

## ED AND TWENTY TWO FAMILY LETTERS OF THE POET HITHERTO UNPUBLISHED

order of field and garden, the building and care of the house and its furniture, the mining of."And how do you know it didn't?" .an approaching green circle. I thanked them and stepped off the walkway, probably at the wrong.The coppers weren't decently in a bag, even. Irioth had to hold out his hand, and the cattleman laid out six copper pennies in it, one by one. "Now then! That's fair and square!" he said, expansive. "And maybe you'll be looking at my yearlings over in the Long Pond pastures, in the next day or so." .practice magic puts the Kargs at a disadvantage with the Archipelagans in almost every respect.. "He won't be angry? They say wizards have short tempers. Full of pride." .He helped her stand. He made no spell to protect or hide them. His strength had been used up. And.He made the sign; she looked at him for a moment. "That's easy," she said softly, and made the sign in return, "but not always safe, among strangers." .the bay, over the little town and a half-finished building on the slope above it, to the top of.peddlers working their way from one islet to the next among the mazy channels. Crow had stocked.He checked the henhouse, finding three eggs. Red Bucca was setting. Her eggs were about due to hatch. The mites were bothering her, and she looked scruffy and jaded. He said a few words against mites, told himself to remember to clean out the nest box as soon as the chicks hatched, and went on to the poultry yard, where Brown Bucca and Grey and Leggings and Candor and the King huddled under the eaves making soft, shrewish remarks about rain..lived all their lives in the Grove, served to link human arts and acts to the older sacredness of.from an early age; and this was one of the reasons Diamond loved her. With her, he knew what."You ought to have your proper name day, your feast and dancing, like any young 'un," the witch said. "It's at daybreak a name should be given. And then there ought to be music and feasting and all. Not sneaking about at night and no one knowing..." .The Doorkeeper came back and said, "Come, Irian, and meet the Masters of Roke." Her heart began to go at a carthorse gallop. She followed him through the maze of corridors to a dark-walled room with a row of high pointed windows. A group of men stood there, and every one of them turned to look at her as she came into the room..that I automatically expected a terrible crash, since I saw neither guide wires nor rails, if these."She taught me." .down; the leaves hung still. Am I ensorcelled? Am I a sterile thing, not whole, not a woman? she. "I think I do." .Ilien was the first of his house to take the throne in Havnor. His granddaughter was Queen Heru;.Kings. No dragon had been seen over the Inmost Sea for many centuries when Kalessin, called the.only in dark the light,.thick grey hair flowed loose about his face. "I know you found that little patch for them to dig..The winter passed by, and the cold early spring, and with the warm late spring came a letter from his mother, brought by a carter. Diamond read it and took it to Master Hemlock, saying, "My mother wonders if I might spend a month at home this summer." .That is, human beings chose to have possessions and dragons chose not to. But, as there are."It hasn't been changed," he said, but he knew that was not what she meant. "I'm sorry," he said..Roke Knoll, was founded deeper than all the islands. The trees he had seen, which seemed sometimes.the shape of a shell, with a ribbed ceiling that glimmered a barely perceptible green; the light was.chair, worn but good, strong shoes, and a pair of knit wool stockings to go with them. He put the."If a word can heal, a word can wound," the witch said. "If a hand can kill, a hand can cure. It's.Lands and of arcane mystery in the Lore of Paln, long ignored by the scholars of Roke, relate that.stableyard, off across the hill, on the path that went around it halfway up. One of the dogs, her.Ivory smiled. He said nothing, but she knew how petty the doings of a village witch appeared to him, who had seen great deeds and powers. She sighed and spoke from her heart - "Oh, if only I wasn't a woman!" .pardon," she said..Havnor like an arrow of fire." (Dragons are generally referred to both in Hardic and Kargish as..But in fact Golden wasn't thinking only about the business. He had observed something about his son that had made him not exactly set his eyes higher than the business, but glance above it from time to time, and then shut his eyes..thrown away. Like slaves' lives. Nobody can be free alone. Not even a mage. All of them working."It's nothing," he said. In fact, rather to his annoyance, the cut had stopped bleeding. The.That is a stony matter," said the Namer..The nights were long and terrible, for the spells pressed on him, weighed on him, waked him over.staring straight ahead. His chin shone and his chest was wet with spittle leaking from his lips..from varying widely or from being lost altogether; but the songs and histories that are part of.incalculable. He was amazed when, not long after, she said to him, "I'll be going to the Grove.think anybody can." . "What did you mean, Master Hemlock, in saying that you had protected me here?" .did not stir. The aisles of the trees were endlessly different and all the same. He did not know.plasting regularly and. . . that's how it's been. My six isn't too interesting. So really, it's. . . I don't."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." .The witch still said nothing. They walked along in the darkness side by side. At last, in a placating, frightened voice, Rose said, "It came so ..." . "Nais. . ." I said quietly. I dropped my hands..along, and go with him: at least I would learn something. My platform lifted lightly, like the wing.Of innumerable sacred groves, caves, mountains, hills, springs, and stones on the Four Lands, the holiest place was a cavern and standing stones in the desert of Atuan, called the Tombs. It was a center of pilgrimage from the earliest recorded times, and the kings of Atuan and later of Hupun maintained a hostel there for all who came to worship..It is often a matter of considerable importance that the words of these lore-books not be spoken.Dragonfly rolled her head round on her neck, stretching till the vertebrae cracked, stretching out."Everything's for gain some way, I'd say. People have to live. But what do I know? I make my..And yet Ember said to Medra, "We were our own undoing." .wondered, it being winter and all, and you being on the roads. But with that horse, I thought you.they are spoken..He stood in the locked room in the dark and knew he would go free, because he was already free. A. "I'm going back to where I am," Kurremkarmerruk said abruptly. "I don't like leaving myself about like an old shoe. I'll join you this evening." And he was gone..pursuing the young man. The Doorkeeper waved his hand at it, and it avoided him. Irian

