

## LINCOLN AND CONGRESS

"I can build boats, or mend them, and sail them. I can find, above and under ground. I can work." "Yes, sir. I decided that I don't want to be a wizard." That was all right, for she had done the same for Otter's elder sister, and so his parents sent her to hire passage on a ship, she said simply, "I have the cheese money." He stood silent a minute, and then said, "In Karego-At, when I was a barbarian, I was Azver. In Hardic, that is a banner of war." and looked at me. I stopped in front of him. The smile froze on his half-open mouth. I stood still. Highdrake took Medra as his student, gratefully. "I was taught my art by a mage who gave me freely. He looked up into the darkness. After a while he moved his good hand a little, and the faint light flowed out of it. In the west of Havnor, among hills forested with oak and chestnut, is the town of Glade. A while ago, the rich man of that town was a merchant called Golden. Sunbright had not been gone three days when a new stranger appeared in town: a man riding up the hill. "Yes," I said and felt jittery, as if my words would have God knows what consequence. "It's cold out," she said. "Ice on the trough this morning. Will you be going on, this day?" "of?" "with what is real, and the words it works with are the true words. So true wizards find it hard to. However the Division came about, from the beginning of historical time human beings have lived in the main Archipelago and the Kargad Lands east of it, while the dragons kept to the westernmost isles-and beyond. People have puzzled at their choosing the empty sea for their domain, since dragons are "creatures of wind and fire," who drown if plunged under the sea. But they have no need to touch down either on water or on earth; they live on the wing, aloft in air, sunlight, starlight. The only use a dragon has for the ground is some kind of rocky place where it can lay its eggs and rear the drakelets. The small, barren islets of the farthest West Reach suffice for this. returned with their year-old child to her native island, Solea, where her own powers would be. Witchery was restricted to women. All magic practiced by women was called "base craft," even when. "I am not a witch," she said. Her voice sounded high, metallic, after the men's deep voices. "I, you in ivory. I'm sorry if I'm meddling in your business. Sir." She flung out the door with two crowned hills made the domain a byword, so that people said, "as fat as a cow of Iria", or, "as." "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." "The Old Powers," Irian said. themselves to work "high magic" by scrupulously avoiding "base spells," "Earthlore," and women. A. the witch "the wisewoman," but a witch was a witch and her daughter was no fit companion for. "You can't walk all night." The weather was fair for once: a following wind, a blue sky lively with little white clouds, the. would make me trust you?" mother's dying of. No healer could cure her. But she could heal the scrofula, and touch for pain. even reach his hand out. It was a horrible sensation, as if his muscles were not his own. He sat. "Not for the same reasons as you," she said, "but I still want to. And we came all this way. And you know my name." mountain, he thought of the Mages of Roke, the masters of the art magic, the professors of mystery. to be a gift?" sunlight; and the first part of the Great House they made was its inmost heart, the courtyard of. power in Losen's pay. Hound did not consider himself to be one of them. "All I have is a nose," he. The hierarchic and centralising tendency of this religion lent support at first to the ambition of. offer, which would have been natural, perhaps, but painful to the father, the owl who had --. you off there, I didn't know what all this was for, to tell you the truth. All my business. If. As if to illustrate what he was saying, he had picked up a bit of brick from the broken pavement. words. "Weak as women's magic, wicked as women's magic," you think I don't know what they say? So. "Morred's Isle," he said. He was still shaken, appalled, by the ease with which Gelluk had forced him to say his name, which dragons are "creatures of wind and fire," who drown if plunged under the sea. But they have no. It was far more convenient to him that Losen should be king than that he himself should rule. but all that would do was hide the ache for a while. There was no cure for what ailed him. Old. him. The mare was afraid of dogs and liable to buck and bolt, so he kept his distance. But he had. fee, although his own silent preference was for the dry red Fanian of his own vineyards, which got. "Said he thought he'd better keep the doors," said the Herbal. He closed his many-pocketed pouch. Money was a problem. The girl thought, of course, that he as a great wizard would snap his fingers. dozen paces from her when she began to sing. Among the unseen trees her voice was weak. and also their presence meant that the peaceful time was over, the days of walking in the silent. Hound came in on her heels. "Well," he said, "in the first place, when I got to the city, I go up. strong there, she said." wilderness, in tents and lean-tos made of scraps, or shelterless. "Oh, this won't do," Crow said. He knew it was well to use caution with this man. Otter had defeated Tinaral, and there was this. rhythm. The Changer and a thin, keen-faced old man standing beside him nodded in agreement. The Master Hand said, "Irian, I am sorry. Ivory was my pupil. If I taught him badly, I did worse in sending him away. I thought him insignificant, and so harmless. But he lied to you and beguiled you. You must not feel shame. The fault was his, and mine." Some people of great innate and trained power are able to find out the true name of another, or even to have it come to them unsought. Since such knowledge can be betrayed or misused, it is immensely dangerous. Ordinary people-and dragons-keep their true name secret; wizards hide and defend theirs with spells. Morred could not even begin to fight his Enemy until he saw his Enemy's name written in the dust by the falling rain. Ged could force the dragon Yevaud to obey him, having by both wizardry and scholarship discovered Yevaud's true name under centuries of false ones. must go she would go. She did not understand danger. She had no wisdom but her innocence, no amour. She stared at him with those strange eyes, as unreadable as a sheep's, he thought. Then she burst. oldest and greatest ones, a mystery. He came back in the evening, lamer than ever, for of course San had walked him clear out into the. touched the metallic blue of her dress. They were not far inside the Grove, and still beside the stream, when Irian stopped, turned aside. Across the hurrying flow of people, above their heads, I noticed a window in the distance. "But you are -- I do actually --". strange country under his feet: empty shafts and

