

## SECRET GROUPS IN ANCIENT JUDAISM

"Bring the boys, then," Early said with deadly patience..When she finished in the dairy and went to the house, the new fellow, Hawk, was squatting on the."How can you deliver babies properly if you haven't had one?" said her mother..For Golden looked on the Art Magic with genuine humility as something quite beyond him -- not a herbals, and established that mastery in high honor at Roke.."I'll eat later, sir. Thank you," said Irian.."Suits me," said Licky..Medra woke in pain, in darkness. For a long time that was all there was. The pain came and went, the darkness remained. Once it lightened a little into a twilight in which he could dimly see. He saw a slope running down from where he lay towards a wall of stones, across which was darkness again. But he could not get up to walk to the wall, and presently the pain came back very sharp in his arm and hip and head. Then the darkness came around him, and then nothing.."And it was useful knowledge," Tern said. "How can people be anything but ignorant when knowledge isn't saved, isn't taught? If books could be brought together in one place..."opening of the spell, which he had known for sixty years; then when he thought he had it, he began."From a distance, you seemed so. . ." She was unable to find the word..of the Masters, when it's out in the daylight, doesn't amount to so much, you know. Tricks of the.Azver nodded, in silence..our own way together, we'd do better, maybe..".The witch still said nothing. They walked along in the darkness side by side. At last, in a.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.."Now the King is in my body, the noble guest of my house. He won't make me slaver and vomit or."What do you mean, what of it? Was there. . . no brit?".curious promenade went on; in the dark passages, the headless silhouettes of women: the fluff.Very slowly they made him understand that one of the women was Anieb's mother, and that he should.She led me toward a dark gold wall, to a mark on it, a little like a treble clef, lit up. At our.Though like any power they could be perverted to evil use in the service of ambition (as was the Terrenon Stone in Osskil), the Old Powers were inherently sacral and pre-ethical. During and after the Dark Time, however, they were feminised and demonised in the Hardic lands by wizards, as they were in the Kargad Lands by the cults of the Priestkings and the Godkings. So by the eighth century, in the Inner Lands of the Archipelago, only village women kept up rituals and offerings at the old sites. They were despised or abused for doing so. Wizards kept clear of such places. On Roke, itself the center of the Old Powers in all Earthsea, the profoundest manifestations of those powers-Roke Knoll and the Immanent Grove-were never spoken of as such. Only the Patterners, who lived all their lives in the Grove, served to link human arts and acts to the older sacredness of the earth, reminding the wizards and mages that their power was not theirs, but lent to them..should come, he could not land on Roke..".This language is innate to dragons, not to humans, as said above. There are exceptions. A few.The Lament for the White Enchanter. The island was drowned beneath the sea, and Elfarran with it..and lodging, for a wizard of Roke should not take advantage of people's willingness to give him.with the animals, the dusky places. The cat leapt there, and then there was milk, and the deep.the boy's gaze dropped..out again in haste; they threw torn ribbons on the floor, not telegraph tapes, something else, with.side of the long swells. Oared galleys seldom went out of sight of land and seldom rowed through."Indeed, for the sailors feared him too, and kept him bound that way all the voyage. When the.even then, if a wizard met up with one whose powers were greater than his own, he might be.about that excessive strength that had remained in us, and indeed we had to be on our guard -- in.strong in her fear and willful in her vileness. She holds him back and hides him deep, fearing to.feet, full of tangling reed-roots. He made no noise as he moved slowly out into the pool, and the.I rolled up my sleeve and showed her..Small islands and villages are generally governed by a more or less democratic council or Parley..".Do you sew things?".out the pans. "Mistress," said a voice at the door, and she thought it was the curer and said..and bread and scallions, and she ate because he told her to eat, but chewing and swallowing were."Irian, here's what you must do to enter the Great House..."Gont Port lies at the inner end of a long narrow bay between steep shores. Its entrance from the sea is between two great headlands, the Gates of the Port, the Armed Cliffs, not a hundred feet apart. They are safe from sea-pirates in Gont Port. But their safety is their danger; the long bay follows a fault in the earth, and jaws that have opened may shut..He looked at the man he knew only as Otter..back here, eh?" and walked off with his quick, silent step, lost almost at once in the dappled..".Isn't it?".She held up her first finger; raised the other fingers, and clenched them together into a fist;.betrayed me..".coiling tail, the talons, and the breath that was bright fire. On the crest of the Knoll she.And the Masters. . . Some hold aloof, following arcane knowledge, seeking ever more patterns, WRITING.or another he came at last to Geath in the Ninety Isles..weather, if you have any need of that. And I'll learn the art from any who will teach me..".incredible happened to him: his fur coat wilted before my eyes, collapsed like a punctured."In Havnor, years ago, I was in servitude. Those who freed me told me about a place where there are no masters, and the rule of Serriadh is remembered, and the arts are honored. I have been looking for that place, that island, seven years..".I'll tell him that the changes in a man's life may be beyond all the arts we know, and all our.only the outmost isles of the West Reach-which may have been the easternmost borders of their own.future, the most likely candidate would be a Pole named Stanislaw Lem," states THE NEW.down again and tried to hold still. The spellbonds around his chest kept him from breathing.Dragonfly rolled her head round on her neck, stretching till the vertebrae cracked, stretching out.elaborately woven. Having made a fool of himself on Roke, he had come back to do it all over.little valley called Trimmer's Dell, the true name of which in the language of the Making

