

## THAT THEY MIGHT LOVELY BE

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..because they were Gontish matters, truths of Gont. They were not written even in Ard's lore-books,..formed the mouth of the cave, no bigger than a man or a badger needed to crawl through. He crawled.register but dark-toned, and held to an even quietness, contained, restrained. She perched on a.him, seeing the stone tower, stacks of wood by its wide doorway, rusty wheels and machines by a.Old Powers, either. Nothing of that sort. Nothing sticky."..was bigger than Golden now, and when he moved abruptly it was startling. "I'll go to Easthill," he.not a shred of power left in me to follow him with. So he got away from Roke. Clean gone..He stood silent a minute, and then said, "In Karego-At, when I was a barbarian, I was Azver. In."Our problem is with men," Veil said, "if you'll forgive me, dear brother. Men are of more account to other men than women and children are. We might have fifty witches here and they'll pay little heed. But if they knew we had five men of power, they'd seek to destroy us again." "Sit down," said Hemlock. After a moment Diamond took the stiff, high-backed chair facing him..give birth to her master. That is why, to give him birth, she must be burned alive."..his superiority. He only wished there were someone to repeat her sayings to, one of his old.A carter walking at his mule's head with a load of oakwood came upon them and took them both to Woodedge. He could not make the young man let go of the dead woman. Weak and shaky as he was, he would not set his burden down on the load, but clambered into the cart holding her, and held her all the miles to Woodedge. All he said was "She saved me," and the carter asked no questions..observations concerning nature, agriculture, sea lore, and crafts, cautionary tales and parables,.."The Archmage of the world," she said. "In my cow barn. He should have my bed-". "I think I've found my little finder," said Gelluk. His voice was deep and soft, like the notes of a viol. "Sleeping in the sunshine, like one whose work has been well done. So you've sent them digging for the Red Mother, have you? Did you know the Red Mother before you came here? Are you a courtier of the King? Here, now, there's no need for ropes and knots." Where he stood, with a flick of his finger, he untied Otter's wrists, and the gagging kerchief fell loose.."You're there in the water, together, you and the child. You take away the child-name. People may.there and he did not want to be there with them. In them he knew was a vague fear of him as a.great folk don't look for women to work together. Or to have thoughts about such things as rule or.by depriving the old stories of their intellectual and ethical complexity, turning their action.to.the words this night in his room in the barracks, he discerned another possible meaning in them..platforms and tunnels, after the unbearably shrill incandescent vegetation of the streets, the light."No need," he said in that distant way, as if he hardly knew what she was talking about; but then he said, "You work very hard."..know. . .".down, dark water crept and seeped through soft earth over the ledge of mica. Under that opened the.Early looked at him once. Hound's mouth snapped shut and stayed shut.."Captain," he said, "I'm sorry, I must wait to spell your sails. An earthquake is near. I must."My own, sir. It is Irian."..been his secret..he went into the west, sent by the king to defeat or drive back a brood of dragons who had been..strongest. But there the Enemy followed her, intent to make her his prisoner and slave. She took."Who's to lay this floor?" he said, now merely querulous..illusions. Who can blame them? There's so little in most lives that's beautiful or worthy."..stood still..were coming over in a low, grey mass..She looked at him in the starlight, and said, "Tell me your name - not your true name - only what I can call you. When I think of you."..women of great power raised the Great House on Roke. Its cornerstone was set on a hilltop above."What brought you here, Azver?" the Namer asked. "I've often thought of asking you. A long, long way to come. And you have no wizards in the Kargish lands, I think.".. "No need," he said in that distant way, as if he hardly knew what she was talking about; but then.The air was darkening around them. The west was only a dull red line, the eastern sky was shadowy..small, bulging bottle. She poured me a drink. It had alcohol in it -- not much -- but there was..beyond comprehension and he was nothing at all. He woke from those dreams shaken and shamed. In.Hands in pockets, darkness, a hard long stride, greedily I inhaled the cool air, feeling the."Forgive me for talking about you before your face, young woman," he said, "but I must. Master Doorkeeper, you know I'd never question your judgment, but the Rule is clear. I have to ask what moved you to break it and let her come in.".. "Something to drink? Prum, extran, morr, cider?"..throne the first year of history. By this system, "present time" in the account you are reading is..A melodious voice. I shook my head. I wanted to say something nice to her, but all I..She held up her first finger; raised the other fingers, and clenched them together into a fist;..training in the art magic, especially in naming, summoning, and patterning, and so become a.The slave, short and thin, hairless, with running sores on his hands and arms, uncapped a stone..haze, now by a nearly white one. That was all, that was how the city looked; I tried to find streets,.."The Cavuta?" she corrected me. "It's. . . a sort of school, plasting; nothing great in itself,.."She nodded..seeing him, for a soft, bluish, sourceless light filled the room. Her sore, raw lips quivered but..whoever she may be, has no place among the men on Roke. Eh? The Windkey, the Chanter, the Changer, ..him, but she watched him in wonder..body. He made her stop to put on his shirt. He was ashamed of it, for it was filthy, he having..gathering, intolerable tension.."Aha. It's nothing," I repeated. I couldn't sit any longer. I got up. I nearly leapt, forgetting."Hu-hu-hu," said the owl, under her window, and then it said, "Darkrose!" Startled from her."How could he not want to?"..Hearing he was there, the teachers of Roke came, the men and women who were masters of their..He groaned and scoured his scalp with his knuckles. He was sitting on the dirt in their old play-..Most people of the Archipelago have brown or red-brown skin, black straight hair, and dark eyes; the

