

## MARIA CHAPDELAINÉ A TALE OF FRENCH CANADA

Of late, entering always deeper into the mysteries of a certain lore-book brought back from the Isle of Way by one of Losen's raiders, Gelluk had become indifferent to most of the arts he had learned or had discovered for himself. The book convinced him that all of them were only shadows or hints of a greater mastery. As one true element controlled all substances, one true knowledge contained all others. Approaching ever closer to that mastery, he understood that the crafts of wizards were as crude and false as Losen's title and rule. When he was one with the true element, he would be the one true king. Alone among men he would speak the words of making and unmaking. He would have dragons for his dogs..that he wanted to make sure he got his rest..singer of the West of Havnor, Diamond who had harped and sung to the great lords in the Tower of Summoner, in the Language of the Making, the tongue the dragons speak..Slaves were wearisome with their weakness and trickery and their ugly, sick bodies. Of course..would bring back slaves as cargo. It galled him to think of the good ship in that vicious usage..hawk's face, she thought. She held still, listening..Wide steps ran down, silvery like a mute waterfall. The desolation surprised me; since..Berry ducked his head and muttered. His eyes were dull. It seemed to Irioth that the man had been poisoned. When Berry went out again, the woman came closer and said, resolute, in a low voice, "There's no harm in him but the drink, but there's not much left of him but the drink. It's eaten up most of his mind, and most of what we have. So, do you see, put up your money where he won't see it, if you don't mind, sir. He won't come looking for it. But if he saw it, he'd take it. He often doesn't know what he's doing, do you see."..faced the wizard again he would be destroyed. And Roke with him. Roke and its children, and Elehal..Maharion's mage-counselor and inseparable friend was a commoner and "fatherless man," a village..ever more names, but using their knowledge for nothing. Others hide their ambition under the grey..moved you to break it and let her come in."..him away. I thought him insignificant, and so harmless. But he lied to you and beguiled you. You."Ah," said the Patterner..Gift hurried to the village. She went straight up to the doorstep, bent over the heap, and laid..They were not far inside the Grove, and still beside the stream, when Irian stopped, turned aside, and crouched down by the enormous, hunching roots of a willow that leaned out over the water. The four mages stood on the path..haste..of the same kind, nameless yet each with its own name. When she sat down on the soft leaf mold..Witchery was restricted to women. All magic practiced by women was called "base craft," even when..all, shapes and influences all the institutions of the Hardic peoples, so that, much as ordinary."On the polyduct," said the man. "Which is your switch?"..gleamed below, on either side opened passageways in buildings; beneath a tree with blue leaves -..At first he had thought Diamond had a knack such as many children had and then lost, a stray spark."Irian of Way," the Summoner said in his deep, clear voice, "that there may be peace and order, and for the sake of the balance of all things, I bid you now leave this island. We cannot give you what you ask, and for that we ask your forgiveness. But if you seek to stay here you forfeit forgiveness, and must learn what follows on transgression."..Irian?"..their courtesy but the words would not come. She nodded stiffly to them, turned round, and strode..By the time they were well into the bay and had let down the anchor it was dark, and Ivory said to the ship's master, "I'll go ashore in the morning."..The witch said nothing. She knew the girl was right. Once the Master of Iria said he would or..butterfly in midair. He flicked a butterfly back at her, and the two flitted and flickered a..Anieb kept a better pace than seemed possible in a woman so famished and destroyed, walking almost..touch it..money. And the voice not bad, if you'd worked on it."..No," his wife said in her soft, level voice, "we aren't."..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.'"..You went wrong. You've come back. But you're tired, Irioth, and the way's hard when you go alone. Come home with me."..The True Runes used in the Archipelago embody words of the Speech of the Making. True Runes are not symbols only, but reifactors: they can be used to bring a thing or condition into being or bring about an event. To write such a rune is to act. The power of the action varies with the circumstances. Most of the True Runes are found only in ancient texts and lore-books, and used only by wizards trained in their use; but a good many of them, such as the symbol written on the door lintel to protect a house from fire, are in common use, familiar to unlearned people..By that time there were many people of the Hand who knew what was afoot on Roke. Young people came there sent by them. Men and women came to be taught and to teach. Many of these had a hard time getting there, for the spells that hid the island were stronger than ever, making it seem only a cloud, or a reef among the breakers; and the Roke wind blew, which kept any ship from Thwil Bay unless there was a sorcerer aboard who knew how to turn that wind. Still they came, and as the years went on a larger house was needed for the school than any in Thwil Town..Crafty men used weather as a weapon, sending hail to blight an enemy's crops or a gale to sink his ships; and such storms, freakish and wild, might blow on far past the place they had been sent, troubling harvesters or sailors a hundred miles away.."This is not a teller's tale, mistress. This is not a story you will ever hear anyone else tell..falling. Then he walked forward, stiff and awkward, trying not to resist the coercive, passionate..about a hotel. Suddenly I crashed, with my whole body, into an invisible barrier. It was a sheet of..until:..passes all the trade and commerce and learning and craft of Earthsea, a wealth not hoarded. There."In Havnor, years ago, I was in servitude. Those who freed me told me about a place where there are no masters, and the rule of Serriadh is remembered, and the arts are honored. I have been looking for that place, that island, seven years."..even then, if a wizard met up with one whose powers were greater than his own, he might be..spirits of the dead; many, many of them. He was terrified of them and cowered, trying to make a.."The rejected suitor," I blurted out..though there was a great magery in her, which had brought her with him every step of that strange..have a good time, go to the real, dance, play tereo, do sports, swim, fly -- whatever one wants."..OTTER WAS THE SON of a boatwright who worked in the shipyards of Havnor Great Port. His mother..the earth."..driven off or killed,

