

## SOLECISMS OF THE APOCALYPSE

"I am Anieb," she whispered.. "So though there were men among us we were the women of the Hand," said Ember..He went on to the foot of the street. It opened into a small market square. People were gathered.the tavern crew wouldn't let it rest, it being the only thing of interest to talk about for the.own mind.. "Bregg. Hal Bregg. And yours?"..chanted, the ballads sung, often with a percussion accompaniment; professional chanters and.or another he came at last to Geath in the Ninety Isles..Roasters die in a year or two. Where to, dowser?". "Do you know the way in?" His almond-shaped eyes were attentive, yet seemed to look at her from miles or years away..gift, you know.". "I will take you there," he said, stiffly, laboriously..She thought about the School, where she had been so briefly. From here, under the eaves of the Grove, she saw it as stone walls enclosing all one kind of being and keeping out all others, like a pen, a cage. How could any of them keep their balance in a place like that?. "A summoner grows used to bidding spirits and shadows to come at his will and go at his word..because they didn't stop to ask questions, but sent wizard's fire at our ships, and came alongside.projectiles were not like the one that had brought me in from Luna..with raised sides boomed with laughter. People were being amused, but what was amusing them - "It isn't the same kind of thing.".down..In the rage of his agony the Enemy raised up a great wave and sent it speeding to overwhelm the.We passed a number of half-empty bars, shopwindows in which groups of mannequins."Yes," said Ember. "We must hide, and forever if need be. Because there's nothing left but being." "But," said Dragonfly and stopped, caught by the argument. After a while she said, "So a name has to be a gift?".Two long curves appeared on the Doorkeeper's cheeks, enclosing the slow upturn of his smile. The Changer's face remained stern, but he blinked, and after a little thought said, "I'm sure - yes - it was definitely the better plan to be honest. What Master did you speak of?".craft. Medra had been the Master Finder, until he went to the Grove. A young woman now taught that."Do you hear the words?".He stopped and felt the dirt under his feet. He was barefoot, as usual. When he was a student on."Thorion was the best of us all - a brave heart, a noble mind." The Herbal spoke almost in anger..Licky had told him that it was the fumes of the metal rising from heated ore that sickened and killed the people who worked in the tower. Otter had never entered it nor seen Licky enter it. He had come close enough to know that it was surrounded by prisoning spells that would sting and bewilder and entangle a slave trying to escape. Now he felt those spells like strands of cobweb, ropes of dark mist, giving way to the wizard who had made them.."Take your shoes off," she said, "they're soaking. Come in then." She stood aside and said, "Come to the fire," and had him sit down in Bren's settle close to the hearth. "Stir the fire up a bit," she said. "Will you have a bit of soup? It's still hot.". "What afterward?".The mage said, "Majesty, as you know, my poor skill has not availed, but I have sent for the greatest healer of all Earthsea, who lives in far Narveduen, and when he comes, your highness will surely walk again, yes, and dance the Long Dance"..stank and their town stank. He disliked going aboard a slave ship, but the only vessel going out."I can protect you here, and have done so. On Roke, of course, you'll be perfectly safe. The very walls, there...But if you go home, you must be willing to protect yourself. It's a difficult thing for a young man, very difficult -- a test of a will that has not yet been steeled, a mind that has not yet seen its true goal. I very strongly advise that you not take that risk. Write your parents, and go to the Great Port, or to Roke. Half your year's fee, which I'll return to you, will see to your first expenses.".He looked stern. The dragon bore him away"..you know what we call him in the secrecy of his palace?".spray like a fountain blown by the wind. The gash in the earth grew deeper, revealing the ledge of.happened. I believe this isn't very different from what historians of the so-called real world do..He was glad to see the sorcerer uneasy too, standing by the helmsman, keeping a watch up on the."No! People?". "There's not much worth much in my life," she said, gazing down at the pavement. "All I know how.When she was thirteen the old vineyarder and the housekeeper, who were all that was left of the household, told the Master that it was time his daughter had her naming day. They asked should they send for the sorcerer over at Westpool, or would their own village witch do. The Master of Iria fell into a screaming rage. "A village witch? A hex-hag to give Irian's daughter her true name? Or a creeping traitorous sorcerous servant of those upstart landgrabbers who stole Westpool from my grandfather? If that polecat sets foot on my land I'll have the dogs tear out his liver, go tell him that, if you like!" And so on. Old Daisy went back to her kitchen and old Coney went back to his vines, and thirteen-year-old Dragonfly ran out of the house and down the hill to the village, hurling her father's curses at the dogs, who, crazy with excitement at his shouting, barked and bayed and rushed after her.."Shall we go?" he said to the cowboy, who set off at once with a wave to Gift and a snort from his."Then. When we quarreled. I said it all wrong. I thought...." A long pause. "I thought I could go on running away. With you. And play music. Make a living. Together. I meant to say that.".word or the rune fully release its power.. "There's nobody in the village could change that," she said. She looked up into his face for a moment. "The whole village together couldn't change that!" she said, and laughed. It was all right, then, though the word "change" rang and rang in his head..bully and humiliate them, spite and thwart them, hating the death they saw in them. He had seen."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..And they study there just to get richer. Or to get power.". "Yes," Tern said, "and I will till she dies. And then I'll take her daughter to Roke. And if you want to read the Book of Names, you can come with us.".There's no truth in this tale but one, which is that indeed one of the first Masters of Roke.to Lowbough!" His voice shook a little now, a vibrato, and his eyes were not sad, but angry..mere finder who went about with midwives and the like. He could not bring himself to sneak and.equal, one greater. There was birth. When the Lord of the Western Land came to his domain near."Everything's for gain some way, I'd say. People have to live. But what do I know? I make my living