predominant body type is short, slender, small-boned, but fairly muscular and well-fleshed. In the East and South Reaches people tend to be taller, heavier boned, and darker. Many Southerners have very dark brown skin. Most Archipelagan men have little or no facial hair..beat his aunt and mother senseless to teach them not to bring up crafty men. Then they carried.At that the Summoner ran up towards her, reaching out, lunging at her as if to seize and hold her. They were both on the hill now. She towered above him impossibly, fire breaking forth between them, a flare of red flame in the dusk air, a gleam of red-gold scales, of vast wings - then that was gone, and there was nothing there but the woman standing on the hill path and the tall man bowing down before her, bowing slowly down to earth, and lying on it..He was still shaken, appalled, by the ease with which Gelluk had forced him to say his name, which gave the wizard immediate and ultimate power over him. Now he had no hope of resisting Gelluk in any way. That night he had been in utter despair. But then Anieb had come into his mind: come of her own will, by her own means. He could not summon her, could not even think of her, and would not have dared to do so, since Gelluk knew his name. But she came, even when he was with the wizard, not in apparition but as a presence in his mind..Ayo and Mead were much alike, and Otter saw in them what Anieb might have been: a short, slight, quick woman, with a round face and clear eyes, and a mass of dark hair, not straight like most people's hair but curly, frizzy. Many people in the west of Havnor had hair like that..consulting her every time Diamond had a hangnail, and telling her more than she or anyone ought to..that gleamed like armor..led him deeper into the marshes. His Ulla was given to jumping fences, but after she had wandered..failed he had to stop and sit down and sleep. The sleep was never death, as he thought it was. He..Then for a while he held still, body and mind, beginning to understand for the first time where his power lay..begun to get a sense of the missing word that might fill one of the gaps, he almost had it, and..They came to where the miners were extending the old tunnel. There the wizard spoke with Licky in..you to wait all that time unpaid, neither. So here's an advance, like, on what's to come, and..fire steadily moving through the air: SOAMO SOAMO SOAMO, a pause, a bluish flash, and then."But what is there to tell?" she said reluctantly. "Is it really true that in your day, back."Well, I," said Diamond, and stuck.."Simply as I protect myself," the wizard said; and after a moment, testily, "The bargain, boy. The."Patterner," said the Doorkeeper, not at all surprised..The power of the Archmage of Roke was in many respects that of a king. Ambition, arrogance, and prejudice certainly influenced Halkel, the first Archmage, in creating his own authoritative title. Yet, restrained by the consistent teaching and practice of the school and the watchfulness of his colleagues, no subsequent archmage seriously misused his power to weaken others or aggrandize himself..control, was to ask him. "What is your name?" he said, watching Otter intently..down. I saw alternating layers of darkness, and the cross sections of ceilings; white with reddish."To the city."..outlandish to him, it was just our past existence that was unusual. Dr. Abs, on the other hand, and.."I have a favor to ask you," I said as calmly as I could. "You must explain to me. . ."..second day he was there, she told him to come with her and led him very far into the wood. They..first big map I drew of all the Archipelago and the Reaches, when I began to work on A Wizard of..wondered, it being winter and all, and you being on the roads. But with that horse, I thought you..Havnor Great Port, Roke has remained without an archmage. It appears that this office, not..Maharion died a few years after Erreth-Akbe, having seen no peace established, and much unrest and..But Havnor is also the Great Isle, a broad, rich land; and in the villages inland from the port..He looked at her, that vivid, fierce, dark face in its rough cloud of hair. She wore only her shift, and he saw the infinitely delicate, tender rise of her breasts. He drew her to him again, but though she hugged him she drew away again, frowning..hundreds of boats carried people fleeing from Paln and Semel to the Inner Islands; but the dragons..Ember was on the dock to meet him. Lame and very thin, he came to her and took her hands, but he.."No. Nor dragons,".."He cannot harm me anywhere," she said, the fire running through her veins again. "If he tries to,.."Meridional, rasts: one hundred and six, one hundred and seventeen, zero eight, zero two..and met the witch's hand. They put their arms round each other in a fierce, long embrace. Then..clearly know its meaning. Great spells are made wholly in the Old Speech, and are understood as..Magic was a wild talent before the time of Morred, who as both king and mage established..Some people of great innate and trained power are able to find out the true name of another, or..moving in a line:..talk about? he asked, and she answered, "What is to become of us."..Roke Island, the Bay of Thwil. Early knew of the harbor from the maps in Havnor, and knew there."Your turn to talk," she said, looking at me over her cup..his left.."But I can come," she said..As she went about her work in the kitchen, Hawk lent her a hand now and then in the most natural way, so that she began to wonder if men from foreign parts were all so much handier about the house than the men of the Marsh. He was easy to talk with, and she told him about the curer, since there was nothing much to say about herself..often have brown or even blond hair and light eyes; the men are often bearded. Their language and..the sands of Thwil Bay, where he was repairing a fishing boat. She helped him as she could, and..Language of the Making. Plants and parts of plants and animals and parts of animals and islands..doubt in the back room; he paid them no attention. "Hound," he thought. He spoke the summoning, worn it all these weeks. She let him pull it over her head and then walked right on. She could not..she could not take in the names of the masteries, except that the Master Herbal was the one she.."And a man comes when you knock, an ordinary-looking man. And he gives you a test. You have to say a certain word, a password, before he'll let you in. If you don't know it, you can never go in. But if he lets you in, then from inside you see that the door is entirely different - it's made out of horn, with a tree carved on it, and the frame is made out of a tooth, one tooth of a dragon that lived long, long before Erreth-Akbe, before Morred, before there were people in Earthsea. There were only dragons, to begin with. They found the tooth on Mount Onn, in Havnor, at the centre of the world. And the leaves of the tree are carved so thin that the light shines through them, but the door's so strong that if the Doorkeeper shuts it no spell could ever open it. And then the Doorkeeper takes you down a hall and another hall, till you're lost and bewildered, and then suddenly you come out under the sky. In the Court of the Fountain, in the very deepest inside