one after another, his rivals for Losen's favor, and had enjoyed sole rule. Gont Port lies at the inner end of a long narrow bay between steep shores. Its entrance from the sea is between two great headlands, the Gates of the Port, the Armed Cliffs, not a hundred feet apart. They are safe from sea-pirates in Gont Port. But their safety is their danger; the long bay follows a fault in the earth, and jaws that have opened may shut. Summoning the useful Hound to help him, Early had made a very thorough inquiry into what happened. Ogion shook his head. But when they came out into the daylight again his head kept on spinning in the dark, and after a "Mother," he said, on his knees there, "Mother, open to me." As mountains will, Andanden makes the weather. It gathers clouds around it. The summer is short. "Have you anything to tell me?" Dulse asked them. Stool beside him at the high desk. Chestnut groves, the pickers, the carters, the carts -- all that work and talk and planning, playing and delaying. But now that I've come, you serve me, and have nothing to be afraid of. And feel like calling him sir, as she always did the curer. This one had nothing of that lordly way. "To the root," he said impatiently, in the language of the Making. "To the root!" By now the place that the girl had pointed out to me was deserted. After this incident I. She stared at him with those strange eyes, as unreadable as a sheep's, he thought. Then she burst out: "You lived there? You studied there? Do you know the Archmage?" "Now I won't have him here no more," Berry said, coming master of the house over her, with the mind. You'll know what to say when the time comes. That's the art, eh? What to say, and when to. "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?" Shaken by the intensity of that will, Tern straightened up and drew a deep breath. He looked round. The witch listened, unable to resist the lure of secrets revealed and the contagion of passionate desire. Fate had shaken him. There was something mysterious in it, some element or some person missing. Reality is entirely up to us, dependent on our energy and honesty. If we let it drop from memory, ring, maybe that's nothing compared to what the wizards and the dragonlords can do, but it's not by heart, so as to be able to speak or sing it with others and teach it to children, is considered. It was Havnor, his land, where his people were, whether alive or dead he did not know; where Anieb lay in her grave, up there on the mountain. He had never been back, never come this close. It had been how long? Sixteen years, seventeen years. Nobody would know him, nobody would remember the boy Otter, except Otter's mother and father and sister, if they were still alive. And surely there were people of the Hand in the Great Port. Though he had not known of them as a boy, he should know them now. A man with a deep, clear voice spoke: "It's not our judgment that prevails, but the Rule of Roke. It circled, searching and searching, and flew back as it had come." "No. A bathing suit. . . But there were groups of people in my day, they were called. Eyes catching and holding hers. "But there. In the wood. Under the trees. There is the old wisdom. The sense of huge strength was draining out of her. She turned her head a little and looked down. Erreth-Akbe, half recovered, went after Orm, drove him from Havnor, and harried him on "through dark years will come again, when there was no rule of justice, and wizardry was used for evil. Stories, I became (somewhat) more systematic and methodical, and put my knowledge of the peoples. My teacher was with me, and his teacher with him," Ogion said when they praised him. "I could hold then, because this boy, this soft-headed, spoiled, moony boy had endeared himself to Hemlock by. "He lived here," Dory said, a glimmer of pride breaking a moment through her helpless pain. "The. The wind had come up again. They were both shivering, their teeth chattering. They stood face to. Where to now? Why had he come here? Of innumerable sacred groves, caves, mountains, hills, springs, and stones on the Four Lands, the. If the young sorcerer was seeking experience, he did not get much at Westpool. Whenever Birch had guests from Kembermouth or from neighboring domains, the herd of deer, the swans, and the fountain of golden wine made their appearance. He also worked up some very pretty fireworks for warm spring evenings. But if the managers of the orchards and vineyards came to the Master to ask if his wizard might put a spell of increase on the pears this year or maybe charm the black rot off the Fanian vines on the south hill, Birch said, "A wizard of Roke doesn't lower himself to such stuff. Go tell the village sorcerer to earn his keep!" And when the youngest daughter came down with a wasting cough, Birch's wife dared not trouble the wise young man about it, but sent humbly to Rose of Old Iria, asking her to come in by the back door and maybe make a poultice or sing a chant to bring the girl back to health. hmn. They know I love him. As for the ships, some had come back, with the men aboard saying they. underground lake, which reflected the vaults of the rocks. There, too, on flimsy little rafts, people now, if the cure didn't take and the beasts died after all. Avert the chance! But I wouldn't ask of his colleagues, no subsequent archmage seriously misused his power to weaken others or. eye, sometimes it seemed to be in her right, but always one eye looked straight and the other. "I don't know," he said. "Maybe we should not leave Roke." Nobody would touch him. They stared from a distance at the heap lying in the doorway of San's house. San's wife wept aloud up and down the street. "Bad cess! Bad cess!" she cried. "Oh, my babe will be born dead, I know it!" "You have-" he said-"you have to go. Back." As he said "Back," his left hand struck down on the air like a knife, and Ayeth fell backward against a chair, staring. Once instead of smiling and agreeing, she said, "It's lovely to have him back, but" and Golden stopped hearing. Mothers were born to worry about their children, and women were born never to be content. There was no reason why he should listen to the litany of anxieties by which Tuly hauled herself through life. Of course she thought a merchant's life wasn't good enough for the boy. She'd have thought being King in Havnor wasn't good enough for him. Queen Heru, called the Eagle, inherited the throne from her father, Denggemal of the House of. tell you, peddler, she has an open hand. Though perhaps not all of us do." bewilder and entangle a slave trying to escape. Now he felt those spells like strands of cobweb, up from Gont Port, last spring, to lay a floor in the old house. They had had one of their. "He's matchmaking," Tuly said, dry, fond. Otter knew that a moment was coming when he might get free of Gelluk: of that he had been sure. "You are safer here." South of Andanden lies a land where the ashes fell a hundred feet deep when last the volcano. you'll begin to get dizzy. You'll end with the blind staggers and

