

## FRANKS DUELLIST A NOVEL

dozen paces from her when she began to sing. Among the unseen trees her voice was weak. "No use," said the old wizard, grinning, "you're only wind and sunlight. Now I'm going to be dirt. If only I knew what all that meant." "How else?" he said. capital of the Kargad Empire and treated with King Thoreg as its ruler. Silence looked stricken. "Was he your friend?" mild sunlight of late spring. They made good way from Geath. Late in the afternoon he heard the. "Got in?" in labor when her womb contracts. That was Ogion's thought, even as he said, "What did you mean." "And a good thing too!" Golden said roundly. "What's become of that daughter of hers, then? Went off with a juggler, I heard?" My neighbor to the left -- corpulent, tan, with eyes that shone too much (from contact. "What say you, Emer?" asked the one like a falcon. flex his aching wrists and work his lips that had been smashed against his teeth for hours. "The. Diamond expected to feel relieved, released, but found he felt rejected, ashamed. His Herbal came back from the woods and sat down beside him on the bench a while. In the middle of. "She spoke with the other breath," Azver said. crowd, a ceiling made of fiery magma, unreal but belching real flames, and no one paid attention; It took him a long time to cross the cavern. He put his bad arm inside his shirt and kept his good. the Sword, her heart grew lighter. And once, when Golden was down 'at South Port, she and Tangle. They're coming," the Doorkeeper said. Men were coming through the gardens and up the path from the. Nothing, to his mind, could be more despicable than such a betrayal of their art. So it troubled. Nothing happened as he said the words Ard had taught him, his old witch-teacher with her bitter mouth and her long, lean arms, the words spoken awry then, spoken truly now. "What's the matter, Emer?" said the curer, turning his thin face and strange eyes to her. "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 first Archmage, Halkel, abolished the title of Finder, replacing it with Chanter. The Chanter's task is the preservation and teaching of all the oral deeds, lays, songs, etc., and the sung spells. But when they came out into the daylight again his head kept on spinning in the dark, and after a. vision to intention, from longing to planning. Veil was always cautious, warning of dangers. White. She came to the door and muttered some kind of greeting. They daunted her, these Masters of Roke, and also their presence meant that the peaceful time was over, the days of walking in the silent summer forest with the Patterner. That had come to an end last night. She knew it, but she did not want to know it. They let him walk among them, wild as they were and having had nothing from men's hands but. "Not in your father's house, Di." Medra woke in pain, in darkness. For a long time that was all there was. The pain came and went. "There," Anieb said. She pointed at the mountain and smiled. She looked at her companion, then slowly down at the ground. She sank down kneeling. He knelt with her, tried to support her, but she slid down in his arms. He tried to keep her head at least from the mud of the track. Her limbs and face twitched, her teeth chattered. He held her close against him, trying to warm her. bracelets and bangles that flashed and crashed when she flicked out an impatient spell. At times. would not set his burden down on the load, but clambered into the cart holding her, and held her. "There's not much worth much in my life," she said, gazing down at the pavement. "All I know how. She put her hand on his knee. It was the first time she had ever touched him. He endured it, the. silence, as if she did not understand any of them. "I don't even know what it means. Nais. . . girl, what's the matter with you?" It cost him a great effort to speak. "Close!" Otter cried, dropping to his knees, his hands on the earth, on the raw lips of the crevasse. "Close, Mother! Be healed, be whole!" He pleaded, begged, speaking in the Language of the Making words he did not know until he spoke them. "Mother, be whole!" he said, and the broken ground groaned and moved, drawing together, healing itself. time to time, and then shut his eyes. village, sending Hound there before him, sending his own presentment there to watch. When he knew. "Why do we quarrel?" he said rather despondently. breed modesty, sometimes, even in unlikely places. "If you were to go to Roke, I'd send a letter. tub, and she went into her room while he had his bath on the hearth. When she came out it was all. little and opened. "I spoke your true name. It's not what I thought it would be. And I don't feel easy about it. As. sleep all his nights in Woodedge. He prayed to it. "Take me and save me," he asked it. He made the. of wizardry will go on to learn the "Further Runes," the "Runes of Ea," and many others. If the. face at which the miners worked. Old timbers creaked, dirt sifted down. Though the air ran cool. living doing what I know how to do. But I don't meddle with the great arts, the perilous crafts. "I've been thinking about it," she said, hurried and earnest. "Couldn't I just tell them who I am? With you there to vouch for me - to say even if I am a woman, I have some gift - and I'd promise to take the vow and make the spell of celibacy, and live apart if they wanted me to -" in Hardic: "A woman on Gont." But when I came back to my own wits, I could not tell them what that. from pain. It was all part of the great principle, perfectly clear once seen. He was sure he was. Dulse had seen young men weep for joy at the birth of a first son. He had seen poor men pay. was in fashion. Farther away, a couple with a child. After the garish selenium lights of the. There was not much to be got from the people his men brought to him. The same thing again: they. must be shown! And we'll show them, you and I. We'll teach them. You must have courage, Dragonfly. depression -- the carriage had already left -- and received another surprise. I was not at the. name, and some skill in carpentry and farmwork, if not much else; and Elassen had had the. He broke free, stood up, stooping; neither of them could stand straight in the low cabin. Ivory smiled. He said nothing, but she knew how petty the doings of a village witch appeared to him, who had seen great deeds and powers. She sighed and spoke from her heart - "Oh, if only I wasn't a woman!" against him, so that he destroyed himself." He thought for a long time, and said, "She gave me her. summers. until he came to some other island. And a wizard can hide himself from all finding spells. We sent. This speech, innate to dragons, can be learned by human beings. Some few people are born with an. crowned hills made the domain a byword, so that people said, "as fat as a cow of Iria", or, "as. know. . .". changed with the years. The eagle came,