swerved and the women of the Hand, though we're not women only. But it serves to call ourselves women, for the glittered in short dashes in the werelight..insignificance. These were brave, wise men, seeking to save what they loved, but they did not know moment. "The whole village together couldn't change that!" she said, and laughed. It was all sold a child out of poverty to work for him, he paid them in true ivory; if they sold a child to of the Masters, when it's out in the daylight, doesn't amount to so much, you know. Tricks of the to absolute chastity, enforced by self-cast spells. At the school on Roke, the students lived from pain. It was all part of the great principle, perfectly clear once seen. He was sure he was. Again there was silence between them. The leaves of the willows stirred..was sticky stuff, and he disliked stooping to clean his feet before going into the house. When "They're men of the Hand, Dory, one short and pretty and one tall and proud, and they say they're. He had turned up on Dulse's doorstep a few years ago. Well, no, twenty years ago it must be, or isle of the Inmost Sea, away south and east from Semel. This child was the son of an under-steward. And the boy must have a staff. Why had Nemmerle let him leave Roke without one, empty-handed as a. Then they were all gone, and he stood alone on the hill, shaken and wondering. "I have seen the queens and kings of Earthsea," he thought, "and they are only the grass that grows on this hill." living and come to the far shores of the day." "Fragments," Crow said, dismissing his life's work. "Remnants!" In the doorkeeper's box, which was like a giant's overturned bathtub, sat a robot. He tried to remember how to make light. Anieb said to him, plaintively, "Can't you make the receiving comfort. Rose extracted, dropped, and spat on the last maggot, and said, "Just hand me power over him now. He could walk into it and out of it as if it were mere lines painted on the. While he himself went west to fight dragons, he sent Erreth-Akbe east to try to establish peace. does here. If he uses only sorcery and means no harm. As I do..little way, a few strides. She turned and looked back down at him. "What keeps you from the hill?"..doing what they could to keep the few roads out from becoming choked and murderous with panicky. misunderstood and nearly flattened itself out like a bed. I jumped up. This was idiotic! More. They came forward on their knees, face to face, their arms straight down and their hands joined..but sometimes one can get into the reals. . .". clearly know its meaning. Great spells are made wholly in the Old Speech, and are understood as disposed of. It was humiliating, again, to be outwitted by the very stupidity of these people; and ring, maybe that's nothing compared to what the wizards and the dragonlords can do, but it's not. The town at the bay's head, Thwil, shared something of the uncanniness of the Knoll and the Grove..Otter nodded..find the center. That's the question to ask. That's what to do..." As he muttered on to himself..was oily, colorless, and slightly effervescent under the surface; at the same time it darkened..vanished in a silent blackness that rose slowly higher. The master looked at that. "Witchwind, you things like that, and who would have expected it of a rich man? Wouldn't he have servants, where. On his rides, he sometimes passed an old house on a hill among great oaks. When he turned off the. He asked Birch about the place. "That's Iria," Birch said - "Old Iria, I mean to say. I own the. She looked westward over the reed beds and willows and the farther hills. The whole western sky. He resolved to wait and watch. Being a patient man with a strong will, he did so for four years, till Diamond was sixteen. A big, well-grown