

BROWN ALUMNI MONTHLY VOL 62 JULY 1962

of thirty usually have children. And there were. . . other considerations." "I guess he did. Another curer came up this way, a fellow that's been by here before. Doesn't amount to much that I can see. He did no good to my cow with the caked bag, two years ago. And his balm's just pig fat, I'd swear. Well, so, he says to Otak, you're taking my business. And maybe Otak says the same back. And they lose their tempers, and they did some black spells, maybe. I guess Otak did. But he did no harm to the man at all, but fell down in a swoon himself. And now he doesn't remember any more about it, while the other man walked away unhurt. And they say every beast he touched is standing yet, and hale. Ten days he spent out there in the wind and the rain, touching the beasts and healing them. And you know what the cattleman gave him? Six pennies! Can you wonder he was a little rageous? But I don't say..." She checked herself and then went on, "I don't say he's not a bit strange, sometimes. The way witches and sorcerers are, I guess. Maybe they have to be, dealing with such powers and evils as they do. But he is a true man, and kind." certain. He turned to another passage and compared the two, and brooded over the book late into came cooler air. I turned. The stewardess was standing by the partition wall, not touching it with. She brought them to a house at the end of a lane. It had been a handsome place once, two stories built of stone, but was half empty, defaced, window frames and facing stones pulled out of it. They crossed a courtyard with a well in it. She knocked at a side door, and a girl opened it. "Are you hurt too?" among us, Medra. They must be settled, and they can't be settled easily. Though a little goodwill. one thing so you can do the other?" After a while she heard the latch rattle. The door opened. An ordinary-looking middle-aged man stood there. "What can I do for you?" he said. He did not smile, but his voice was pleasant. "How do you do that?" she asked. man, near eighty now; and he was frightened. He smiled with joy to see Ogion, but he was. What he found on Roke was both less and more than the hope and rumor he had sought so long. Roke. The wind had come up again. They were both shivering, their teeth chattering. They stood face to face in the black lane, hardly able to see where the other was. Dragonfly put out her groping hand and met the witch's hand. They put their arms round each other in a fierce, long embrace. Then they hurried on, the witch to her hut near the village, the heiress of Iria up the hill to her ruinous house, where all the dogs, who had let her go without much fuss, received her back with a clamour and racket of barking that woke everybody for a half-mile round except the Master, sodden drunk by his cold hearth. Down in their tiny cabin Dragonfly sat waiting for him, solemn as ever but her eyes blazing with green hill. He woke with the vision still clear in his mind, knowing he had seen it ten years. Archmage. He had been the Master Patterner and the kindest of all Dulse's teachers at the School. through long-disused levels, yet the wizard seemed to know every step, or perhaps he did not know there; but those people were unnaturally tall -- and all at once I realized that what I had in front of. ordered these children to be stranded on a desert island. Among her clothes and toys the princess. His Herbal came back from the woods and sat down beside him on the bench a while. In the middle of the day he returned to the Great House, agreeing to come back with the Doorkeeper in the morning. They would ask all the other Masters to meet with them in the Grove. "But he won't come," Deyala said, and Azver nodded. ears, the white -- in the shadow, silvery -- dress. This was not possible. A dream? I was still a few. You can know anything you like. I need have no secrets from you. Nor you from me," and he laughed. In the early years they were sent to enforce peace; increasingly they were called on to maintain. side of the long swells. Oared galleys seldom went out of sight of land and seldom rowed through. sung spells. to a passage. Here the roof was much lower, just above his head. Water seeped down one wall and other metals, even gold, see. Golden reassured him that the wizard had actually said so, though of course what kind or a gift remained to be seen. The boy's modesty was a great relief to him. For a long time nobody would touch him. He had fallen down in a fit in San's doorway. He lay there now like a dead man. But the curer from the south said he wasn't dead, and was as dangerous as an adder. San told how Otak had put a curse on Sunbright and said some awful words that made him get smaller and smaller and wail like a stick in the fire, and then all in a moment he was back in himself again, but sick as a dog, as who could blame him, and all the while there was this light around the other one, Otak, like a wavering fire, and shadows jumping, and his voice not like any human voice. A terrible thing. those with business ran from one booth to another; farther back, green letters jumped, columns of. have it. house and an old plum tree was a wash line, the clothes pinned on it flapping in the sunny breeze. THE ISLAND OF SEMEL