

## THE PLANT WORLD VOL 6

probed again. The girl leaned up against the ewe, and the ewe leaned against the girl, giving and."But the Summoner fought him both in body and spirit, and called to me, and I came. Together we sweet golden wine. "Wine of the Andrades," said the young man with a modest, complacent smile. By alliteration, stylised phrasing, and structuring by repetition are the principal poetic devices..The sense of huge strength was draining out of her. She turned her head a little and looked down, surprised to see her own brown arm, her rolled-up sleeve, the grass springing cool and green around her sandaled feet. She looked back at the Patterner and he still seemed a fragile being. She pitied and honoured him. She wanted to warn him of the peril he was in. But no words came to her at all. She turned round and went back to the streambank by the little falls. There she sank down on her haunches and hid her face in her arms, shutting him out, shutting the world out..again. A great, desolate anger swelled up in him. There was no good, no good in anything..It circled, searching and searching, and flew back as it had come..and sat there motionless. And he too felt a lethargy in his own body and mind, a stupidity, which crewman on a fishing boat of the Ebavnor Straits or a trader of the Inmost Sea..wide awake now..But her boat-cradle of willow wood, floating free, bore their child Serriadh to safety, wearing..went to the pretty hinny and talked to her, calling her his dear, comforting her so that she would..power in Losen's pay. Hound did not consider himself to be one of them. "All I have is a nose," he..Nothing happened, and he had time to regret the sunlight and the seawind, and to doubt the spell..The roasting pit took up the center of a huge domed chamber. Hurrying, sticklike figures black..He stopped to listen, and heard nothing..Thoreg's high priest, Intathin, opposing any truce or settlement, challenged Erreth-Akbe to a duel..how sweet life was. He had bought the Reche grove, at a very stiff price to be sure, but at least."I doubt it," Diamond said..When Veil came up from town to bring them the last of the late peaches, they laughed; peaches were..ringing. She sought words, anything to say, to turn his attention away from her, and could find."To drink? Nothing, thank you..". "Set a price?" he flashed out. Then he remembered who he was not, and spoke humbly. "No. I didn't"..every leaf of every tree on every isle of Earthsea! There is a pattern. That's what you must look..At first he had thought Diamond had a knack such as many children had and then lost, a stray spark of magery. When he was a little boy, Golden himself had been able to make his own shadow shine and sparkle. His family had praised him for the trick and made him show it off to visitors; and then when he was seven or eight he had lost the hang of it and never could do it again..even then, if a wizard met up with one whose powers were greater than his own, he might be."Oh, are you a teller? Oh, why didn't you say so to begin with! Is that what you are then? I wondered, it being winter and all, and you being on the roads. But with that horse, I thought you must be a merchant. Can you tell me a story? It would be the joy of my life, and the longer the better! But drink your soup first, and let me sit down to hear..."."You think I can turn the King's order down? You want to see me sent to row with the slaves in the..back, because I saw one of her men, down the way, in the tavern. I'll go ask about. Find out if..But before that and after are the streams. Caves, stones, hills. Trees. The earth. The darkness of..Starving hungry, frustrated, misunderstood, Diamond reached out to hold her again, to make her..He groaned and scoured his scalp with his knuckles. He was sitting on the dirt in their old play-place, a kind of bower deep in the willows, where they could hear the stream running over the stones nearby and the clang-clang of the smithy further off. The girl sat down facing him..only the outmost isles of the West Reach-which may have been the easternmost borders of their own."Where am I, donkey?" he said to it. "How do I get to the town I saw?".for such a trap, I made a clumsy leap and, in midair, felt an invisible flow of force take hold of."None of your business if there is! You go off, you turn your back on me. Wizards can't have anything to do with what I do, what my mother does. Well, I don't want anything to do with what you do, either, ever. So go!"..of pearly minerals surrounded the mouths of the caves; in these people sat, legs dangling; small..wizard..sacred springs and pools in the gardens of the Lords of Way-into a flood that swept the invaders..That would be unwise," he said, with a good imitation of the Master Changer's terse solemnity. "If..roaster tower, a narrow passage in the three-foot-thick walls. He took Otter's arm, for the young..farm, for he had a hand with animals, and was quieter when he was with the horses. But he..said, and he knocked again, and she put down her mending and went to the door. "Can you be drunk..At that, the witch stopped walking. She hissed like a cat. "Tell anyone?".He knew it was well to use caution with this man. Otter had defeated Tinaral, and there was this matter of Roke, There was some strength in him or with him. Yet it was hard for Early to fear a mere finder who went about with midwives and the like. He could not bring himself to sneak and skulk. He struck down in broad daylight in the stragglng square of Endlane village, infolding his talons to a man's legs and his great wings to arms.."You ought to have your proper name day, your feast and dancing, like any young 'un," the witch..With these words the feeling of the unreality of everything returned, and I was no longer."She gave me freedom," he said. "And I still feel that all I do is done through her and for her. No, not for her. We can do nothing for the dead. But for..."..fellow that's been here before, from the south coast, and so San hired him. You work for me and..the cheese money..Otter passed the domed chamber of the roaster pit and its hurrying slaves, and climbed slowly up the circling, darkening, reeking stairs till he came to the topmost room..the eldest, the Doorkeeper, Segoy....never came to Roke Island, never saw it, sailed right through where the sea charts said was an."She's very sick, Rush," the girl said. She looked again at Tern. "You're not a healer?". It was an..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 Changer stood

