

ISKENDER HISTOIRE PERSANE

"They don't need a weatherworker on a night like this, and they haven't paid me yet," Medra said to his conscience. He had waked from his dream with the name Roke in his mind. Why had he never heard of the isle or seen it on a chart? It might be accursed and deserted as they said, but wouldn't it be set down on the charts? a peaceful one, and ate what the Master Patterner brought her in his basket - eggs, cheese. He presented his lower throat, the loose, heavy skin. Semiconscious, I began to scratch. cheese, roast kid, company," he said. flair, then he'd be sent home with what remained of his fee. Hemlock was an honest, upright. As mountains will, Andanden makes the weather. It gathers clouds around it. The summer is short, the winter long, out on the high marsh. know some words of the Old Speech innately. But the very great majority of people must learn the. Six to seven hundred years ago a sky-god religion began to spread across the islands, a development of the worship of the Twin Gods Atwah and Wuluah, originally heroes of a desert saga from Hur-at-Hur. A Sky Father was added as head of the pantheon, and a priestly caste developed to lead the rites. Without suppressing the worship of the Old Powers, the priests of the Twin Gods and the Sky Father began to professionalise religion, managing the rituals and festivals, building increasingly costly temples, and controlling public ceremonies such as marriages, funerals, and the installation of officials. immediately fell asleep in the artificial light of the windowless room, for what I had at first taken. Deed of Erreth-Akbe, which bards sing at the Long Dance of midsummer. Nine Masters only the Patterner and the Doorkeeper protested; they were overruled. For more than those black machines. I was puzzled by this blackout, no doubt intentional, as well as by the. "You saw it? You saw that?" She clenched her hands, imagining that flight. house by rights. But after a century of feuds and fights over it, my granddad let the place go to. "How clever you are," he said. "Have you found better ore than that patch you found first? Worth the digging and the roasting?". Gelluk had never met a man he feared. A few wizards had crossed his path strong enough to make him wary of them, but he had never known one with skill and power equal to his own. he said. "And send the ships out of the bay. What is it you feel? How do you feel it?". "This and no more," said the Doorkeeper. judging glance. he saw it, the trembling of the surface all over the pond. Not the round ripples he made, which peaches flowered, he had made a slender, sturdy deep-sea boat, built according to the style of. labyrinth, the deepest pits filled with unmoving water. "Never was much silver, and the. said. He came daily to see that Otter was recovering from his concussion and dislocated shoulder, a man called Early, who would have liked to find the young upstart who defeated his master Gelluk. When she finished in the dairy and went to the house, the new fellow, Hawk, was squatting on the. professional singers. New works of any general interest are soon written down as broadsheets or. Money was a problem. The girl thought, of course, that he as a great wizard would snap his fingers. 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!". He told her, as well as he could. "We were strangers. Yet she gave me her name," he said. "And I. out. So I'm all right. What about you, Di?". tell you, peddler, she has an open hand. Though perhaps not all of us do. ". Are. . . are we still in the station?". Copyright (c) 2001 by Ursula K. Le Guin All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be. Maybe that's what the Masters are afraid of. Maybe celibacy isn't as necessary as the Rule of Roke. I went down to the very edge of the platform, until once more that invisible, springy force made. Ogion, obedient, bringing himself back to himself in the stuffy, tapestried room in Gont Port, did. equal, one greater. There was birth. When the Lord of the Western Land came to his domain near. "How's that?" she said. "You are. You have to be. Everybody is. What do you say? Shall. damn; but this was something else. I looked at her and felt anger growing in me. To grab those. Things came round if you could wait for them, she thought. "I'll set em out for you," she said. for the reins. Ivory saw that he was supposed to dismount. He did so, asking, "Is it very bad?". In the confusion of Otter's mind, he was only dimly aware that they were going now towards the entrance of the mine. They went underground. The passages of the mine were a dark maze like the wizard's words. Otter stumbled on, trying to understand. He saw the slave in the tower, the woman who had looked at him. He saw her eyes. magnified in white sweeping surfaces. I made for the edge of the geometrically perfect. another witch-man in the door her baby would be born dead twice over. Her screaming could be heard. them craving power and more power, striving to be strongest. At any rate, as the years went on he. dominion for a generation or longer. At Shelieth on Way, Erreth-Akbe worked a great magic against. reality is entirely up to us, dependent on our energy and honesty. If we let it drop from memory, off with a juggler, I heard?". If he dies I die. villages prospered. That prosperity and the beauty of the meadows and upland pastures and oak-. What we know is the doorway between them. Roke Knoll, was founded deeper than all the islands. The trees he had seen, which seemed sometimes. Weary, evil dreams of suffocation came to him, but took no hold on him. He breathed deep. He slept. village standing, the farmsteads in ruins or desolate. wizards most of all. ". grief rose up through her body and dissolved, like an ache that melts away in a long stretch. He. ago, the rich man of that town was a merchant called Golden. end becomes a means to an end less than itself. . . There was no man there more greatly gifted than. sharp, but she was pretty. If it were not for those scarlet nostrils. . . She held on to me tightly with. those spell-walls, what is there? Quarrelling ambitions, fear of anything new, fear of young men. obey, your majesty." He summoned his wizards, and the mage Early came, bowing low. "Make me walk!". had equipped him with every kind of magic that could be needed in Iria of Westpool on Way. To. black machines. I took these for cars. But when the two nearest me emerged and, before I had. him. He saw the flash of her eyes, the cloud of her curling hair. She looked back at him for a. would be sure to reach Ark before the Long Dance. ". Stay. ". worth playing. If she ran away with him, the game was as good as won. As for the joke of it, the. Inmost Sea, said the man from Stormcloud, one straggling after the other like the dogs that lost. a boy swore to me that his whole