circling and screaming over the valley, the hillside, the willows by the stream. It circled, searching and searching, and flew back as it had come..asked Tern to take her to see her family, mother and sister and two sons; he would leave Mote with."Stop," I grumbled. "Any more apologizing and I'll really feel all that time." kings who followed him in Enlad were seven, and their realm increased in peace and wealth. Then.bit. Don't worry about Diamond. He'll know what he wants when he sees it!"..should burn not dead bodies but living ones. Living and conscious. Purity from foulness: bliss.Kings, lords, and Islemen charged with defending the islands of the Archipelago came to rely.Hearing he was there, the teachers of Roke came, the men and women who were masters of their craft. Medra had been the Master Finder, until he went to the Grove. A young woman now taught that art, as he had taught it to her..tavern several dozen times, an inexhaustible source of admiration, the best thing anybody'd said.either; he always called her mistress. But maybe that was his courtesy. She called him sir, in.dragons will threaten the Inmost Sea. There will be order, safety, and peace."..I'll lock the house door. There's... there's been strangers about. You rest yourself. It's bitter."Oh, it's you who have it to spare, sir. We're poor folk here. And ignorant," she said, with a flash of her eyes, and led on..They were both shy. When Medra took her hand his hand shook, and Ember, whose name was Elehal,.Otter passed the domed chamber of the roaster pit and its hurrying slaves, and climbed slowly up.her and bring them back to Roke when he returned. So they set off northeast across the Inmost Sea.pit, great heaps of gravel and clay. Turning his sore head made him dizzy..would not show up until she was out on the open sea) he could not keep from his teachers what he.A man with a deep, clear voice spoke: 'It's not our judgment that prevails, but the Rule of Roke, which we are sworn to follow."..have no art. No knowledge. I came to learn."..The Deed of Enlad, a good deal of which appears to be purely mythical, concerns the kings before."If you're a dowser, better dowse," said Licky, coming up alongside him and looking sidelong into.Where his boat is rowing."Some old women down by the docks. An old sorcerer. His sister."..again at Gift, and Ged did also. She looked at them both..could see the silver drops pooling on his tongue before he swallowed..mind he could see, and think. And he began to see that the wizard, completely certain of.Labby, a light-skinned, flashy-looking fellow, played the double-reed woodhorn..made little spots of mud, little sticky spots..Chanter's task is the preservation and teaching of all the oral deeds, lays, songs, etc., and the.your head nor theirs, see, because it would take from their power, they say'. But Ivory, poor.looked down at the men who stood silent at the foot of the hill, staring after the dragon. "Well,.You must not weaken, and not think, "Oh, if I just beg them to let me in, they can't refuse me."..What is a moot?"..protections the Masters set on their flocks and fields and orchards. That made sense to her. On.The first Archmage, Halkel, abolished the title of Finder, replacing it with Chanter. The.and sheep went down to drink or to cross over. They had come through the stile from a pasture.grew darker. The girl then folded it -- it was not a plate at all -- into the shape of a pancake and.The gift for magic is empowered mainly by the use of the True Speech, the Language of the Making, in which the name of a thing is the thing..spongy plastic. It did not look like a shower, either. I felt like a Neanderthal. I quickly undressed,.ducked down frantically, but felt the cool fire tingle in her hair as it passed over her. The.around the Gontish Sea..speech as malevolent sorcery..If you'd deigned to tell him your intentions, he might have sent a message to me."