lies north and west across the Pelnish Sea from Havnor, south and west of the. air with sticky lines of resistance and repulsion. If he tried to push forward into them his face. "Come up to the house," the Patterner said, and he set out water and food for the Namer. scrubby grass that had been green that day were dun and dry, and the wind rattled the last leaves. And the mills of capitalism provide them. Supply meets demand. Fantasy becomes a commodity, an. to choose a sorcerer. pouch, lifted it to his lips, and drank its contents. He opened his smiling mouth so that Otter. the cattle-speed the work! He's given us surety of payment. So you'll sleep in the chimney corner. "My Lord Patterner, will you defy our Rule and our community, that has been one so long, upholding order against the forces of ruin? Will it be you, of all men, who breaks the pattern?" trembling, like a hound that wants to chase but cannot find the scent. He was at a loss. There was. to him, Havnor lies between us. He heard her say, All! the true powers, all the old powers, at root. Losen, a sea-pirate who called himself King of the Inmost Sea, was then the chief warlord in the. Religion was a unifying element even among the most warlike tribes. There were hundreds of Truce Places on the Four Lands, where no warfare or dispute was permitted. Kargish religion was a domestic and community worship of the Old Powers, the chthonic or gaeian forces manifest as spirits of place. They were worshiped at the site and at home altars with offerings of flowers, oil, food, dances, races, sacrifices, carvings, songs, music, and silence. Worship was both casual and ritual, private and communal. There was no priesthood; any adult could perform the ceremonies and teach children to do so.

This ancient spiritual practice has continued, unofficially and sometimes in hiding, under the newer, institutional religions of the Twin Gods and the Godking. "I don't live in this House. In any house," the Patterner said. "I live there. The Grove - ah," he said, turning suddenly. The big, white-haired man, Kurremkarmerruk the Namer, was standing just down the path. He had not been standing there until the other mage said 'Ah.' Irian stared from one to the other in blank bewilderment. The next day she said, "I'm going to sit under the trees." Not sure what was expected of him, he followed her at a distance till they came to the inmost part of the Grove where all the trees were of the same kind, nameless yet each with its own name. When she sat down on the soft leaf mold between the roots of a big old tree, he found himself a place not far away to sit; and as she watched and listened and was still, he watched and listened and was still. So they did for several days. Then one morning, in rebellious mood, he stayed by the stream while Ember walked into the Grove. She did not look back. "I didn't understand," Irioth said, "about the others. That they are other. We are all other. We women. Wizard knows wizard, and Medra knew they were women of power. delicate horn spoon tied to the pouch he lifted the few drops of quicksilver from the cup and. He knew he was no match for Early. To stop that first binding spell he had used all the strength of resistance he had. The illusion and the shape-change were all the tricks he had to play. If he faced the wizard again he would be destroyed. And Roke with him. Roke and its children, and Elehal his love, and Veil, Crow, Dory, all of them, the fountain in the white courtyard, the tree by the fountain. Only the Grove would stand. Only the green hill, silent, immovable. He heard Elehal say to him, Havnor lies between us. He heard her say, Al! the true powers, all the old powers, at root are one. They held each other tight, hard, silent for a long time. To Diamond it was as if he held his. The four Kargad islands are mostly arid in climate but fertile when watered and cultivated. The fountain. "Well, well, well," he said to his wife, frequently, "all rosy again, eh? Got the apple of your eye back home, eh? No more moping, eh?". from some other island, it was said, somewhere in the west, and she never came to Iria, for she what is most base comes what is most noble? That is a great principle of the art! From the vile. I sat down. My fingers were unsteady; I wanted to hold something in them. I pulled a. Otter, sitting by the fire shelling walnuts, held still. Mead thanked the messenger and brought him in for a cup of water and a handful of shelled nuts. She and Ayo chatted with him about his wife. When he had gone she turned to Otter. When he got up at last, he wondered how old he was, and looked at his hands and arms to see if he. number in their psycho-technical tables. They permitted me to fly -- why? Because experience. quick woman, with a round face and clear eyes, and a mass of dark hair, not straight like most. wilderness, in tents and lean-tos made of scraps, or shelterless. "Oh, this won't do," Crow said, think of using magic to free himself or stop the men's brutality. He flung himself at them and. years...". "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." the Thwilburn and walked across the fields to Roke Knoll, which stood up before them in a high. push -- though the push had not been all that hard -- went backward down the aisle, and the. master any longer, he could not in conscience command him. "You have a true gift, Essiri," he. She agreed with the others to give him a little house down by the harbor and a job helping the boat-builder of Thwil, who had taught herself her trade and welcomed his skill. Veil put no difficulties in his path and always greeted him kindly. But she had said, "What can you tell me that would make me trust you?" and he had no answer for her. The wizard who called himself Gelluk and the pirate who called himself King Losen had worked. thinking of going to Roke, to meet with the mages there. When she finished in the dairy and went to the house, the new fellow, Hawk, was squatting on the. over the time when Roke first became the Isle of the Wise, and it may be that the wise men put it. When I closed the gate behind me, it was all I could do to keep from running. My knees. "I spoke your true name. It's not what I thought it would be. And I don't feel easy about it. As. and fifty years after Maharion's death. Perceiving the Hand as a threat to their hegemony, the. a while she would begin to have fond thoughts of the cow barn and the mother from whom she still. "Would you like some fresh curds? It makes a good breakfast." She was eyeing him, but not for long, and not meeting his eyes. Like an animal, like a cat, she was, sizing him up but not challenging. There was a cat, a big grey, sitting on his four paws on the hearth gazing at the coals. Irioth accepted the bowl and spoon she handed him and sat down on the settle. The cat jumped up beside him and purred. horses, inhabited only by nesting swallows that swooped about over the roofs calling their quick. "Off you go, then," she said, "and leave us to settle this matter of the Rule." Her frown was as. south road on a good horse and asking at the tavern for lodging. They sent him to Sans house, but. like Ivory's. She had got her hands clean, too, and they lay flat on her thighs, long strong. dragon hunters, but they withdrew from their encroachments on peopled islands and peaceful. were in the Kargad Lands by the cults of the Priestkings and the Godkings. So by the eighth. Still no one paid attention to them, as if a charm of protection were on them. They walked down the winding stairs, out of the tower, past the barracks, away from the mines. They walked through thin woodlands towards the foothills that hid Mount Onn from the lowlands of Samory. on the ground, rather hard, for his legs were shaking. She stopped looking about and strode along in thought for a while. She was beautiful in movement, bold and graceful, her head carried high. The one with a voice like a deep-toned bell looked at her too, and spoke to her with a plain, kind severity. "As I see it, the man who brought you here meant to do harm, but you do not. Yet being here, Irian, you do us and yourself harm. Everything not in its own place does harm. A note sung, however well sung, wrecks the tune it isn't part of. Women teach women. Witches learn their craft from other witches and from sorcerers, not from wizards. What we teach here is in a language not for women's tongues. The young heart rebels against such laws, calling them unjust, arbitrary. But they are true laws, founded not on what we want, but on what is. The just and the unjust, the foolish and the wise, all must obey them, or waste life and come to grief." prentice or a witch? Power like that shouldn't go wandering about unchannelled and unsignalled. "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? "I could teach you how to do that for yourself," the wizard said, smiling, watching Otter rub and ethical use and teaching of magic, was established by men and women on Roke Island about a hundred shed for the cart, and straw in the stable loft for the carters. The loft was dark and stuffy and "Wait here a little, if you please, Irian," the Doorkeeper said, and went into the room, leaving violence. Everyone gets it "betritzated" out of them in childhood. And that's just the beginning. . . I did exactly as she. The bons tasted like nothing I had ever eaten. It crackled between the "I am not ashamed," Irian said. She looked at them all. She felt that she should thank them for their courtesy but the words would not come. She nodded stiffly to them, turned round, and strode out of the room platforms and tunnels, after the unbearably shrill incandescent vegetation of the streets, the light "Go on now," said Mead. So they talked, that long winter, and others talked with them. Slowly their talk turned from That's all he really told me, yet," said Dragonfly, coming back to the mild, overcast spring day and the infinite familiarity of the village lane, Rose's front yard, her own seven milch ewes grazing on Iria Hill, the bronze crowns of the oaks. "He's very careful how he talks about the Masters." "Well, that won't do," said the stranger pleasantly. "I can't be bringing on a birth untimely. Is there maybe a room above the tavern?" "There," Anieb said. She pointed at the mountain and smiled. She looked at her companion, then. TERMINAL PARK. In her bed, in the dark, she lay and thought: He knew the wizard who named me. Or I said my name.

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