of the Great House. And that's where the Archmage would be, if he was there..."his own clean comfortable home, even more different from the cold austerity of the wizard's house..leave him to breathe the fumes of quicksilver in that highest vault till he died... But when his.years..."do and have, it can be co-opted and degraded; but it survives commercial and didactic.great black gash in his forehead, and his eyes like oysters, and his hands juddering..locked in its muteness..sites of concentrated power and sacredness. All were locally feared or venerated; some were known."It's not just beneath them --".solitude, but still she missed Rose and Daisy and Coney, and the chickens and the cows and ewes,..Under the huddle of the grey cloak his hands found only a huddle of clothes and dry bones and a broken staff..showered with a fine powder of disintegrating, dying fireflies, black, gold. At the very edge, a."Irian, here's what you must do to enter the Great House..."The food of dragons is said to be light, or fire; they kill in rage, to defend their young, or for."Yes," Tern said, "and I will till she dies. And then I'll take her daughter to Roke. And if you."He knows a curer, maybe."."A woman! For safekeeping! In the Ninety Isles! Was he mad?".The girl nodded, looking at Tern, then at Crow. She was thirteen or fourteen, heavysset though.need be, I'll do it, of course. But you'll find wizards very sparing of the great spells. For good.Otter knew that a moment was coming when he might get free of Gelluk: of that he had been sure.say. But you should know that leaving Roke may be even harder than coming to it. Prison within.seeking papers. I know you had some once, though you may not now. They've nothing you need in.lie about their art. In their heart they know that their lie, spoken, may change the world..not by witchcraft, but merely by the strength of the armies the Enemy had turned against him?."Nothing. I thought you were a hundred."incalculable. He was amazed when, not long after, she said to him, "I'll be going to the Grove.All the teachers of the art magic on Roke were women. There were no men of power, few men at all."I'll see you then," said Diamond, looking big and handsome and indifferent, and walked off..dragons over the Pelnish Sea, which probably increased the dragons' ire. Just as Erreth-Akbe.Tangle might be able to tell him if his son in fact showed promise, had a talent for magery...but

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