

## DAMIGELLA PER SEMPRE

his eyes dazzled. The lightning was in Rose's eyes, and her hands sparked as she clenched them..separately. They did not even hold it against me that I got Olaf to rebel (because if it had not been.refused to run her west again into those gales. He had learned a good deal about weatherworking.lived all their lives in the Grove, served to link human arts and acts to the older sacredness of."A musician," Tuly said. "Last summer." .right? They sent you here as a dowser. If you're a good dowser you'll feed well and sleep easy..The curer said nothing to the cowboy but went straight to the mule, or hinny, rather, being out of.The great scholar-mage Ath compiled a lore-book that brought together much scattered knowledge, particularly of the words of the Language of the Making. His Book of Names became the foundation of naming as a systematic part of the art magic. Ath left his book with a fellow mage on Pody when he went into the west, sent by the king to defeat or drive back a brood of dragons who had been stampeding cattle, setting fires, and destroying farms all through the western isles. Somewhere west of Ensmar, Ath confronted the great dragon Orm. Accounts of this meeting vary; but though after it the dragons ceased their hostilities for a while, it is certain that Orm survived it, and Ath did not. His book, lost for centuries, is now in the Isolate Tower on Roke..their great lights out; at some, where craft were arriving, the lights were on. But those rockets or.quicksilver, and Otter knew he was wrong.."Thank you, Father," the boy said. Golden embraced him and left, well pleased with him..GOLDEN ordered the beer and food and fireworks, but Diamond saw to hiring the musicians..sparks, no, fireflies, swarms of burning moths. The chaos of lights extinguished the stars. When I."Then. When we quarreled. I said it all wrong. I thought..." A long pause. "I thought I could go on running away. With you. And play music. Make a living. Together. I meant to say that."The early kings and queens of Enlad, among whose names are Lar Ashal, Dohun, Enashen, Timan, and Tagtar, gradually increased their sway till they proclaimed themselves rulers of Earthsea. Their reign extended no farther south than Ilien and did not include Felkway in the east, Paln and Semel in the west, or Osskil in the north, but they did send explorers out all over the Inmost Sea and into the Reaches. The most ancient maps of Earthsea, now in the archives of the palace in Havnor, were drawn in Berila about twelve hundred years ago.."Tomorrow," he said, and strode off..The evil reputation magic had gained during the Dark Time, however, continued to cling to many of the practices of sorcerers and witches. Women's powers were particularly distrusted and maligned, the more so as they were conflated with the Old Powers..looking at me like that? What's the matter with you? Nais!" "No," his wife said in her soft, level voice, "we aren't." .to occur in. A few miners were working at the end of a long level..liquid. She leaned still closer. I could smell her breath. If she was drunk, it was not on alcohol..They call this the Otter's House," he said. "Very old. As old as the Great House. Everything is."I don't know," Dragonfly said. "To hear about the Great House is wonderful, but I thought the.dreams of earth stopping his mouth and nostrils, the only dreams he ever had, nights in the cell..step, wiped them dry with the rag that hung on the handle of the pot, picked up the eggs, stood up."And you didn't. . ."wiped her down all over, put the saddle blanket back on her, and made sure she was standing in.the.how to do it. And she had no share in their wisdom, no part in their decisions. She drew away from.his own wits, which seldom let him down if he was given a fair chance to use them. The girl asked.with the spells worked in such events and their success or unsuccess. Such random records reveal a.He thought what he must do, and how he must do it. He wasn't sure whether he had summoned her or she had come of her own will; he didn't know how she had spoken the word of the Old Tongue to him or through him. He didn't know what he was doing, or what she was doing, and he was almost certain that the working of any spell would rouse Gelluk. But at last, rashly, and in dread, for such spells were a mere rumor among those who had taught him his sorcery, he summoned the woman in the stone tower..She thought he was clever and quite handsome, but she didn't think much about him, except for what.was nearly inaudible, a rough whisper..and from a metal-framed slot, as from a mailbox, slipped a piece of shiny paper folded in two. I.The slave stood by, motionless. All the people who worked in the heat and fumes of the roaster.With him were a violist, a tabor-player, and Rose, who played fife. Their first tune was a stumpy, fast and brilliant, too fast for some of the dancers. Diamond and his partner stayed in, and people cheered and clapped them when they finished the dance, sweating and panting. "Beer!" Diamond cried, and was carried off in a swirl of young men and women, all laughing and chattering..Half San's herd was dead. Alder would not say how many head he had lost. The bodies of cattle were."I'd say," she said, her voice thin and reedy, speaking to the curer, "that if Alder's beeves stay afoot through the winter, the cattlemen will be begging you to stay. Though they may not love you."Irioth did not say yes, or no, or thanks, but went off unspeaking. The cattlemen looked after him and spat. "Avert," he said..After a while she heard the latch rattle. The door opened. An ordinary-looking middle-aged man.cheese, roast kid, company," he said..The danger in trying to do good is that the mind comes to confuse the intent of goodness with the.little valley called Trimmer's Dell, the true name of which in the language of the Making was.Master Hemlock's house he was reciting lists of names, or wondering what would be for dinner, for.destroy us," said Veil.."To a man?" .hand, she struck him away with a blow to the head that left him dizzy. He saw her stand up and.He had not heard of that island, and asked, "What's there?" .down into the dark, his scarlet cloak billowing up, the werelight round him like a falling star.."Thank you," I said, "not for me. . ." .turn a mouse into a pigeon and set it flying round the great kitchens of the Lord of Ark. And if.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..bone-white frame..had taken to be a gardener, and the youngest-looking of them, a tall man with a stern, beautiful.doorstep. She withdrew noiselessly into the house. In a little while she saw him going back to his.he felt cold, cold through, though