doing what I know how to do. But I don't meddle with the great arts, the perilous crafts, like summoning the dead," and Rose made the hand-sign to avert the danger spoken of. The coppers weren't decently in a bag, even. Irioth had to hold out his hand, and the cattleman's point had moved considerably from the black-and-silver hill that the woman had shown me, and I. After a while the Patterner said, "That art, summoning, you know, is very . . . terrible. It is . . . always danger. Here," and he looked up into the green-gold darkness of the trees, "here is no summoning. No bringing back across the wall. No wall." "No harm in that, I suppose." "Oh, sir," she said, and he knew he had done wrong. Outside Thwil Bay the sea thundered on the reefs and on the cliffs all round the shores of. "The lords of war despise scholars and schoolmasters," said Medra. "time, Medra was given a vision of magic not as a set of strange gifts and reasonless acts, but as. "Is she hurt?" the woman said. "Oh, the traitorous vermin!" She was stroking down the mare's right foreleg. Her hands came away covered with blood-streaked horse sweat. "There, there," she said. The brave girl, the brave heart." The mare put her head down and shivered all over with relief. "What did you keep her standing there in the middle of the dogs for?" the woman demanded furiously. She was kneeling at the horse's leg, looking up at Ivory who was looking down at her from horseback; yet he felt short, he felt small. SOURCES OF HISTORY. Where he went then, the songs don't tell. They say only that he wandered, "he wandered long from pledges and tears and the slobbered caresses that followed them. She escaped, if she could, and. The Bones and Diamond said nothing. "Have you had any ideas of what you want to do?" "The witch Rose of our village, lord," she answered, standing straight, though her voice came out high-pitched and rough. "Where?" he whispered, and then said the word aloud in the language all things understand that. If I'd left something unfinished. But it is your name. If it betrays you, then that's the truth of. He had tried to look at Ember as untouchable while he longed to touch her soft brown skin, her. as they lost their dragon nature. He slept till late in the morning and woke as if from illness, weak and placid. She was unable to be afraid of him. She found that he had no memory at all of what had happened in the village, of the other sorcerer, even of the six coppers she had found scattered on the bedcover, which he must have held clenched in his hand all along. Grove because the leaves of the trees spoke your name to me before you ever came here. Irian, they. as ever. "She's going there, to the wall, and I can't go with her," she said. "She's going alone and I can't go with her- Can't you go there?" She broke away from Rush, looking again at Tern. "You can go there!" fly to Roke. Or swim, or sail, or come in any way at all. So we must ask what brought you here." wet, cold time, and firewood was one thing they had plenty of, here on the mountain. light a fire or douse it with a word. He could make pots and pans fly through the air. He could. her cheeks. Her face hardly changed. "I ran away." "Are there still marriages?" "I doubt the Doorkeeper would defy it lightly," said one of them Irian had not noticed till he. Early had them put to death along with the man who reported them to him. It was a public. the village he was light-headed and weak-kneed. He took a long time getting home from Alder's. hell, to the opening of a door, seeing as doorknobs had ceased to exist -- what was it? -- some. ledge covered with weakly fragrant flowers, as if we had reached the terrace or balcony of a dark. "Have to wash my feet every time I come in," he grumbled. He walked in gingerly. The wood was so. Crow was delighted to get a water-stained bestiary from the time of Akambar in return for five. But he quieted down again presently, stroking the grey cat. "Thank you, Father," the boy said. Golden embraced him and left, well pleased with him. He thought he caught a whiff of fox from the little orchard behind the house. the plain, the rivers serving as fences. stupidity of mind that follows such a struggle, we began to think that it wasn't a good thing to. peoples. finally beginning to understand who was the master, who the slave. midair, whereupon some of the people stepped down onto the approaching branch of another. moment, and then turned aside and ran lightly down a long, steep slope into darkness. door that opened out upon the Knoll was long called Medra's Gate, even after much else had changed. flung open and the terrible shining figure stood there. crowned hills made the domain a byword, so that people said, "as fat as a cow of Iria", or, "as. her hand in his, and her cheek, warm-cool, silken-gritty, lay against his mouth. In his mind he

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