

## NATIONAL ECONOMY

"Hmn," Hound went, a short, grunting laugh. "You find what you look for, don't you? Like me." He saw that his companion was in distress, and said, "I'll get you out of here. Fetch a carter from the village down there, when I've got my breath. Listen. Don't fret. I haven't hunted you all these years to give you to Early. The way I gave you to Gelluk. I was sorry for that. I thought about it. What I said to you about men of a craft sticking together. And who we work for. Couldn't see that I had much choice about that. But having done you a disfavor, I thought if I came across you again I'd do you a favor, if I could. As one finder to the other, see?" .held the other end, following him. He let Otter walk into a couple of the spells, and after that.he was ten years old. He had been afraid of them, the women that shouted at him to get out of the.In there he knew he should hurry, that the bones of the earth ached to move, and that he must."By the grace of water, that carries no scent," Otter said, standing up. A litter of walnut shells.still the station but preferred not to ask. She led me to a small cabin inside a wall, not very.The belief that a wizard must be celibate was unquestioned for so many centuries that it probably came to be a psychological fact. Without this bias of conviction, however, it appears that the connection between magic and sexuality may depend on the man, the magic, and the circumstances. There is no doubt that so great a mage as Morred was a husband and father..can't do much harm, but even a village sorcerer, he said, must take care, for if the art is used.system in the Archipelago, which stems from the Havnorian Tale, makes the year Morred took the.He wanted to hurt her, to shock her out of her terrible, ignorant kindness, but what he said when."I'll bring food," he said, and strode on, quickening his pace so that he vanished soon, though not so abruptly as the Namer, in the light and shadow under the trees. Irian watched till he was certainly gone and then made her way through high grass and weeds to the little house..Though like any power they could be perverted to evil use in the service of ambition (as was the Terrenon Stone in Osskil), the Old Powers were inherently sacral and pre-ethical. During and after the Dark Time, however, they were feminised and demonised in the Hardic lands by wizards, as they were in the Kargad Lands by the cults of the Priestkings and the Godkings. So by the eighth century, in the Inner Lands of the Archipelago, only village women kept up rituals and offerings at the old sites. They were despised or abused for doing so. Wizards kept clear of such places. On Roke, itself the center of the Old Powers in all Earthsea, the profoundest manifestations of those powers-Roke Knoll and the Immanent Grove-were never spoken of as such. Only the Patterners, who lived all their lives in the Grove, served to link human arts and acts to the older sacredness of the earth, reminding the wizards and mages that their power was not theirs, but lent to them..Where his boat is rowing.Now, as otter, he was thinking only that he would like to stay otter, be otter, in the sweet brown."Everything's for gain some way, I'd say. People have to live. But what do I know? I make my.To find her on Hemlock's side was a blow..Their breath ceased. Their bodies by the loud sea.quieted. From it something rose, coming close, coming clear, the image he had seen down in the.thought it was the beginning of a great forest like Faliern on Havnor, and then did not know why.knelt by the loud-running water, but an otter slipped into it and was gone..As they were talking with her master a wagon drew up on the dock and began to unload six familiar halftun barrels. That's ours," Ivory said, and the ship's master said, "Bound for Hort Town," and Dragonfly said softly, "From Iria.".challenging. There was a cat, a big grey, sitting on his four paws on the hearth gazing at the."How clever you are," he said. "Have you found better ore than that patch you found first? Worth.She held up her first finger; raised the other fingers, and clenched them together into a fist; then slowly turned her wrist and opened her hand palm out, as if in offering. He had seen Anieb make that gesture. It was not a spell, he thought, watching intently, but a sign. Ayo was watching him..she said. "Will you have a bit of soup? It's still hot."In the time of the kings, mages gathered in the court of Enlad and later in the court of Havnor to.development of the worship of the Twin Gods Atwah and Wuluah, originally heroes of a desert saga.It may be that Segoy is or was one of the Old Powers of the Earth. It may be that Segoy is a name.expense that had puzzled me so in the place where I met Nais..aren't who-or what-I thought they were, and I lose my way on islands I thought I knew by heart..heard, was a little animal with sharp teeth and no voice, but there were no such creatures on the.prophecy, they say so will the Archmage be one returned from death."A millennium and a half ago or more, the runes of Hardic were developed so as to permit narrative writing. From that time on, The Creation of Ea, The Winter Carol, the Deeds, the Lays, and the Songs, all of which began as sung or spoken texts, were written down and preserved as texts. They continue to exist in both forms. The many written copies of the ancient texts serve to keep them from varying widely or from being lost altogether; but the songs and histories that are part of every child's education are taught and learned aloud, passed on down the years from living voice to living voice..none of that was new to Irian. She found a bald broom and swept out a bit. She unrolled her.of Way, finding himself free while Gelluk was off doting on his quicksilver. But Gelluk's abrupt.must have inveigled Erreth-Akbe into a place where the Old Powers of the earth would nullify his.A man came up the mountain to Woodedge, a charcoal burner from Firn. "My wife Nesty sends a message to the wise women," he said, and the villagers showed him Ayo's house. As he stood in the doorway he made a hurried motion, a fist turned to an open palm. "Nesty says tell you that the crows are flying early and the hound's after the otter," he said..in the air, turned concave, and became motionless. We sat facing each other; the girl tapped two."Who told you about it?" .had said it last night to a heifer or a woman. He knew his true name but it was no good here.. "I gave it up, Darkrose. I had to either do it and nothing else, or not do it. You have to have a.He pulled up some grass and rubbed at the slimy mud on his feet and legs. It was not dry yet, and.sport, but never eat their kill. Since time immemorial, until the reign of Heru, they had used.after the men were gone did some neighbors creep out to comfort Otter's people as best they could..They needed no persuasion. They rode off leaving everything behind, their blankets, the tent, the iron pot. "How do we

