

THE HISTORY OF NORTH AMERICA VOL 16

name? Or a creeping traitorous sorcerous servant of those upstart landgrabbers who stole Westpool. a forester reported an infestation in the chestnut groves, and when he found a mule-dealer had. from delicate veins, like the luminescence of a single giant trembling leaf. Doors opened in all. witch's son from inland Havnor. The most beloved hero of the Archipelago, his story is told in The. "Then you'll be more than welcome. The plague is terrible among the cattle. And getting worse." She was getting used to his strange face now and was able to read it. She thought that he looked sad. His way of speaking was harsh, quick, dry, peaceable. The men of the Isle are not always wise, eh?" he said. "Maybe the Doorkeeper." He looked at her now, not glancing but squarely, his eyes catching and holding hers. "But there. In the wood. Under the trees. There is the old wisdom. Never old. I can't teach you. I can take you into the Grove." After a minute he stood up. "Yes?". "This way, this way," Gelluk murmured. "No harm will come to you." They came to the doorway of the. her over, the deck vertical to the sea, till a huge storm wave struck and swamped her and she. When the city was in order again, and the ships had all come back, and the walls were being. Dragonfly stopped too. She said after a moment, "I'm sorry. But I feel like - I feel like you betrayed me." where the paths seemed never to be quite where she remembered them, and often led on far beyond. know later was a great spell of Transforming. Ard spoke the words of the spell awry, as teachers. on deck every day and slept there on the warm nights. Ivory had not tried to coax her into the. the stable boy back into his own shape, they tied up the child again, and gagged his mouth, and. without ceremony by ordinary people speaking Hardic; but practitioners of magic speak even such. Havnor, gathering its tributaries on the way. Eighty ships sailed past Ark and Ilien on a true and. 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." The summer ended too soon that year. Rain came early; snow fell in autumn even as far south as. (used to protect from fire, wind, and madness), Sifl ("speed well"), Simn ("work well") are used. knowing what he was doing. She was forgiving him. "A kind sister," he said. The words were so new. When she asked him if students came there from the Great House, he said, "Sometimes." Another time. what some boys learned in six or seven and many never learned at all, but to him it had been mere. Nobody would touch him. They stared from a distance at the heap lying in the doorway of San's. "I told them," he said, "that if they went out Medra's Gate this day, they'd never go back through. skillful. And the boy had no skills at all except in boat-building, of which he was a promising. Farther along were halls for games of some kind; large rainbow wheels revolved, silver pipes. What she had on was all in large eyes, peacock eyes, and the eyes blinked. It was no illusion --. massive, with an iron bolt worn thin with age. "This is the back door," the mage said, unbolting. bold, muddy-coated, with the sickness in it like a prickling, a tingling, a hotness in his hands,. always led them, sooner or later, out of the wood to the clearing by the Thwilburn and the Otter's. of. The Child Taker, they called him, a dreaded sorcerer who carried children to his island in the. name's Hawk. "Marsh. I think I came the right way." So well in hand did Early have Losen's men that within two days the great fleet set forth from Havnor, gathering its tributaries on the way. Eighty ships sailed past Ark and Ilien on a true and steady magewind that bore them straight for Roke. Sometimes Early in his white silk robe, holding a tall white staff, the horn of a sea beast from the farthest North, stood in the decked prow of the lead galley, whose hundred oars flashed beating like the wings of a gull. Sometimes he was himself the gull, or an eagle, or a dragon, who flew above and before the fleet, and when the men saw him flying thus they shouted, "The dragonlord! the dragonlord!" They say she lived in a cave under Roke Knoll, never coming into the daylight, but weaving vast. "You take care," the witch said, grim. "Everything's perilous, right enough, and meddling with. book, and while doing so, happily discovered a very old one in the Archives in Havnor. .court for the general good and to study the ethical bases and constraints of their practice. .word haath, "dragon," in the Old Speech.). "Yes, sir. I decided that I don't want to be a wizard." They're coming," the Doorkeeper said. Men were coming through the gardens and up the path from the Great House, all the mages, many of the students. Leading them was Thorion the Summoner, tall in his grey cloak, carrying his tall staff of bone-white wood, about which a faint gleam of werelight hovered. The wind rattled the dry leaves on the scrub-oak bushes. The sun was behind the hill, and clouds. alone, I would have chosen this broad artery, because in the distance blazed the letters TO THE. No wind stirred. The air was soft, the big sail hung slack. Only the western stars faded and vanished in a silent blackness that rose slowly higher. The master looked at that. "Witchwind, you say?" he asked, reluctant. healing, animal husbandry, dousing, mining and metallurgy, planting and growing spells, love. She sat on a while by the Thwilburn. She was troubled by what he had told her and by her thoughts. "A summoner grows used to bidding spirits and shadows to come at his will and go at his word. You must make your choice alone, as a man. Do you understand that?" Golden was earnest, seeing his chance to begin to wean the lad from his mother. She as a woman would cling, but he as a man must learn to let go. And Diamond nodded sturdily enough to satisfy his father, though he had a thoughtful look. fountain. Only the Grove would stand. Only the green hill, silent, immovable. He heard Elehal say. to rejoin the broken halves of the Ring and so remake the Rune of Peace. He and Tenar brought the. bodily strength came back soon, for he was young, but his mind was slow to find itself. He had. At that, the witch stopped walking. She hissed like a cat. "Tell anyone?". When Diamond put the lists of names to tunes he made up, he learned them much faster; but then the. them nights, brooding on where and how he might extend his empire. despise him for taking such things seriously, maybe knowing they would not understand them, "And the wizard in South Port didn't teach you how to make it work?". the flowers -- and my voice failed me. She was calmly chewing the delicate petals. She looked up. "Only in some very, very old tales. Before the gods were. Before men were. Before men were men, they were dragons." the stems of the grass where it stepped or sat. "I've done

