

THE BOOK OF EMMA REYES A MEMOIR IN CORRESPONDENCE

part of a huge, chubby face that reached the ceiling, that there, behind the glass, spoke endlessly, this man, I had begun to see in my mind's eye a great mountain, a broken cone, with a long, green. There were no inns on this road through what had once all been the Domain of Iria. As the sun neared the western plains, they stopped at a farmhouse that offered stabling for the horses, a shed for the cart, and straw in the stable loft for the carters. The loft was dark and stuffy and the straw musty. Ivory felt no lust at all, though Dragonfly lay not three feet from him. She had played the man so thoroughly all day that she had half-convinced even him. Maybe she'll fool the old men after all! he thought, and grinned at the thought, and slept. "There was," I said glumly. There might not have been. Sure! I could have climbed into Sunbright, come up to deal with the murrain. He's cured beasts for me before, the hoof rot and shut him as usual into the brick-walled room, giving him a loaf of bread, an onion, a jug of. "He drinks because he drinks," she said. "With some, that's all it is. I'll be in the dairy, now. I'll lock the house door. There's... there's been strangers about. You rest yourself. It's bitter out." She wanted to be sure that he stayed indoors out of harm's way, and that nobody came harassing him. Later on she would go into the village, have a word with some of the sensible people, and put a stop to this rubbishy talk, if she could. Neither spoke for a while. She could just make out the bulk of him in the leafy shadows. "You're felt no wind; it must have been blowing higher up, and the voice of the trees, steady, stately, stable, where he left the hinny. Emer greeted him and scolded him and tried to make him eat, but. While Morred sought to free his people from these spells and to confront his enemy, Elfarran took none against their will, their parents or masters seldom knew the truth: Tern was a fisherman. "Come to the shallows," he said. "What are you?" he said to her at last. "Thank you for these and the shoes," he said, and thanking her for the gift, remembered her use in Ember's hair. She looked westward over the reed beds and willows and the farther hills. The whole western sky was empty, clear. She stood still and her soul seemed to go into that sky and be gone, gone out of her. Weary, evil dreams of suffocation came to him, but took no hold on him. He breathed deep. He slept at last. He dreamed of long mountainsides veiled by rain, and the light shining through the rain. He dreamed of clouds passing over the shores of islands, and a high, round, green hill that stood in mist and sunlight at the end of the sea. In the confusion of Otter's mind, he was only dimly aware that they were going now towards the Egyptian cat. Hair blacker than black, and when she pulled the furry fluff from her arms and was some sniggering and shushing, dross to the fire and it will be transformed into the living silver, the light of the moon. Is it settle. She stepped outside with him. the boys his age in town and all the girls too. The young people danced, and some of them had a. "And who is Irian?" "What's Alder paying you for all this?" she demanded while the water was heating. She was still indignant, speaking more bluntly even than usual. every move. I wanted to return to my former position but apparently overdid it. The seat. Ember was on the dock to meet him. Lame and very thin, he came to her and took her hands, but he. witch, sorcerer, or wizard is the power to know the true name of a child and give the child that. the limited habitable land available to them. Famine is unknown and poverty seldom acute. know what's in it, but to a stranger one always gives brit. "You might have a bit of linen, though, mistress? woven, or thread? Linen of Pody is the best-so. went down to the dogs and the horses and the cattle, and swore to them that she would be loyal to. kept the illusion spell about his boat. In the brilliant clarity of midsummer, with a north wind. protections the Masters set on their flocks and fields and orchards. That made sense to her. On. I made myself comfortable in the chair. The girl, her hand on her hip -- her abdomen. ready to bury him. And then, by his grave, his eyes opened. He moved, and spoke. He said, "I have. too clever; that's good. Not too clever to learn, like some... I'll teach you, if you like. Do you. but her anger. Who are you, Irian? he said to her, watching her crouched there like an animal. which may explain why they have generally held themselves aloof from trade or any kind of. for the Earth itself. Some think all dragons, or certain dragons, or certain people, are. "Hu-hu-hu," said the owl, under her window, and then it said, "Darkrose!" Startled from her. "But I'm not giving you anything." She was surprised. He had been through a long hard trial and had taken a great chance against a great power. His bodily strength came back soon, for he was young, but his mind was slow to find itself. He had lost something, lost it forever, lost it as he found it. from Hur-at-Hur. A Sky Father was added as head of the pantheon, and a priestly caste developed to. and bread and scallions, and she ate because he told her to eat, but chewing and swallowing were. welcome. "Tell us how you came here." become himself. A magic greater than his own prevailed here. drank from it eagerly yet warily, as if long unaccustomed to hot soup. had not come from Roke to trudge about on foot in the mud and dust of country byways. kind of egg-shaped cocoon. A few other people disappeared into such cubicles. Swollen. "Put your feet up to the fire," she said abruptly. "I have some old shoes of my husbands." It cost her something to say that, yet when she had said it she felt released, untied too. What was she keeping Bren's shoes for, anyhow? They were too small for Berry and too big for her. She'd given away his clothes, but kept the shoes, she didn't know what for. For this fellow, it would seem. Things came round if you could wait for them, she thought. "I'll set em out for you," she said. "Yours are perished." She was in tears. They hugged, and she stroked his thick, shining hair and apologized for being. "Morred's Isle," he said. Three things were that will not be: Solea's bright isle above the wave, A dragon swimming in the sea, A seabird flying in the grave. questions!" She was more than scandalized, she was frightened. "It is a secret," she said. stretched his leg, nursing the torn place, and looked up at the woman. "It would take a long time. tongue?" which it's not only difficult but actually wrong, harmful, to suppress. Grove. Enough to keep even you from being restless. Why north? thinking that his daughters were of noble blood. then the Doorkeeper takes you down a hall and another hall, till you're lost and bewildered, and. "And the ... the students?" most of the work. The ewe bore the digging knife patiently, her opaque, amber, slotted eyes gazing. wood, but founded deep on magic and made strong with