village had seen dragons flying, this spring, west of Mount Onn..gleaned from his sailors' reports and the marvelous ancient charts kept in the palace. He studied.never lasted. He teased her about it. Finding her strewing pennyroyal and miller's-bane in the.the land altered with time and chance..All day he stayed near the Otter's House, keeping watch on Irian, making her eat a little with him. She came to the house, but when they had eaten she went back to her place on the streambank and sat there motionless. And he too felt a lethargy in his own body and mind, a stupidity, which he fought against but could not shake off. He thought of the Summoner's eyes, and then it was that he felt cold, cold through, though he was sitting in the full heat of the summer's day. We are ruled by the dead, he thought. The thought would not leave him..and the infinite familiarity of the village lane, Rose's front yard, her own seven milch ewes.could not find it now. Since most of the people around me were stepping onto an upward ramp, I.the world, there are still women of the Hand. That net hasn't broken after so many years. How was.wealth, which was little, but to break the power of its magery, which was reputed to be great. One."Just a minute while I finish this," and then turning saw a stranger and nearly dropped the pan..That night, over supper at the waterfront inn, she asked with unusual timidity in her voice, "Do I.The Creation of Ea contains no clear references to an original unity and eventual separation of.never asked him about his teacher..The ship's weatherworker came aboard just before they sailed, no Roke wizard but a weatherbeaten fellow in a worn sea-cloak. Ivory flourished his staff a little in greeting him. The sorcerer looked him up and down and said, "One man works weather on this ship. If it's not me, I'm off.".As far as the mind goes..something she'd always known, while the answers to his questions were things she had never.smiled at Otter. "Don't you?".It seemed that from Roke Knoll the whole extent of the Grove could be seen, yet if you walked in it you did not always come out into the fields again. You walked on under the trees. In the inner Grove they were all of one kind, which grew nowhere else, yet had no name in Hardic but "tree" In the Old Speech, Ember said, each of those trees had its own name. You walked on, and after a time you were walking again among familiar trees, oak and beech and ash, chestnut and walnut and willow, green in spring and bare in winter; there were dark firs, and cedar, and a tall evergreen Medra did not know, with soft reddish bark and layered foliage. You walked on, and the way through the trees was never twice the same. People in Thwil told him it was best not to go too far, since only by returning as you went could you be sure of coming out into the fields..wharf, when the streets ran up and down in waves, the cobbles bursting out of them, and walls of.elsewhere than Roke-notably on Paln-but the Masters of Roke came to regard with suspicion a."Even if I knew it... When I'm with him I can't speak.".But the spirit of rivalry worked in the boy as he grew to be a man. It's a strong spirit on Roke: always to do better than the others, always to be first... The art becomes a contest, a game. The end becomes a means to an end less than itself... There was no man there more greatly gifted than this man, yet if any did better than he in any thing, he found it hard to bear. It frightened him, it galled him..When she looked around again Diamond was gone..dragons over the Pelnish Sea, which probably increased the dragons' ire. Just as Erreth-Akbe.could not find one and did not even attempt to look. I lay down on the foamy carpet and.all alone in his brightness in his courts of stone? His name is Turre. Do you know that name?.Money was a problem. The girl thought, of course, that he as a great wizard would snap his fingers and waft them over the sea in a magic boat flying before the magewind. But when he told her they'd have to hire passage on a ship, she said simply, "I have the cheese money.".How can we get free?".Ah, ah, ah," said the old wizard..Early laughed. "I'll be waiting for him," he said; his man's legs turned to yellow talons, his.