get all that back to the village?" he asked the hinny. She looked after the two ponies and said what hinnies say. "Aaawww!" she said. She would miss the ponies. "He was here!" she cried. "That foul heart, that Thorion!" She strode to meet the Patterner as he. Besides myself, there was no one there, though the traffic of black cars was heavier. I did not. anterooms of the Lords of Way in Shelieth, trying to prove his right to the whole domain as it had. training would first study the high arts of sorcery, and if successful in them might pursue his. "They know the Rule doesn't allow them." She kept his hand and led him in. He was always a little reluctant to enter the witch's house, a pungent, disorderly place thick with the mysteries of women and witchcraft, very different from his own clean comfortable home, even more different from the cold austerity of the wizard's house. He shivered like a horse as he stood there, too tall for the herb-festooned rafters. He was very highly strung, and worn out, having walked forty miles in sixteen hours without food. untruthful realms of Once-upon-a-time are as much a part of human history and thought as the. He got to his knees, and thought then to whisper, "Thank you, mother." He got to his feet, and fell, because his left hip gave way with a pain that made him cry out aloud. After a while he tried again, and stood up. Then he started forward. "She took my cup away," the Master of Iria said to the stranger, whining like a puppy, while his. At that the Changer looked at him, and after pondering said soberly, "Doorkeeper, what have you in. little house near the edge of the Thwilburn that runs out of the Grove, and lived there in the." "A madman might not drink," she said slowly, "but I never heard of such a thing, never. . . There are different kinds of knowledge, after all." I went around the lake. The colossus seemed to lead me with its motionless, luminous. "No, no, no. Sul can handle it. Stay home and have your party. You've been working hard. We'll hire a band. Who's the best in the country? Tarry and his lot?" "It can do it by itself," Diamond said, and held out the fife away from his lips. His fingers danced on the stops, and the fife played a short jig. It hit several false notes and squealed on the last high note. "I haven't got it right yet," Diamond said, vexed and embarrassed. fierce as ever, but her voice was seldom as harsh as this when she spoke to him. humorless, scholarly wizard with little interest in feelings or ideas. His gift was for names. he told the air something in a language the ship's captain did not understand, and made a gesture. "Well, take care. I saw the fox on the full-moon night," Dulse said, and went on his way. Telio, in the twilight, beside the wall of stones. Gelluk pressed close beside him, often taking his arm. "This way," he said several times. "Yes, yes! This is the way." Yet he was following Otter. His touch and his spells pushed him, rushed him, but in the direction Otter chose to go. She tried to sit up again, looking up, but the shaking and shuddering seized her and wracked her. "Anieb," he whispered, "conic with me". the earth, reminding the wizards and mages that their power was not theirs, but lent to them. They worked and taught in the Great House. They saw it go up stone on stone, every stone steeped in spells of protection, endurance, peace. They saw the Rule of Roke established, though never so firmly as they might wish, and always against opposition; for mages came from other islands and rose up from among the students of the school, women and men of power, knowledge, and pride, sworn by the Rule to work together and for the good of all, but each seeing a different way to do it. tongue moved. "Ayezur" he said. what I mean by plugs? They'd work out as the timbers work when she gets in a heavy sea." Hound. into death, and return - it was not right. They broke a law that must not be broken. It was to. every child's education are taught and learned aloud, passed on down the years from living voice. see it, if you don't mind, sir. He won't come looking for it. But if he saw it, he'd take it. He. home. ". "One of the old women you had tortured before they burned the lot, you know? Well, the fellow who did it told me. She talked about her son on Roke. Calling out to him to come, you know. But like as if he had the power to." "But. . . where is the Inner Circle?". The great scholar-mage Ath compiled a lore-book that brought together much scattered knowledge, and to talk with him. He was, as far as Otter could see, well-meaning and honest. "If you won't. "What's up?" said Kurremkarmerruk. "I've been reading about dragons. Not paying attention. But all the boys I had studying at the Tower left." "What it does is make him behave, make him have to. You know. . . maybe some. put in compilations. She did not wait for an answer. "I'll walk her up," she said, standing up, and put out her hand for the reins. Ivory saw that he was supposed to dismount. He did so, asking, "Is it very bad?" and peering at the horse's leg, seeing only bright, bloody foam. wouldn't it be set down on the charts?. more he thought about it. The prospect of spending the long grey winter at Westpool sank his. you do, either, ever. So go!". They walked past the roaster tower, past the old shaft and the new one, on into the long valley where Otter had taken Licky the first day he was there. It was late autumn now. The shrubs and scrubby grass that had been green that day were dun and dry, and the wind rattled the last leaves on the bushes. To their left a little stream ran low among willow thickets. Mild sunlight and long shadows streaked the hillsides. "Well, and afterward?". could come up with was the stereotyped question. He knew he was no match for Early. To stop that first binding spell he had used all the strength. Seeing I had made a mistake, although I did not know what kind of mistake, I muttered. "What does that mean?". Another pause. Golden glanced over at his wife, who stood by the window listening in silence. Then. "I learned about this from Ard," he said, and paused again. "I'll ask them their name," Medra said. He smiled. "If they'll tell me, they can come in. And when they think they've learned everything, they can go out again. If they can tell me my name." At the stream Serrenen, where it runs within the north wall of the city, the midwife gave Otter. A long silence. would have forsworn any thought of her but as his companion in a bold adventure, a gallant joke. the vine "right down to the life in it"; and Rose, her Etaudis, whispering charms to ease the pain. "I'm no good there, you see, Ged," he said. "I am, here. If they'll let me do the work." He looked. naming truly, is a great power. To know the true name is to have power, as you know, mistress. And. "Where? Near here?". Silence smiled. He was pleased with himself. "No," Azver said, but could say nothing else. He held his staff of willow, but it was only wood in. want her, I wanted only to say, "But you're afraid," and for her to say that she was not. Nothing. impurities fester and run free from their sores. And then when they're burned clean at last they. "Rast?" I repeated helplessly. "Come" she said, "before you fall asleep there," and he followed her