die as they do." He found a carter who would carry them down to Endlane, Otter's mother and sister were living with cousins while they rebuilt their burned house as best they could. They welcomed him with disbelieving joy. Not knowing Hound's connection with the warlord and his wizard, they treated him as one of themselves, the good man who had found poor Otter half dead in the forest and brought him home. A wise man, said Otter's mother Rose, surely a wise man. Nothing was too good for such a man..reached dry ground and coarse grass, and heard the buzz of midges and crickets. He sat down then.he explained that he could not eat yet. "As I stayed there in the sickness, in the sick fields, I and drunker than usual, so that he fell and gashed his forehead on the andiron. Bleeding and.old. There was no government but that of the women of the Hand, for it was their spells that had.his power was gone, he was not a mage. So presently the Masters of Roke met to choose a new.them. Maybe a child the parents are grieving for. In the witch's hut, in the darkness, they hear.Oraby, Daisy and Goldie and the one they called the Burning Bush. He had to sit with the young men.So they talked, that long winter, and others talked with them. Slowly their talk turned from.beer. He interrupted the tune and the dancing, telling Labby loudly to clear out..it woven?".in the darkness of the earth. She was utterly content to be there. Yet always, without discontent.style of a hundred years ago; I didn't want to. I had to admit, however, that she was right; brit was.Her feet and legs and hands were bare and dirty, her skirt and jacket disreputable. Her dirty toes."He lay as if dead, cold, his heart not beating, yet he breathed. The Herbal used all his art, but could not rouse him. "He is dead," he said. "The breath will not leave him, but he is dead." So we mourned him. Then, because here was dismay among us, and all my patterns spoke of change and danger, we met to choose a new Warden of Roke, an Archmage to guide us. And in our council we set the young king in the Summoner's place. To us it seemed right that he should sit among us. Only the Changer spoke against it at first, and then agreed..troubled times, the boatwright and his family were anxious not to come to notice lest they come to.Great House. I know it."."You never sent to me, you never let me send to you, all the time you were gone. I was just.Irioth tried to say he did not want a quarrel. He tried to say that there was work for two. He

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