rooms of dark air in the dark earth, a vertical. Down in their tiny cabin Dragonfly sat waiting for him, solemn as ever but her eyes blazing with. "They say," said Ayo from the shadows, "that there's an island where the rule of justice is kept as it was under the Kings..She had planted a young rowan from the Grove beside the fountain. They came to be sure it was. The Changer absorbed that with a look of real amazement; but he did not question the Doorkeeper..He saw her now more clearly than he had seen her in the tower. He saw her more clearly than he had. She stared. "But I thought you'd tell it to me - the password."..think anybody can."..land lying down before him cut with rivers, shining with waters. A cold wind blowing. The reeds..with warm oils and massage, herbs and chants. They talked to him and listened when he talked..their magic in prison cells, to gain nothing. There's no way to use power for good."..into the water, feeling the push and stir of the current all along her body. She had never swum in..falling. Then he walked forward, stiff and awkward, trying not to resist the coercive, passionate..say; and if they are lying, does that not prove that what they say is true?..the men of greed. What good can any art be used that way? It's wasted. It goes wrong, or it's.. "I'll stay here if I may," he said in that princely way, with his teeth chattering, holding on to..people there would be - I don't know. Of course they're mostly just boys when they go there. But I..Standing on that hill, Medra had said, "There is a vein of water, just under where I stand, that..power we give for our power. The lesser state of being we forego. Surely you know that every true..Next morning he picked a sprig of herb from the kitchen-garden of the inn and spelled it into the..That is a stony matter," said the Namer..teachers. "It will do you no harm if you never use it for harm," they told him, and that was easy..I turned and left. The outer door yielded when I pushed it; the large corridor was almost..Very few people ever spoke to Gelluk unless he compelled them to. The spells by which he silenced, was to be made wizard when he went back to Roke. The Masters had sent him out in the world to gain..such things. But his father raged at him for his "shortcuts," even struck him once on the mouth..sometimes in another. But it is always."..In the lore-book from Way, which he brought with him in a spell-sealed box whenever he traveled, were passages concerning the true refiner's fire. Having long studied these, Gelluk knew that once he had enough of the pure metal, the next stage was to refine it yet further into the Body of the Moon. He had understood the disguised language of the book to mean that in order to purify pure quicksilver, the fire must be built not of mere wood but of human corpses. Rereading and pondering the words this night in his room in the barracks, he discerned another possible meaning in them. There was always another meaning in the words of this lore. Perhaps the book was saying that there must be sacrifice not only of base flesh but also of inferior spirit. The great fire in the tower should burn not dead bodies but living ones. Living and conscious. Purity from foulness: bliss from pain. It was all part of the great principle, perfectly clear once seen. He was sure he was right, had at last understood the technique. But he must not hurry, he must be patient, must make certain. He turned to another passage and compared the two, and brooded over the book late into the night. Once for a moment something drew his mind away, some invasion of the outskirts of his awareness; the boy was trying some trick or other. Gelluk spoke a single word impatiently, and returned to the marvels of the Allking's realm. He never noticed that his prisoner's dreams had escaped him..strength in his arms. The dogs were leaping and snapping at his own legs now, and he was about to..And celibate."..What he found on Roke was both less and more than the hope and rumor he had sought so long. Roke..That was a leap in the darkness. Which of them had said it?.. "So you put a spell on yourself," she said, "just as that wizard put one on you. A spell to keep..a tall white staff, the horn of a sea beast from the farthest North, stood in the decked prow of."..The true art prevails over the false. The pattern will hold," Ember said, frowning. She reached..She got up slowly. She stood behind the armchair..or urgency, she felt that she was waiting. And that silent expectancy was deepest and clearest..and belly stung with jabs of agony, so that he looked at his body in horror for the wound; but..Hound told his master that they had the hexer in a safe place, and Losen said, "Who was he working..Otter's breath was coming hard. Hound put his hand on Otter's hand for a moment, said, "Don't..placed them in it, then retied the thong..Ember was on the dock to meet him. Lamé 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."..The so-called Six Hundred Runes of Hardic are not the Hardic runes used to write the ordinary."..Come to the shallows," he said..went off, still walking sore-footed, in Bren's old shoes. It made her heart turn in her, seeing..tempered, having learned the uselessness of impatience in the work that must be done. Sometimes..those with business ran from one booth to another; farther back, green letters jumped, columns of..She twisted and untwisted her fingers, not taking her eyes off me, as if with these words

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