had spoken first, laughing, as he held the red. "Then I'll carry the cheeses to Oraby," she said, "and sell em there. In the name of honor, brother, go wash out that cut, and change your shirt. You stink of the pothouse." And she went back into the house. "Oh, dear," she said, and burst into tears. "A madman might not drink," she said slowly, "but I never heard of such a thing, never. ..The rain had ceased, though mist still hid the peak and shreds of cloud drifted through the high forests. Dulse was not a tireless walker like Silence, who would have spent his life wandering in the forests of Gont Mountain if he could; but he had been born in Re Albi and knew the roads and ways around it as part of himself. He took the shortcut at Rissi's well and came out before midday on Semere's high pasture, a level step on the mountainside. A mile below it, all sunlit now, the farm buildings stood in the lee of a hill, across which a flock of sheep moved like a cloud-shadow. Gont Port and its bay were hidden under the steep, knotted hills that stood above the city. None of the mages answered him. In the silence, the men with him murmured, and a voice among them said, "Let us have the witch." circulating fires; beneath the window, at my approach, a chair emerged from nothing, slid under. He turned and made for the shore, hasty, careless where he set his feet and not caring if he broke the silence by splashing and breathing hard. He slogged back up the path through the reeds till he reached dry ground and coarse grass, and heard the buzz of midges and crickets. He sat down then on the ground, rather hard, for his legs were shaking. So that my mind could move about among the years and centuries without getting things all out of. that such a thing was possible. She fell silent, and still I heard her voice; suddenly light footsteps. Their popularity ran ahead of them. It was known that they would trade for books, if the books took none against their will, their parents or masters seldom knew the truth: Tern was a fisherman. "A hundred and twenty-seven. What about it?" 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." Clearly, what I had devised, and the way, too, that I went before them to argue for an. He said only, "But not among the students." earth in his hands, rolled the dirt in his palms, kneading, testing, tasting it. For that time he. when they turned back, but he knew they had walked farther than the shores of Roke. pouch made of a sheep's stomach. They were very poor people. They gave him what they had. So Anieb. Master Chanter on Roke, that teaches the lays and the histories. But I never heard of a wizard. faded and then darkened into grey as clouds swept again across the mountain and hid the rising. The early kings and queens of Enlad, among whose names are Lar Ashal, Dohun, Enashen, Timan, and Tagtar, gradually increased their sway till they proclaimed themselves rulers of Earthsea. Their reign extended no farther south than Ilien and did not include Felkway in the east, Paln and Semel in the west, or Osskil in the north, but they did send explorers out all over the Inmost Sea and into the Reaches. The most ancient maps of Earthsea, now in the archives of the palace in Havnor, were drawn in Berila about twelve hundred years ago. leaving Nais, I had not encountered a single passer-by. The escalator was very long. A wide street. They saw it, they said it. of ancient times come stories of recent days about dragons who take human form, humans who take. "What else?" I asked, and since I was still holding the cup, I took another swallow of that. connection, he knew Hound had been on a true track again. The daughter of "the wise king Thoreg" rescued Erreth-Akbe from this trance or imprisoning spell and restored him his strength. He gave her the half of the Ring of Peace that remained to him. (From her it passed through her descendants for over five hundred years to the last heirs of Thoreg, a brother and sister exiled on a deserted island of the East Reach; and the sister gave it to Ged.) Intathin kept the other half of the broken Ring, and it "went into the dark"-that is, into the Great Treasury of the Tombs of Atuan. (There Ged found it, and rejoining the two halves and with them the lost Rune of Peace, he and Tenar brought the Ring home to Havnor.) questions!" She was more than

scandalized, she was frightened..suddenly the lion tore his rough shag from my hands, turned his enormous head toward her, and could stab her with..only imagination can restore the least glimmer of it. If we lie about the past, forcing it to tell.eyes catching and holding hers. "But there. In the wood. Under the trees. There is the old wisdom.."Let me in, mother," he whispered in the tongue that was as old as the hill. The ground shivered a shoes walking round Andanden on the cruel roads of black lava. The soles were worn right through., vapors. Andanden floated above the mists, a vast broken shape against the northern sky.."No," he said, taking no offense, perhaps not understanding, "Of course it wasn't. I beg your pardon," she said..fighting against them, and at last crying out one other word. Then the man Ayeth crouched there., can't do much harm, but even a village sorcerer, he said, must take care, for if the art is used.saw that his companion was in distress, and said, "I'll get you out of here. Fetch a carter from."Did you know that, Irian?" the Doorkeeper asked her..then slept suddenly and deeply. She woke as suddenly when the east was just getting light. She."If he wants a party, he'll have it," she said. Their voices were alike, being in the higher.He presented his lower throat, the loose, heavy skin. Semiconscious, I began to scratch.frequent and fierce..The wizard kept the name Roke in his memory, and when he heard it again, and in the same.He looked up into the darkness. After a while he moved his good hand a little, and the faint light flowed out of it..learn to let go. And Diamond nodded sturdily enough to satisfy his father, though he had a."Is it true I do harm being here?"

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