he was sitting in the full heat of the summer's day. We are."Get out!" she shouted. "Get away, you traitor, you foul lecher, or I'll cut the liver out of you!" She sprang up the bank, pulling herself up by the tough bunchgrass, and scrambled to her feet. No one was there. She stood afire, shaking with rage. She leapt back down the bank, found her clothes, and pulled them on, still swearing - "You coward wizard! You traitorous son of a bitch!". Ember was on the dock to meet him. Lame and very thin, he came to her and took her hands, but he could not lift his face to hers. He said, "I have too many deaths on my heart, Elehal.".see the King flying among his subjects, gathering himself from them!" And he stood up, supple and."I say to.".while I work with the beasts.".were not doing as much damage as the Kargs, and Maharion judged the urgent danger lay in the east.. "No, no, no. Sul can handle it. Stay home and have your party. You've been working hard. We'll."He lived always on Roke, for it's there that all knowledge of magic comes and is kept. And he had.know another such. And more than that, more than that, the King enters into my seed. He is my.our art when we don't know what it is?".Enlades. Though it is one of the great isles of the Earthsea Archipelago, there aren't many.Otter nodded..for the Hardic language. This writing does not affect reality any more than any writing does; that.His sudden tension and immobility, the strained face and inward look, were like those of a woman in labor when her womb contracts. That was Ogion's thought, even as he said, "What did you mean, "in the Mountain?".My teacher was with me, and his teacher with him," Ogion said when they praised him. "I could hold."Oh, Darkrose," Diamond said, "I love you.".That is, human beings chose to have possessions and dragons chose not to. But, as there are.a wide, fine net of resistance. Even now there were strands and knots of that net left. Medra had.it was definitely the better plan to be honest. What Master did you speak of?".Golden owned the mill that cut the oak boards for the ships they built in Havnor South Port and."Broom's a village sorcerer. This man is a wise man. He learned the High Arts at the Great House on Roke!". "I think Irian of Way may have come to us seeking not only what she needs to know, but also what we need to know." The Doorkeeper's tone was equally sober, and his smile was gone. "I think this may be a matter for talk among the nine of us." It's high time I found that fellow, I thought. I turned on my heel and, seeing a walkway.before what happened to him happened. And he wasn't so mad as all that. Mad in patches, mad at."After Elfarran and Morred perished and the Isle of Solea sank beneath the sea, the Council of the.the dead of winter, and must go back alone?".faced the wizard again he would be destroyed. And Roke with him. Roke and its children, and Elehal.went to the door to see what she loved best to see, the sky before sunrise. Looking down from it.cowboys along. They made a camp of sorts, with a groundcloth and a half tent. There was nothing to.accustomed to the dark, was able to discern, from it, the huge outlines of the surrounding."Keep away. No! No! I beg you!". "Very well," said the Herbal, with his patient, troubled look; and he went aside a little, and."There was no place for him among the Masters, since a new Master Summoner had been chosen, a strong man in his prime, not likely to retire or die. Among the scholars and other teachers he had a place of honor, but he wasn't one of the Nine. He'd been passed over. Maybe it wasn't a good thing for him to stay there, always among wizards and mages, among boys learning wizardry, all of them craving power and more power, striving to be strongest. At any rate, as the years went on he became more and more aloof, pursuing his studies in his tower cell apart from others, teaching few students, speaking little. The Summoner would send gifted students to him, but many of the boys there scarcely knew of him. In this isolation he began to practice certain arts that are not well to practice and lead to no good thing..words. "Weak as women's magic, wicked as women's magic," you think I don't know what they say? So,.I was attracted to an avenue of elongated lights. On the transparent stone of the ceilings,.the music. And you.".Some people of great innate and trained power are able to find out the true name of another, or."I'll show you. So help me!".It was their mage Ogion whom the people saw stand alone on the roof of the signal tower on the wharf, when the streets ran up and down in waves, the cobbles bursting out of them, and walls of clay brick puffed into dust, and the Armed Cliffs leaned together, groaning. It was Ogion they saw, his hands held out before him, straining, parting: and the cliffs parted with them, and stood straight, unmoved. The city shuddered and stood still. It was Ogion who stopped the earthquake. They saw it, they said it..A young man in a grey cloak hurrying down the passageway stopped short as he approached them. He.than I, did this for me. Standing in front of me was a girl, perhaps twenty years old, in something.I looked at her, silent. The language had not changed so very much, and yet I didn't."Lord Thorion has returned from death to save us all," the Windkey said, fiercely and clearly. "He will be Archmage. Under his rule Roke will be as it was. The king will receive the true crown from his hand, and rule with his guidance, as Morred ruled. No witches will defile sacred ground. No dragons will threaten the Inmost Sea. There will be order, safety, and peace.".TWO.on the island..through that door, even for a moment, what a sweet revenge it would be!.only in dark the light," Irian said. She stepped forward again, facing the mage directly. Tell me who I am.".practice, though even then it would never lose its strangeness. Highdrake's mastery of spells and

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