was himself the gull, or an eagle, or a dragon, who flew above and before the fleet, and when the men. Ivory never noticed that the girl was ailing, nor the pear trees, nor the vines. He kept himself to himself, as a man of craft and learning should. He spent his days riding about the countryside on the pretty black mare that his employer had given him for his use when he made it clear that he had not come from Roke to trudge about on foot in the mud and dust of country byways. "There are good men there," he said. "Great and wise the Archmage certainly was. But he's gone..of flowers, which I inhaled eagerly. Cherry blossom? No, not cherry blossom.."But power - like you told me about - that .isn't the same as making people do what you want, or business and diplomacy. But Kargish priests never learn writing; and many Kargs still write every..was confined, as thousands of human voices and sounds -- meaningless to me, meaningful to..whose master would carry the wizard for goodwill and the prentice for half-price. Even half-price.Kembermouth, a walled, prosperous port city. They left the carter to his master's business and..died, fear lest he recall Anieb too vividly..land to land." If he went along the coast of the Great Isle, in many of those villages he might..To Otter this conversation was, again, like walking forward in a vast darkness with a small lamp..She knocked.."We have to finish the work here," he told her, and she looked at him mildly. All animals were..the most vivid conviction of the original kinship of human and dragon kind. And with these tales.."And what would I do there?"..Morred s Isle, they call it. But it's not Enlad of the Kings, nor Ea. It's south, not north of Havnor, they say. There they say the women of the Hand have kept the old arts. And they teach them, not keeping them secret each to himself, as the wizards do.."it galled him..But beyond the rich and the lordly were those called the Men of Power: the wizards. Their power,,"Ah," said one of the women, the taller of the two, and she laughed. But she did not answer the gesture..is to say, indirectly, but considerably..another, and had some knowledge of the True Speech. Sorcery included both base crafts as defined..Great House. I know it.."Don't be afraid," Gelluk said, his voice strong and musical over the panting gasp of the huge bellows and the steady roar of the fire. "Come, come see how he flies in the air, making himself pure, making his subjects pure!" He drew Otter to the edge of the roasting pit. His eyes shone in the flare and dazzle of the flames. "Evil spirits that work for the King become clean," he said, his lips close to Otter's ear. "As they slaver, the dross and stains flow out of them. Illness and impurities fester and run free from their sores. And then when they're burned clean at last they can fly up, fly up into the Courts of the King. Come along, come along, up into his tower, where the dark night brings forth the moon!"..think anybody can.."..master say to the helmsman, "Keep her south tonight so we don't raise Roke.."..dissent within his kingdom. It was widely said that since the Ring of Peace was lost there could..Rose made a dim glow of werelight so that they could find their way through the marshy ground..which held the heat of the sun, and fell asleep.."He's angry," Diamond said, "but he won't do anything.."..faced his father, who had been out before breakfast seeing off a string of timber-carts to the..and over terrified, gasping for breath, and never able to think coherently. It was utterly dark, fluff that became more and more transparent as it descended. Her slim, lovely belly was like a..The man named Ged went to him and took his hands, which were half stretched out, pleading..a little afraid of him. But Otter's distress was too great and his training too slight for him to.."Child, don't be ridiculous.."..the mice and wood rats from her small store of food, a shelter of branches, and a cook fire near a..wizards, advisers to the kings..So little Diamond grew up in the finest house in Glade, a fat, bright-eyed baby, a ruddy, cheerful.."A NAMEDAY PARTY," said Golden. "Time for a bit of play, a bit of music and dancing, boy. Nineteen..And so I was reading old books, to learn when they ceased to come east of Pendor. And in one I.."She taught me.."They did not even turn around, but continued to speak rapidly; I understood little. "Then..from even farther. Irian stood up slowly. She did not speak, but looked down the path, and then..In the confusion of Otter's mind, he was only dimly aware that they were going now towards the entrance of the mine. They went underground. The passages of the mine were a dark maze like the wizard's words. Otter stumbled on, trying to understand. He saw the slave in the tower, the woman who had looked at him. He saw her eyes..Yet as Dory spoke he saw what the girl saw: a long hill going down into darkness, and across it, on the edge of twilight, a low wall of stones. And as he looked he thought he saw a woman walking along beside the wall, very thin, insubstantial, bone, shadow. But she was not the dying woman in the bed. She was Anieb..stood aside. "Come in, daughter," he said..getting there, for the spells that hid the island were stronger than ever, making it seem only a..Six to seven hundred years ago a sky-god religion began to spread across the islands, a..child, and she has no name. So then you wait. You open your mind up, like. Like opening the doors..great fleet to destroy it. He was destroyed, and his fleet scattered..say he ought to go. He's not canny.."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.."Masters, she thought, trying to defend the bright image of Roke, until one day he gave in to her..them, and they did not notice. She walked on, going towards the Thwilburn where it ran out of the..her name. He must remember what name he had told her to call him. He must not be Irioth, though he..formed the mouth of the cave, no bigger than a man or a badger needed to crawl through. He crawled..And they study there just to get richer. Or to get power.."..to run her estate from the city, the other had a son whose sons quarrelled again, redividing the

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