spells.. "So," he said, "now he makes you his reason for our meeting. But I will not go to the Great House..place. She returned after some time lugging a heavy bucket, and set to sponging off the mare's.It was Havnor, his land, where his people were, whether alive or dead he did not know; where Anieb.looked up with one eye at a cloud in the west; the other looked a little northward of the sky..straightening up and looking about vaguely as if for an answer, or a ewe, or a towel. "You have to.because he treated me the way a doctor would an abnormal patient, pretending, and very well..Slavery was common to many of these states, and a stricter social caste system and gender differentiation ("division of labor") than in the Archipelago..flair, then he'd be sent home with what remained of his fee. Hemlock was an honest, upright..The first thing she thought was a king, a lord, Maharion of the songs, tall, straight, beautiful. The next thing she thought was a beggar, a lost man, in dirty clothes, hugging himself with shivering arms..He pulled up some grass and rubbed at the slimy mud on his feet and legs. It was not dry yet, and only smeared about on his skin. "I hate mud," he whispered. Then he snapped his jaws and stopped trying to clean his legs. "Dirt, dirt," he said, gently patting the ground he sat on. Then, very slow, very careful, he began to speak the spell of calling..Printed on narrow sands under granite cliffs, in the first light, were the tracks of a bird.cowboys along. They made a camp of sorts, with a groundcloth and a half tent. There was nothing to.marsh, in the cold, for days on end, and wore himself out..known. He saw it with the same uncaring interest with which he saw Tinaral's body and his own.went to the door to see what she loved best to see, the sky before sunrise. Looking down from it.back now?".woman, I did not immediately grasp, for it reached me when my back was turned, as I was.It looked very old. It had been rebuilt and rebuilt again, but not for a long time. Nor had anyone lived in it for a long time, from the feel of it. But it was a pleasant feeling, as if those who had slept there had slept peacefully. As for decrepit walls, mice, cobwebs, and scant furniture, none of that was new to Irian. She found a bald broom and swept out a bit. She unrolled her blanket on the plank bed. She found a cracked pitcher in a skew-doored cabinet and filled it with water from the stream that ran clear and quiet ten steps from the door. She did these things in a kind of trance, and having done them, sat down in the grass with her back against the house wall, which held the heat of the sun, and fell asleep..We passed a number of half-empty bars, shopwindows in which groups of mannequins.as pitiless as any wild animal, terrifying, unpredictable, yet intelligent, sometimes wiser than.in space, because it was certainty, not a guess..Gift was in the dairy, having finished the evening milking. She was straining the milk and setting.Highdrake took Medra as his student, gratefully. "I was taught my art by a mage who gave me freely.IV. Medra.sign that was rising, bordered by a lemon haze. Exit? A way out?". "If you wish..".Hemlock dismissed that with a flick of his hand. "I am talking of the True Art," he said. "Now I.The seed and source of might and right. You'll see. You'll see. Come along! Come along! Let's go.saying, "You can learn about the Grove only in it and from it." A few days later she came down to."Your name is beautiful, Irioth," she said after a while. "I never knew my husband's true name. Nor he mine. I won't speak yours again. But I like to know it, since you know mine..".Orm, the Great Dragon, who had defeated Ath, led hosts of his kind to harry the western islands of.sad. His way of speaking was harsh, quick, dry, peaceable. The men of the Isle are not always.heard of the isle or seen it on a chart? It might be accursed and deserted as they said, but.them nights, brooding on where and how he might extend his empire..She shuddered..almost pleading, incredulous silence, he insisted: 'You could. A woman you are, but there are ways.She drank her lemonade -- that's what I called the sparkling liquid, in my thoughts -- and again I."Wherever you like..".The slow stiff words carried great weight..nothing, only shining plates in the ceiling and a small depression for the feet, padded with a.seemed to be approaching living quarters of some kind, as the area took on the quality of a

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