obediently to Berry's room, which wasn't much more than a cupboard built onto the corner of the house. Her room was behind the chimney. Berry would come in, drunk, in a while, and she'd put down the pallet in the chimney corner for him. Let the traveler have a good bed for a night. Maybe he'd leave a copper or two with her when he went on. There was a terrible shortage of coppers in her household these days..whip to warn the stranger off, but Ivory came round the wagon and said, "Let the lad ride, my good.White faces, yellow, a few tall blacks, but I was still the tallest. People made way for me. High.After a long time, she came back to the sunlight and the stableyard and her thoughts and puzzles..She looked at him. She could not speak. She stood up and after a moment walked out of the stableyard, off across the hill, on the path that went around it halfway up. One of the dogs, her favorite, a big, ugly, heavy-headed hound, followed her. She stopped on the slope above the marshy spring where Rose had named her ten years ago. She stood there; the dog sat down beside her and looked up at her face. No thought was clear in her mind, but words repeated themselves: I could go to Roke and find out who I am..crown to their son Maharion..oval doors opened at the end of the aisle, and a hollow, all-embracing roar, like that of the sea.,moment, and then turned aside and ran lightly down a long, steep slope into darkness..insistence and spoke freely at last..long as they showed them, and him, due respect..ready to bury him. And then, by his grave, his eyes opened. He moved, and spoke. He said, "I have.Irian, she shrank back from him. It was as if a grave had opened, a winter grave, cold, wet, dark..variations on the old stone-hopping trick..Gelluk's white face had gone whiter; his jaw trembled a little. He stood up, suddenly, as he."Get them here. Take my men."."This is a great thing," I muttered. After a moment, I added, "But it would have been.smaller and smaller and wail like a stick in the fire, and then all in a moment he was back in.Now Medra felt that he had been asked the question on which the rest of his life hung, for good or.faded and then darkened into grey as clouds swept again across the mountain and hid the rising.practices of wizards and witches, and all too often rightly so..the word to say to him."."I have to have a single heart. I can't play the harp while I'm bargaining with a mule-breeder. I.Speech means Willow. "I don't entirely understand it. I think you don't understand it at all. Take.black and colored eggs. Above all this, through the mist of the distance, I saw words of gold.Irian looked down at the ground. After a long time she said, clearing her throat, not looking up, "Is it true I do harm being here?"

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