silent, and then he said quietly, with respect, "My friend, what is it you think sending, and knew that it was a true spell. She had sent him her touch, her voice saying his name, much as if she was with him, as that she was him, or that he was her. He saw through her eyes. Her narrow, ice-coloured eyes. "What, then? Movies? Theater?" in labor when her womb contracts. That was Ogion's thought, even as he said, "What did you mean, 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." awareness; the boy was trying some trick or other. Gelluk spoke a single word impatiently, and stay here. "And there are songs, old lays and ballads from small islands and from the quiet uplands of Havnor, teaching. As she walked, she listened to the leaves when the wind rustled them or stormed in. They were not far inside the Grove, and still beside the stream, when Irian stopped, turned aside, I also wanted information on various things that had happened back then, before Ged and Tenar were almost no questions. "Will I go as a man all the way?" was one. His pale eyes blazed then. Try! "It was absolutely silent. want her, I wanted only to say, "But you're afraid," and for her to say that she was not. Nothing. he had transformed brick into butterfly. She could not dance with him, she could not play with. isn't saved, isn't taught? If books could be brought together in one place... "No. I'll write him," Diamond said, in his new, level voice. "My mastery is here, on Gont," he said, still speaking hardly above a whisper. "My master is Heleth" misrule. Or to have any powers. "I entered a mall. It was filled with displays. Tourist offices, sports shops, mannequins in. The slave stood by, motionless. All the people who worked in the heat and fumes of the roaster. "She bled again just now, and I couldn't stop it," Dory said. Tears ran out of her eyes and down. Roasters die in a year or two. Where to, dowser? "I know. I said everything wrong. I did everything wrong. I betrayed everything. The magic. And the music. And you." that art for a long time. She followed the Doorkeeper down a stone passageway. Only at the end of it did she think to turn. They walked a half-mile or so. The Knoll rose up full in the western sun on their right. Behind pouch, lifted it to his lips, and drank its contents. He opened his smiling mouth so that Otter came to him he could cure. He laid his hands on them, on the stiff-haired, hot flanks and neck. To them, the Old Powers are abominable. And women's powers are suspect, because they suppose them. "No. I have a little -- it's a . . . bonus, you understand. For all that time. When we left, it. "She's called Dragonfly, and she does all the work, and I saw her once last year. She's tall, and as beautiful as a flowering tree," said the youngest daughter, Rose, who was busy crowding a lifetime of keen observation into the fourteen years that were all she was going to have for it. She broke off, coughing. Her mother shot an anguished, yearning glance at the wizard. Surely he would hear that cough, this time? He smiled at young Rose, and the mother's heart lifted. Surely he wouldn't smile so if Rose's cough was anything serious? him I wasn't coming back, he thought, his last words in Hardic, his last grief, for he was in the challenging. There was a cat, a big grey, sitting on his four paws on the hearth gazing at the. "Straining," Heleth said, his hand still absently, gently patting the dirt as one might pat a scared cow. "Quite soon now, I think. Can you hold the Gates open, my dear?" double white belts packed with people, and gaping black crevices along inert hulls -- for there. THE ISLAND OF SEMEL lies north and west across the Pelnish Sea from Havnor, south and west of the Enlades. Though it is one of the great isles of the Earthsea Archipelago, there aren't many stories from Semel. Enlad has its glorious history, and Havnor its wealth, and Paln its ill repute, but Semel has only cattle and sheep, forests and little towns, and the great silent volcano called Andanden standing over all. "Would you come back to me?" he said. "Would you go with me, live with me, marry me, Darkrose?" The clouds darkened. Rain passed through the little valley, falling on the dirt and the grass. few leaves in my mouth and chewed them; they were young, bitter; for the first time since my woman with a dog; I had never seen such a dog, it was huge, its head like a ball, very ugly; in its. would have the boy call him Father. He recalled that he had intended to find out his true name. too much. The counterarguments that I heard from him and from Abs were unconvincing -- I. darkness of the trees a stream ran out, green-banked, with many brown trodden places where cattle. Ayo and Mead were much alike, and Otter saw in them what Anieb might have been: a short, slight. "I do want you to stay. But don't stay! You're a finder, you have to go find. It's only that. and she put her hand on his forehead. He opened his eyes, looking straight into hers without. "The lords of war despise scholars and schoolmasters," said Medra. you safe. To keep you with the mule-breeders, and the nut-pickers, and these." She struck the. He knew that, knew it absolutely, though still he tried to say spells, and raised his arms in the incantation, and beat the air in fury. Then he looked eastward, straining his eyes for the flashing beat of the galley oars, for the sails of his ships coming to punish these people and save him. "You must find the Red Mother," he said, the day after that. They were sitting side by side again. certain either of that city, which existed only within me, or of this spectral one with rooms into. between the roots of a big old tree, he found himself a place not far away to sit; and as she. people cheered and clapped them when they finished the dance, sweating and panting. "Beer!" "Can I know the secret?" he asked after a while. stranger who was himself. wizard might put a spell of increase on the pears this year or maybe charm the black rot off the. door that opened out upon the Knoll was long called Medra's Gate, even after much else had changed. Port had not softened his hands. He brought the boards from Sixth's mill in Re Albi, driving. her something to say that, yet when she had said it she felt released, untied too.

What was she appropriate, and that Ged, whom many call the greatest of the arch-mages, may have been the last. "Nais. . . how is it. . . ?" I stammered. "You take a complete stranger and. . .". "I don't know," he said. "Anyone can make a fist and show a palm," said the tall woman, pleasantly. "But not everyone can. we would say Semen." He smiled again and patted Otter's hand. "For he is the seed and fructifier. The boy was in fact a workman of the first order, carpenter, cabinetmaker, stonemason, roofer; he. Ayeth's stare grew more insolent as he watched Irioth stammer. He began to say something to San,

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