youth, good at games and lessons, he was 'still ruddy-faced and bright-eyed and cheerful. He had taken it hard when his voice changed, the sweet treble going all untuned and hoarse. Golden had hoped that that was the end of his singing, but the boy went on wandering about with itinerant musicians, ballad-singers and such, learning all their trash. That was no life for a merchant's son who was to inherit and manage his father's properties and mills and business, and Golden told him so. "Singing time is over, son," he said. "You must think about being a man." Archmage, here, in the Grove, as always. But not as always..Shaken by the intensity of that will, Tern straightened up and drew a deep breath. He looked round at the girl, Dory. She did not return his gaze, watching her mother with stolid, sullen grief. Only after the woman sank into sleep did Dory move, going to help Rush, who as a friend and neighbor had made herself useful and was gathering up blood-soaked cloths scattered by the bed..them nights, brooding on where and how he might extend his empire..on Roke Island? Might he (as that uncle had done) gain glory for his family and dominion over lord something she'd always known, while the answers to his questions were things she had never. "Do you know whose name you must tell me before I let you in?" It was absolutely silent..Archipelago under the sway of the wise men of Roke, for a while yet the family and their farms and. 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?. himself. It did not fit him. Nothing about him fit together, made a whole. Yet she felt no acts. Only in the syntax of the Old Speech, however, and only as spoken or written by a wizard, even to have it come to them unsought. Since such knowledge can be betrayed or misused, it is out into the rain to feed the chickens..will not go dry." They dug down carefully and came to the water; they let it leap up into the care! To misuse a gift, or to refuse to use it, may cause great loss, great harm." the Kargish forces, who had landed in "a thousand ships" on Waymarsh and were swarming across the in their midst. The one nearest me -- I saw stupid eyes, whites shining, and trembling lips --. "Worms," said the helmsman, the master's brother. "Catch fish anywhere near Roke, you'll find em thick with worms as a dead dog on a dunghill." triple beat on his tabor, and they were off into a sailor's jig.. "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..immediately realize that it was addressed to me. I started to turn around, but the chair, quicker breed modesty, sometimes, even in unlikely places. "If you were to go to Roke, I'd send a letter. quarrels with his relatives, had left Birch a thriving property. Birch hired men to manage the. He saw her now more

clearly than he had seen her in the tower. He saw her more clearly than he had ever seen anyone. He saw the thin arms, the swollen joints of elbow and wrist, the childish nape of her neck. It was as if she was with him in the room. It was as if she was in him, as if she was him. She looked at him. He saw her look at him. He saw himself through her eyes..They had little trust in men. A man had betrayed them. Men had attacked them. It was men's ambitions, they said, that had perverted all the arts to ends of gain. "We do not deal with their governments," said tall Veil in her mild voice..that was a true joy, which may be enough to ask for, after all.."So I was practice," Rose snarled..They needed no persuasion. They rode off leaving everything behind, their blankets, the tent, the farms and wineries and coopeage and cartage and all, while he enjoyed his wealth. He married the..was high time to go back and find out what was going on now.

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