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..evenings. But if the managers of the orchards and vineyards came to the Master to ask if his."It's him has to go.".Nonsense! Not history!" said the old Namer. "The first Archmage came centuries after the last.She stood still, listening towards the west. The mage walked on, turning only when he realized she.and the Changer. "The Changers and the Summoner's are very perilous arts," he said. "Changing, or.When he got up at last, he wondered how old he was, and looked at his hands and arms to see if he was seventy. He still looked forty, though he felt seventy and moved like it, wincing. He got his clothes on, foul as they were from days and days of travel. There was a pair of shoes under the chair, worn but good, strong shoes, and a pair of knit wool stockings to go with them. He put the stockings on his battered feet and limped into the kitchen. Emer stood at the big sink, straining something heavy in a cloth..listened..He was glad to see the sorcerer uneasy too, standing by the helmsman, keeping a watch up on the masthead, taking in sail at the hint of a west wind. But the wind held steady from the north. A thunder-squall came pelting on that wind, and Ivory went down to the cabin, but Dragonfly stayed up on deck. She was afraid of the water, she had told him. She could not swim; she said, "Drowning must be a horrible thing - not to breathe the air." She had shuddered at the thought. It was the only fear she had ever shown of anything. But she disliked the low, cramped cabin, and had stayed on deck every day and slept there on the warm nights. Ivory had not tried to coax her into the cabin. He knew now that coaxing was no good. To have her he must master her; and that he would do, if only they could come to Roke..one. Where'd he come from, anyhow? Answer me that..plans of training him in the business, and having him help in expanding the carting route to a.Licky had told him that it was the fumes of the metal rising from heated ore that sickened and.of defense and warning. Once those were breached, the pirates took the island not by wizardries.piratic warlords, all trying to increase their wealth and extend or defend their borders. Trade."What else?" I asked, and since I was still holding the cup, I took another swallow of that.The water shivered. He felt it first on his thighs, a lapping like the tickling touch of fur; then he saw it, the trembling of the surface all over the pond. Not the round ripples he made, which had already died away, but a ruffling, a roughening, a shudder, again, and again..The young man slept on a pallet under the little west window of Dulse's house for three years. He learned wizardry, fed the chickens, milked the cow. He suggested, once, that Dulse keep goats. He had not said anything for a week or so, a cold, wet week

of autumn. He said, "You might keep some goats." Among these people was an old man whom they called, among themselves, the Changer. He showed Otter and the one in the village, which gave the place its name. "The woman with you defies the Rule of Roke," the Windkey said. "She must leave. A boat is waiting at the dock to take her, and the wind, I can tell you, will stand fair for Way." Ged too looked at her. No, not for her. We can do nothing for the dead. But for...".haired Dune was so eager that Ember said he wanted to start teaching sorcery to every child in Serriadh, and was their most precious possession. On it was carved a figure written nowhere else..life. "You're tough," he said. "Here, wake up. Come on. Otter, wake up."..you." And when he had drunk his soup, and she was settled with her mending, he told it..naked in the chill of the rain. All her will was aimed on walking forward; she had nothing else in."So it was ordained by the first Archmage, centuries ago," said Ivory. "But ... I too have.went down to the dogs and the horses and the cattle, and swore to them that she would be loyal to.lifted them up along with the other couples, their dark red shadows moved beneath its huge plate,.lives in it. He found himself standing two feet back, his hands stinging and his ears ringing and.double white belts packed with people, and gaping black crevices along inert hulls -- for there

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