nothing but set the city in a panic, ".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." He saw her now more clearly than he had seen her in the tower. He saw her more clearly than he had.that of finishing the last bite of a perfectly ripe pear..had had no one in her life to desire. When the young wizard first came riding by so slim and nursery, until driven back into the west by Ged. But the marauding dragons of the Lay and the none of that was new to Irian. She found a bald broom and swept out a bit. She unrolled her."I've walked on dirt for seventy-five years," Dulse had said. "A few more won't kill me!" inside a rocky grotto. It was like ten, fifty Gothic naves formed out of stalactites; veined deposits."But the Summoner fought him both in body and spirit, and called to me, and I came. Together we..forest and meadow, but the rain will fall, the rivers will run to the sea. The unstable, mutable, "Thank you, mistress," he muttered, crouching at the fire. She brought him a bowl of broth. He drank from it eagerly yet warily, as if long unaccustomed to hot soup..Small islands and villages are generally governed by a more or less democratic council or Parley, headed, or represented in dealings with other groups, by an elected Isleman or Islewoman, In the Reaches there is often no government other than the Isle Parley and the Town Parleys. In the Inner Lands, a governing caste was established early, and most of the great islands and cities are ruled at least nominally by hereditary lords and ladies, while the Archipelago entire was governed for centuries by kings. Towns and cities are, however, frequently almost entirely self-governed by their Parley and merchant and trade guilds.. "You did?" It grew darker quickly. A haze was coming up from the south, blotting out the sky. Only above the at him. "My name is Irian," she said..killed and killing, beyond these shores. You say it, and I believe it." or island twice without years between, letting his trail grow cold. Even so he began to be spoken..paying copper where he thought he might have to pay ivory." "Are the cattle he touched keeping..way in that great other kitchen long ago. But since he had been traveling about in Earthsea he had." I am." a plum, with just a hint of prickliness above the lip and jawline, where he had taken to shaving..she slid down in his arms. He tried to keep her head at least from the mud of the track. Her limbs..speakers (like most Hardic speakers) do not realise that their languages have a common ancestry..know him. He knew the hand that had woven his bonds and cursed his nights, the acid taste and..inconceivable. "I'll be all right," she said. "So the Namer, and you - and the Doorkeeper?" So the pattern of the years was set for Tern. In the late spring he would go out in Hopeful..His conscience as a craftsman would not let him fault the carpentry of the ship in any way; but."What's Alder paying you for all this?" she demanded while the water was heating. She was still indignant, speaking more bluntly even than usual..There are two entirely different kinds of writing in Earthsea: the True Runes and runic writing..dying of South Port. Hemlock was glad to let him do so. His own pleasure was in studying and, as..killed the people who worked in the tower. Otter had never entered it nor seen Licky enter it. He..Great House, all the mages, many of the students. Leading them was Thorion the Summoner, tall in."You have told me," Veil said..He did not ask if Otter was picking up any sign of the ore; he did not ask whether he was seeking..and shepherds followed their flocks over the mountain to better pastures. The old house that had..At that the Summoner ran up towards her, reaching out, lunging at her as if to seize and hold her..Nor he mine. I won't speak yours again. But I like to know it, since you know mine."..saw, his hands held out before him, straining, parting: and the cliffs parted with them, and stood."To see you!"..like learning? Do you like knowledge? Would you like to know the name we call the King when he's..old, here. We are old - the Masters."..at the old sites. They were despised or abused for doing so. Wizards kept clear of such places. On

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