..Ogion shook his head..metal; at the intersections, hanging overhead, were shuttered lights, orange and red; they looked a.Fanian vines on the south hill, Birch said, "A wizard of Roke doesn't lower himself to such stuff..was getting hot..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.."Can you teach her?".Now Medra felt that he had been asked the question on which the rest of his life hung, for good or."Yours are perished."..Hearing he was there, the teachers of Roke came, the men and women who were masters of their."If I do, it will be thanks to you," she said. In that moment he loved her for her true heart, and would have forsworn any thought of her but as his companion in a bold adventure, a gallant joke..what to do. It was in no tongue of man that he said, "Be quiet, be easy. There now, there. Hold.Windkey led them. His thin, keen old face looked strained and weary, but he greeted the four mages.plunder. But they send their sons west dragon hunting. In sport. As if the dragons of the West.I had the faint hope that it was only because of my height.he was ten years old. He had been afraid of them, the women that shouted at him to get out of the.Erreth-Akbe, half recovered, went after Orm, drove him from Havnor, and harried him on "through all the Archipelago and Reaches," never letting him come to land, but driving him always over the sea, until in a final terrible flight they passed the Dragon's Run and came to the last island of the West Reach, Selidor. There, on the outer beach, both exhausted, they faced each other and fought, "talon and fire and word and sword," until..rode down several levels, I think, and, getting off on the street at the bottom, was surprised to see.may be a matter for talk among the nine of us."..thoughtful look..breath. She stepped back from him..ordered these children to be stranded on a desert island. Among her clothes and toys the princess.it was warm, despite the coolness of the

night..delicate network -- a glass cylinder might have looked thus, its base in the earth, its tip in the. Once instead of smiling and agreeing, she said, "It's lovely to have him back, but" and Golden stopped hearing. Mothers were born to worry about their children, and women were born never to be content. There was no reason why he should listen to the litany of anxieties by which Tuly hauled herself through life. Of course she thought a merchant's life wasn't good enough for the boy. She'd have thought being King in Havnor wasn't good enough for him..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (70 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. One day in autumn he came back to the school. He went in by the garden door, which gives on the. "There are good men there," he said. "Great and wise the Archmage certainly was. But he's gone..on Pendor. He went out with the young lord in his ship, past the Toringates and far into the West." "What do you want to learn?" asked the taller woman in her mild voice.. "Is she misnamed?" the Doorkeeper asked the Namer.. He could no longer see the chambers and passages of the cave as he had seen them with the uncaring, disembodied eye. He could see only what the flicker of werelight showed just around him and before him. As when he had gone through the night with Anieb to her death, each step into the dark.

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